

'THE B.I.B.L.E.'

("Yes! That's The Book for Me!")

Timeline of Bible Translation History

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- 1,400 BC:** The first written Word of God: *The Ten Commandments* delivered to Moses.
- 500 BC:** Completion of all original Hebrew manuscripts which make up the 39 Books of the Old Testament.
- 200 BC:** Completion of the *Septuagint Greek Manuscripts* which contain the 39 OT books & 14 Apocrypha Books.
- 1st Century AD:** Completion of all original Greek manuscripts to make up the 27 Books of the New Testament.
- 315 AD:** Athanasius, the Bishop of Alexandria, identifies the 27 books of the NT which today are recognized as the canon of scripture.
- 382 AD:** *Jerome's Latin Vulgate Manuscripts* contained all 80 books (39 OT + 14 Apocrypha + 27 NT).
- 500 AD:** Scriptures have been Translated into over 500 Languages.
- 600 AD:** LATIN was the only language allowed for Scripture.
- 995 AD:** Anglo-Saxon (early roots of English Language) Translations of the New Testament produced.
- 1384 AD:** Wycliffe is the 1st person to produce a hand-written copy of the complete Bible; all 80 books.
- 1455 AD:** Gutenberg invents the printing press; books may now be mass-produced instead of individually hand-written. The first book ever printed is *Gutenberg's Bible* in Latin.
- 1516 AD:** Erasmus Produces a Greek/Latin Parallel New Testament.
- 1522 AD:** *Martin Luther's German New Testament*.
- 1526 AD:** *William Tyndale's New Testament*; the first New Testament printed in the English Language.
- 1535 AD:** *Myles Coverdale's Bible*; the first complete Bible printed in the English language (80 Books: Old Testament & New Testament & Apocrypha).
- 1537 AD:** *Tyndale-Matthews Bible*; the second complete Bible printed in English. Done by John "Thomas Matthew" Rogers (80 Books).
- 1539 AD:** The "*Great Bible*" printed; the first English language Bible authorized for public use (80 Books).
- 1560 AD:** The *Geneva Bible* printed; 1st English language Bible to add numbered verses to each chapter (80 books).
- 1568 AD:** The *Bishop's Bible* printed; King James version was a revision of this (80 Books).
- 1609 AD:** The *Douay Old Testament* is added to the *Rheims New Testament* (of 1582) making the first complete *English Catholic Bible*; translated from the Latin Vulgate (80 Books).
- 1611 AD:** *The King James Bible* printed; originally with all 80 Books. The Apocrypha was officially removed in 1885 leaving only 66 Books.
- 1782 AD:** *Robert Aitken's Bible*; the first English language Bible (KJV) printed in America.
- 1791 AD:** Isaac Collins and Isaiah Thomas, respectively, produced the first *Family Bible* and first *Illustrated Bible* printed in America. Both were King James Versions, with all 80 Books.
- 1808 AD:** *Jane Aitken's Bible* (daughter of Robert Aitken); the first Bible to be printed by a woman.
- 1833 AD:** *Noah Webster's Bible*; after producing his famous dictionary, he did his own revision of the KJV Bible.
- 1841 AD:** *English Hexapla New Testament*; an early textual comparison showing the Greek and 6 famous English translations in parallel columns.
- 1846 AD:** *The Illuminated Bible*; the most lavishly illustrated Bible printed in America. KJV with all 80 Books.
- 1863 AD:** Robert Young's "literal" translation; often criticized for being so literal that it sometimes obscures the contextual English meaning.
- 1885 AD:** The "*English Revised Version*" *Bible*; the first major English revision of the KJV.
- 1901 AD:** The "*American Standard Version*"; the first major American revision of the KJV.
- 1952 AD:** The "*Revised Standard Version*" (*RSV*); said to be a revision of the *1901 American Standard Version*, though more highly criticized.
- 1971 AD:** The "*New American Standard Bible*" (*NASB*) published as a "modern and accurate word for word English translation" of the Bible.
- 1973 AD:** The "*New International Version*" (*NIV*) published as a "modern and accurate phrase for phrase English translation" of the Bible.
- 1982 AD:** The "*New King James Version*" (*NKJV*) is published as a "modern English version maintaining the original style of the King James."
- 1990 AD:** The "*New Revised Standard Version*" (*NRSV*); further revision of 1952 RSV, (itself a revision of the 1901 ASV), criticized for "gender inclusiveness".
- 2002 AD:** The *English Standard Version (ESV)* is published as a translation to bridge the gap between the accuracy of the *NASB* and the readability of the *NIV*.

‘Trifocal Revival’

(Strength to be faithful under relentless attack)

Psalm 119:153-160

20th Hebrew letter division: ‘*rosh*’ / ‘*r*’ sound – word meaning ‘*head*’ (to shake or wag the head)

Possible historic setting in King David’s life: In his late 40’s to early 50’s, David has finally united the divided kingdom of Israel (2 Samuel 5:4-5), conquered Jerusalem and established it as capital (2 Sam. 5:6-12), defeated the Philistines (2 Sam. 5:17-25), erected the tabernacle and brought the ark of the covenant into it (2 Sam. 6), received God’s promise of a perpetual kingdom through his line-age (Davidic Covenant / 2 Sam. 7), expanded the borders of Israel, established a strong government (2 Sam. 8) and extended graciousness to Mephibosheth, Saul’s grandson (2 Sam. 9). Everything was going well until David tried to be benevolent to the new King of Ammon (main city of modern day Jordan, east of Israel).

The king returned evil for good by disgracing and shaming David’s servants. Knowing he would probably be retaliated against by David, King Hanun hired military mercenaries from neighboring Arab nations to fight David. After prayer (Ps. 119:145-152) Joab, the general of David’s army confronted and defeated them (2 Sam. 10). Upon withdrawal back into Israel, Syrians armies come against Israel again (2 Sam. 10:15-16). Although victorious, the Ammonites were still a military threat near the border of Israel that King David needed to confront and defeat for national security purposes, after the winter months were past (2 Sam. 10:17-19 & 1 Chronicles 19). David is now older and war weary as he composes Psalm 119:153-160, during those winter months before he resumes the battle, spring comes again.

Revived by God’s Word

“Consider my affliction and deliver me; for I do not forget Your law.

*Plead my cause and redeem me; **revive me according to Your Word.***

Salvation is far from the wicked, for they do not seek Your statutes.” Vs. 153-155

Assuming this section of Psalm 119 describes David’s frustration with his tenacious enemies east of the Jordan River who relentlessly attack him again and again. **The real enemy of Christians is the devil, his fallen angels and those under their control. They are relentless and never give up trying to ruin our life in Christ. This prayer is a plea for an Advocate to represent him before God and revive him spiritually.** 1 John 2:1-2 says that our heavenly Advocate is Christ Himself.

- Discuss:
- 1) How can you tell if you need a fresh revival in your life?
 - 2) Why is it necessary for Scripture to be the primary focus for real revival?
 - 3) What must we remember about enemies?

Revived by God’s Love

*“Great are Your tender mercies, O LORD; **revive me according to Your judgments.***

Many are my persecutors and my enemies, yet I do not turn from Your testimonies. Vs. 156-157

- In asking God for revival what does David mean by ‘*according to Your judgments*’?
- What does David understand about God’s use of personal revival in our lives?
- (God is always _____; God always uses His best _____; During a revival God may use _____; and God expects us to _____ as He revives)

Revived by God’s Grace

“I see the treacherous and am disgusted, because they do not keep Your word.

*Consider how I love Your precepts; **revive me according to Your lovingkindness.***

The entirety of Your word is truth; every one of Your righteous judgments is forever.” Vs. 157-160

- In these verses what are the ‘*heart signs*’ of true revival from God when it happens?
- Describe, as best you can, other ways you feel in times of genuine personal revival?
- How does feeling this way enable you to get back ‘in the battle’ for God and truth?