

BIBLIOLOGY
THE DOCTRINE OF THE SCRIPTURES

INSPIRATION, PRESERVATION, & TRANSLATION

I. INSPIRATION

*The Scriptures were given to man by inspiration of God.

II Timothy 3:16

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

II. PRESERVATION

*God has promised that His Word, once given, will be preserved to every generation.

Psalm 12:7

"Thou shalt keep them, O LORD; thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever."

III. TRANSLATION

*Translation is rendering God's inspired, preserved Word into another language.

*Key elements in understanding translation:

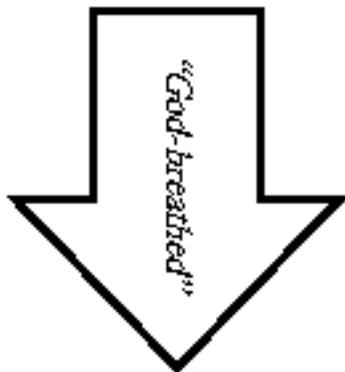
1. God's Word must be translated from the correct source (called a "text").
2. God's Word must be translated accurately, observing correct translating principles.
(A principle of *literal* translation must be followed in order to accurately render the words of Scripture.)

*For English-speaking people, the *Authorized Version (KJV)* is the translation which meets both of these critical requirements and has stood the test of time, having the blessing of God upon it for nearly four centuries. (See the additional chart for explanation.)

INSPIRATION, PRESERVATION, & TRANSLATION OF THE SCRIPTURES

*"For ever, O LORD,
thy word is settled
in heaven."
Ps. 119:89*

INSPIRATION



THE WRITTEN WORD OF GOD

Original
Manuscripts



PRESERVATION

*Through copies of
the originals*

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*The Authorized Version
is a correct translation
(literal) & is translated
from the correct OT and
NT texts.*



*The Authorized Version
(KJV)
God's inspired, preserved
Word in English*

*Revised Standard
Version*

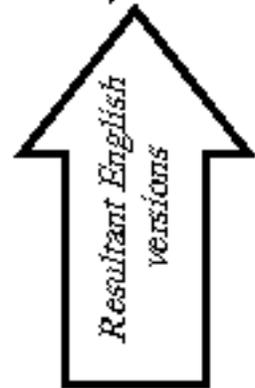
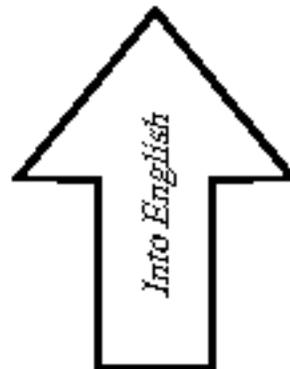
N.A.S.V.

N.I.V.

*New World
Translation*

Beldey

Many others



TRANSLATION

O.T. N.T.



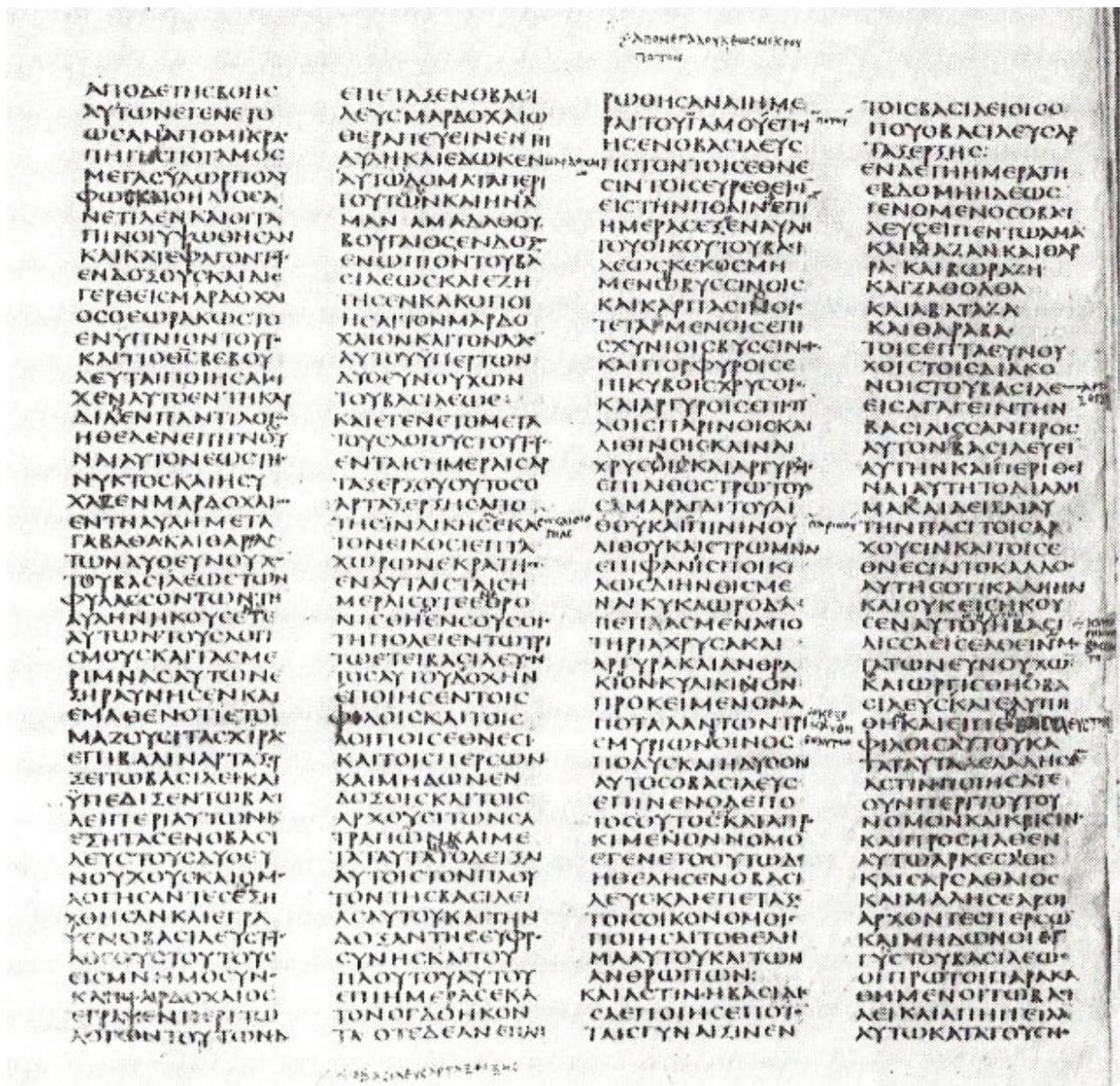
*A Majority
Text Basis*

N.T.



*Oldest Is
Best Basis*

- This is a leaf from the Codex Sinaiticus Text from the Book of Esther, which is now housed at the British Library.
- The Sinaiticus was found by Constantin von Tischendorf at St. Catherine's monastery near Mt. Sinai, where it had been kept for many years, but not used.
- Originally from Alexandria, where many heretical teachings were taught.
- With thousands of changes, it is one of the most "corrected" texts in the world, with changes on every page, as shown on this example.
- When it was discovered in 1844, it caused many people to doubt God's Word because it had so many changes. People mistakenly thought it was the parent text of the Received Text (Textus Receptus), because it was a rare older text, but as we have learned, this was a wrong assumption.



The Canonization of Scripture

The word canon means a measuring rod, or a _____ of genuineness.

How do we know which books are genuine?

Old Testament:

The Old Testament (often referred to as “The Law and the Prophets,” Mt. 22:40; Acts 13:15; Rom. 3:21)

- The Law was recognized as authoritatively from God and was often read to the people (Deut. 31:10-13; Josh. 1:8).
- The Law was kept and preserved in the Ark of the Covenant (Deut. 10:5).
- A Book of the Law was kept by the Levites at the side of the Ark (Deut. 31:24-26).
- The Scriptures were found in the Temple in the days of Josiah (2 Kings 22:8) and were recognized as being God’s Word.
- The Prophets’ writings were as equally inspired as the Law (2 Kings 17:14).
- Daniel recognized Jeremiah’s writings as “the Word of the Lord.”
- Jesus referred to the Old Testament as “the Scriptures” (Mt. 22:29; Lk. 11:51; Lk. 24:44).
- The apostles referred to Old Testament as being Scripture and being of divine origin (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20,21).

*What about the Apocrypha? The word “Apocrypha” means “hidden and are books written after Malachi, before Christ’s coming. They include: 1 and 2 Esdras, Tobit, Judith, the Rest of Esther, the Wisdom of Solomon, Sirach, (also titled Ecclesiasticus), Baruch, The Letter of Jeremiah, Song of the Three Young Men, Susanna, Bel and the Dragon, The Additions to Daniel, The Prayer of Manasseh, and 1 and 2 Maccabees. The Jewish people and all early Christians rejected these as being inspired, yet the Roman Catholic church declared them to be part of their Bible in 1546. Jesus never referred to anything written in them and they are not quoted anywhere else in the New Testament.

The New Testament

- Books written by apostles or having apostolic authority (Jn. 16:12-15).
- Books that stood on an authority not shared by other books (1 Thess. 2:13).
- Books that bore evidence of their own origin (Col. 1:1,2; 2 Peter 3:15,16).
- Books endorsed and approved of by all early Christians (before 375 AD), who were given spiritual discernment to know the false from the true.

Conclusion: The books of the Old and New Testaments as we have them today are shown to have been accepted very early by the church as comprising the complete revelation from God and having been written by the human authors to whom they are accredited.

How many books are in the Bible?

How many books are in the Old Testament?

How many books are in the New Testament?

What does "testament" mean?

Who wrote the Bible?

Which single author contributed the most books to the Old Testament?

Which single author contributed the most books to the New Testament?

When was the Bible written?

What is the oldest book in the Old Testament?

What is the youngest book in the Old Testament?

What is the oldest book of the New Testament?

What is the youngest book in the New Testament?

What languages was the Bible written in?

Which book in the Bible does not mention the word "God?"

Who was the oldest man that ever lived?

When was the Bible canonized?

What does "canon" mean?

When was the first translation of the Bible made into English?

When was the Bible printed as a book?

What are the two types of texts used for translation for the New Testament?

What is the longest book in the Bible?

What is the shortest book in the Bible?

What is the longest chapter in the Bible?

What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?

What is the shortest verse in the Bible?

How many languages has the Bible been translated into?

Is the Bible still the best-selling book in the world?