

How the New King James Version Is The Inspired Word of God

I. *Inspired*

The Word of God is word-for-word inspired. God breathed into Adam's lungs and "man became a living being" (**Genesis 2:7**), just so, God breathed into some men's minds that they "might know the things that have been freely give to us by God" (**1 Corinthians 2:12**). Thus "all scripture *is* given by inspiration of God" (**1 Timothy 3:16-17**). Those "inspired" men were the "holy men of God [who] spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit" (**2 Peter 1:21**), and "these things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual" (**1 Corinthians 2:13**). The words they used were "not with persuasive words of human wisdom" (**1 Corinthians 2:4**) and they were not to

"worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you" (**Matthew 10:19-20**).

God revealed His word by inspiration, selected its wording from each inspired man's vocabulary, and guided its writing the same as in preaching. Paul had peached the Gospel of Christ in Corinth (**Acts 18:8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**) but stressed that his writings were equally inspired (**1 Corinthians 14:37; 2 Corinthians 10:11; 13:10**). Therefore those who read his words

"may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ, which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets" (**Ephesians 3:3-5**),

for he claimed "we are not writing any other things to you than what you read or understand. now I trust you will understand, even to the end" (**2 Corinthians 1:13 Cf verse 14**).

2. *Translation*

In the New Testament Greek a word meaning “translate “ (*metatithami*) means “to transfer two things one of which is put in place of the other” and it is used to show that God “changed”/”translated” the:

- a) priesthood of Aaron (and the Levites) into the order of Melchizedek (**Hebrews 7:1-12** “changed”; **Exodus 28:1; Numbers 18:1-7**);
- b) Jacob died in Egypt and his remains were “carried back” to Shechem for burial (**Acts 7:15-16; Genesis 49:29-33; 50:12-14**);
- c) And Enoch was “taken” from life to life beyond the grave without physically dying (**Hebrews 11:5; Genesis 5:21-24**).

In each of these cases, the translation gave the equivalent as accurately as possible. Since the Bible has been inspired by God word-for-word, when uninspired translators “translate” it, they will be reflecting each word God has given into the “new” language. Once in the “new” language, the rules of its grammar, punctuation, word order, capitalization, paragraphing and even adding italicized words may complement the translation, but this should not be to the detriment of its truth! The translation thus, becomes the inspired Word of God in a “new” language.

3. *Text*

Why Is a Majority Text important? In Old Testament times, when needed, God replaced Old Testament texts so the Jews could maintain a complete and accurate translation of His Word. Though the original writings of Moses were long since gone, accurate copies were kept through God’s instructions and the diligence of His Providence. He:

- (1) replaced the destroyed texts (**Jeremiah 36:1-4, 20-32**);
- (2) hid texts until they were found by those who appreciated them (**2 Chronicles 34:14-19**);

(3) required them to be copied by believers and each new king (**Deuteronomy 31:9-13, 34-36; 17:14-20**).

God thus, preserved His written Word throughout many centuries so that, when Jesus Christ came as God in the flesh, He knew He could quote these copies as accurate (**John 5:37-47; 3:14-16**), and His Apostles regarded them in the same manner (**Acts 2:16-21, 25-28, 34-36; 3:13-26; 13:27; 26:27-28**).

In the first century, the Holy Spirit in the New Testament:

(1) told Christians which (Old and New Testament) books were inspired (**Colossians 4:6; 2 Peter 3:15-16; I Thessalonians 5:27; 2 Thessalonians 2:15; Luke 1:-4; Philemon 19**);

(2) gave some Christians the gift of “discerning of spirits” so that they could tell authentic Scripture from false imitations (**1 Corinthians 12:10; 1 John 4:1-3; 2:20-21; Revelation 2:2**);

(3) commended those with access to Scriptures who would accurately judge one’s preaching and teaching by those Scriptures (**Acts 17:10-11; Luke 24:15, 25-27, 44-45**).

Today, one must use a text of the Bible that represents the majority reading of known *manuscript* (literally, “hand-written”) evidence, OR ELSE be at the mercy of uninspired men to tell us what manuscripts are important and which are not. Jesus prayer ‘for those who will believe in Me through their word’ (**John 17:20**), and then, through the Holy Spirit, guided the churches of Christ into complete acceptance of a 100% accurate text with a 100% accurate choice of books (*canon*). All this was completed by the end of the 1st century, long before any council of men “canonized Scripture.” God’s church of Christ never accepted Apocryphal books, “lost” books, or “other gospels,” but man-made churches have!

One must read the *Preface, Foreword, Introduction, or Apparatus* of a book claiming to be the Bible to know if it is indeed a translation or a deliberate and devilish “tampering” with the

truth. Most “modern versions” fall into this latter category, for they have been done by those who either did not reflect the majority reading of the thousands of manuscripts available; OR else they didn’t care whether they subjectively interpreted its truth; OR deliberately changed its meaning to preserve some false doctrine they wished to hold that the Bible did not teach to their satisfaction. **The King James Version (1611) AND the New King James Version (1979)** are times when the Majority Text has been translated by committee into English, and therefore the only versions this writer recommends as being the Word of God in English.

We must let the majority of God’s texts be reflected in a translation and minimize man’s own influence of it. If not, why not? Only by reading a proper translation of the inspired Word of God may those have faith (**Romans 10:17**) who do not speak the Old Testament Hebrew or the New Testament Greek languages of the Bible texts.

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