

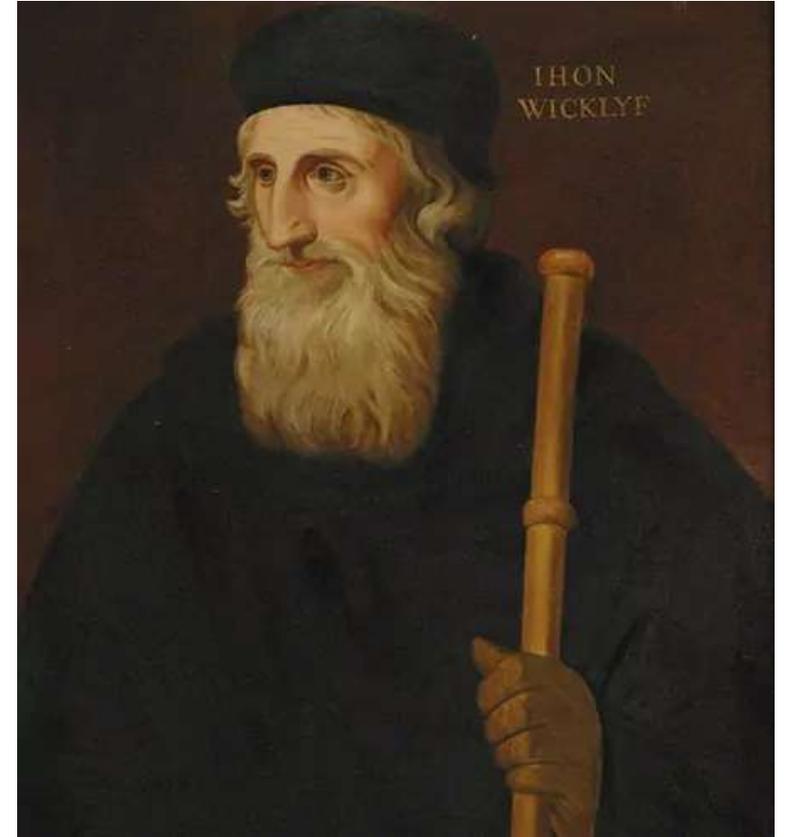
HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH BIBLE

From Wycliffe to the
King James Version

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John Wycliffe

- Produced the first hand-written English language Bible manuscripts in the 1380s AD
- Was an Oxford professor, scholar, and theologian.
- Was well-known throughout Europe for his opposition to the teaching of the organized Church, which he believed to be contrary to the Bible.
- With the help of his followers, called the Lollards, his assistant Purvey, and many other faithful scribes, Wycliffe produced dozens of English language manuscript copies of the scriptures.
- They were translated out of the Latin Vulgate, which was the only source text available to Wycliffe. The Pope was so infuriated by his teachings and his translation of the Bible into English, that 44 years after Wycliffe had died, he ordered the bones to be dug up, crushed, and scattered in the river!



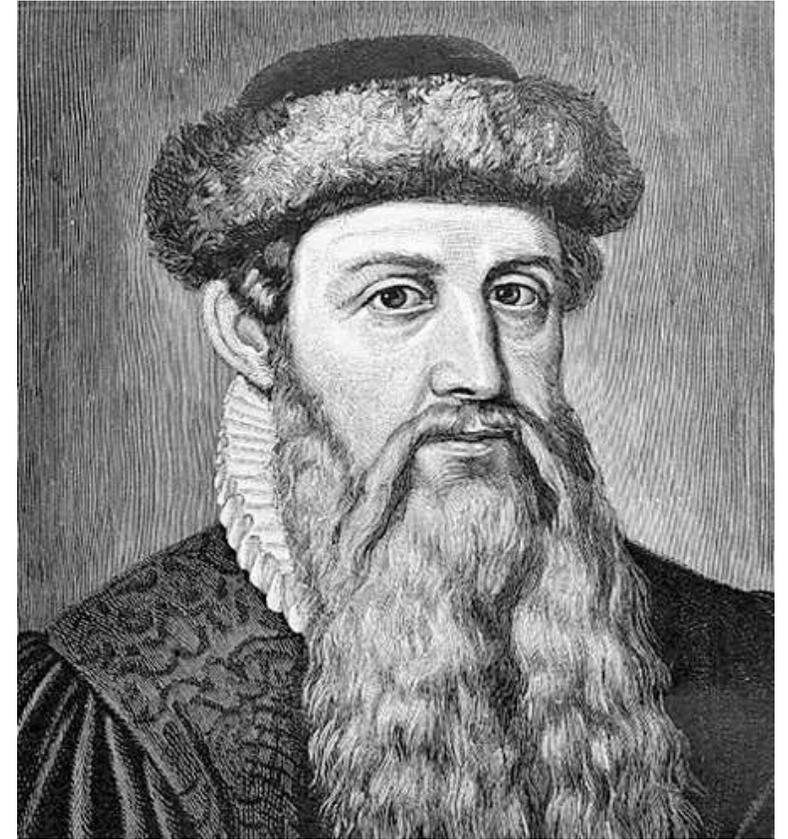
John Hus

- One of Wycliffe's followers who actively promoted Wycliffe's ideas: that people should be permitted to read the Bible in their own language, and they should oppose the tyranny of the Roman church that threatened anyone possessing a non-Latin Bible with execution.
- Was burned at the stake in **1415**, with Wycliffe's manuscript Bibles used as kindling for the fire.
- The last words of John Hus were that *"in 100 years, God will raise up a man whose calls for reform cannot be suppressed."*
- The prophecy of Hus had come true! Martin Luther went on to be the first person to translate and publish the Bible in the commonly-spoken dialect of the German people; a translation more appealing than previous German Biblical translations.
- Foxe's Book of Martyrs records that in that same year, **1517**, seven people were burned at the stake by the Roman Catholic Church for the crime of teaching their children to say the Lord's Prayer in English rather than Latin.



Johann Gutenberg

- Invented the printing press in the **1450s**.
- Printed the first book to ever be printed - a Latin language Bible, printed in Mainz, Germany.
- Gutenberg's Bibles are surprisingly beautiful, as each leaf Gutenberg printed was later colorfully hand-illuminated.
- Ironically, though he had created what many believe to be the most important invention in history, Gutenberg was a victim of unscrupulous business associates who took control of his business and left him in poverty.
- Nevertheless, the invention of the movable-type printing press meant that Bibles and books could finally be effectively produced in large quantities in a short period of time. This was essential to the success of the Reformation.



Thomas Linacre

- An Oxford professor, and the personal physician to King Henry the 7th and 8th.
- Decided to learn Greek in the 1490s.
- After reading the Gospels in Greek, and comparing it to the Latin Vulgate, he wrote in his diary, “Either this (the original Greek) is not the Gospel... or we are not Christians.” The Latin had become so corrupt that it no longer even preserved the message of the Gospel... yet the Church still threatened to kill anyone who read the scripture in any language other than Latin... though Latin was not an original language of the scriptures.



John Colet

- An Oxford professor and the son of the Mayor of London.
- In 1496, he started reading the New Testament in Greek and translating it into English for his students at Oxford, and later for the public at Saint Paul's Cathedral in London.
- The people were so hungry to hear the Word of God in a language they could understand, that within six months there were 20,000 people packed in the church and at least that many outside trying to get in!
- Fortunately for Colet, he was a powerful man with friends in high places, so he amazingly managed to avoid execution.



Erasmus

- Impacted by the experiences of Linacre and Colet, he moved to correct the corrupt Latin Vulgate.
- In **1516**, with the help of printer John Froben, he published a Greek-Latin Parallel New Testament.
- The Latin part was not the corrupt Vulgate, but his own fresh rendering of the text from the more accurate and reliable Greek, which he had managed to collate from a half-dozen partial old Greek New Testament manuscripts he had acquired.
- This milestone was the first non-Latin Vulgate text of the scripture to be produced in a millennium... and the first ever to come off a printing press.
- No sympathy for this “illegal activity” was to be found from Rome, with the curious exception of the famous 1522 Complutensian Polyglot Bible, even as the words of Pope Leo X’s declaration that “the **fable** of Christ was quite profitable to him” continued through the years to infuriate the people of God.



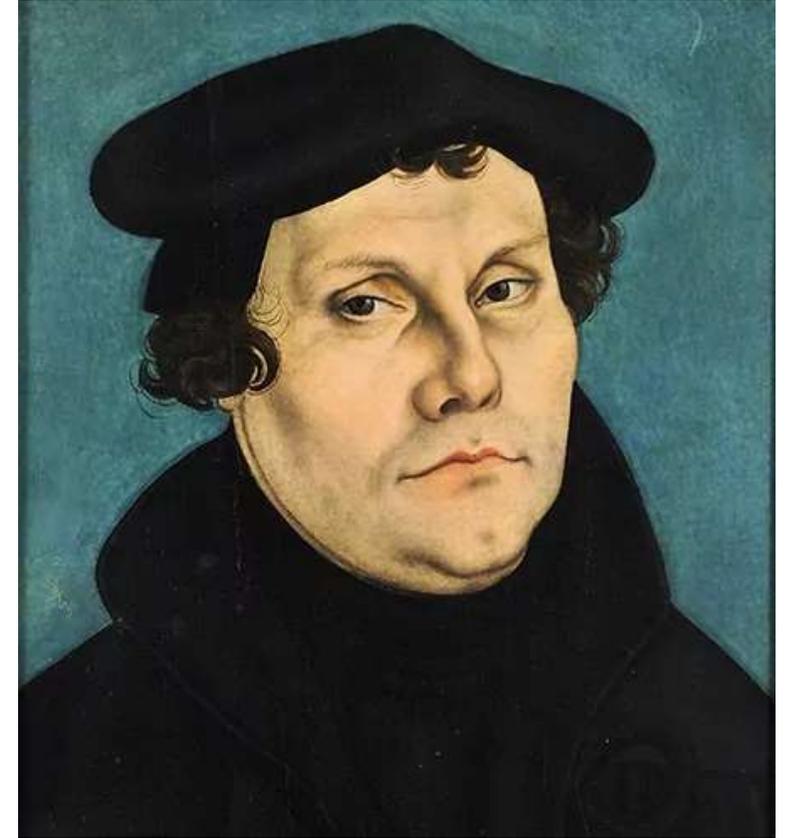
William Tyndale

- Was the Captain of the Army of Reformers and was their spiritual leader.
- Tyndale holds the distinction of being the first man to ever print the New Testament in the English language.
- Tyndale was a true scholar and a genius, so fluent in eight languages that it was said one would think any one of them to be his native tongue.
- He is frequently referred to as the “Architect of the English Language”, (even more so than William Shakespeare) as so many of the phrases Tyndale coined are still in our language today.



Martin Luther

- Exiled in the months following the Diet of Worms Council in **1521** that was designed to martyr him.
- Translated the New Testament into German for the first time from the 1516 Greek-Latin New Testament of Erasmus, and published it in September of **1522**.
- Luther also published a German Pentateuch in **1523**, and another edition of the German New Testament in 1529.
- In the 1530's he would go on to publish the entire Bible in German.
- Influenced and inspired William Tyndale



Tyndale New Testament

- Tyndale used the Erasmus' Greek & Latin texts as sources for his English translation in addition to Luther's German Bible, & the Latin Vulgate.
- Tyndale had been forced to flee England, because of the widespread rumor that his English New Testament project was underway, causing inquisitors and bounty hunters to be constantly on Tyndale's trail to arrest him and prevent his project.
- God foiled their plans, and in **1525-1526** the Tyndale New Testament became the first printed edition of the scripture in the English language.
- They were burned as soon as the Bishop could confiscate them, but copies trickled through and actually ended up in the bedroom of King Henry VIII.
- Today, there are only two known copies left of Tyndale's 1525-26 First Edition.



1526 Tyndale NT Original on Display at British Museum

Tyndale New Testament

- The more the King and Bishop resisted its distribution, the more fascinated the public at large became.
- The church declared it contained thousands of errors as they torched hundreds of New Testaments confiscated by the clergy, while in fact, they burned them because they could find no errors at all. One risked death by burning if caught in the mere possession of Tyndale's forbidden books.
- Subsequent printings of the Tyndale New Testament in the 1530s were often elaborately illustrated.



1536 Tyndale NT Facsimile:
Gospel of Matthew

Tyndale New Testament

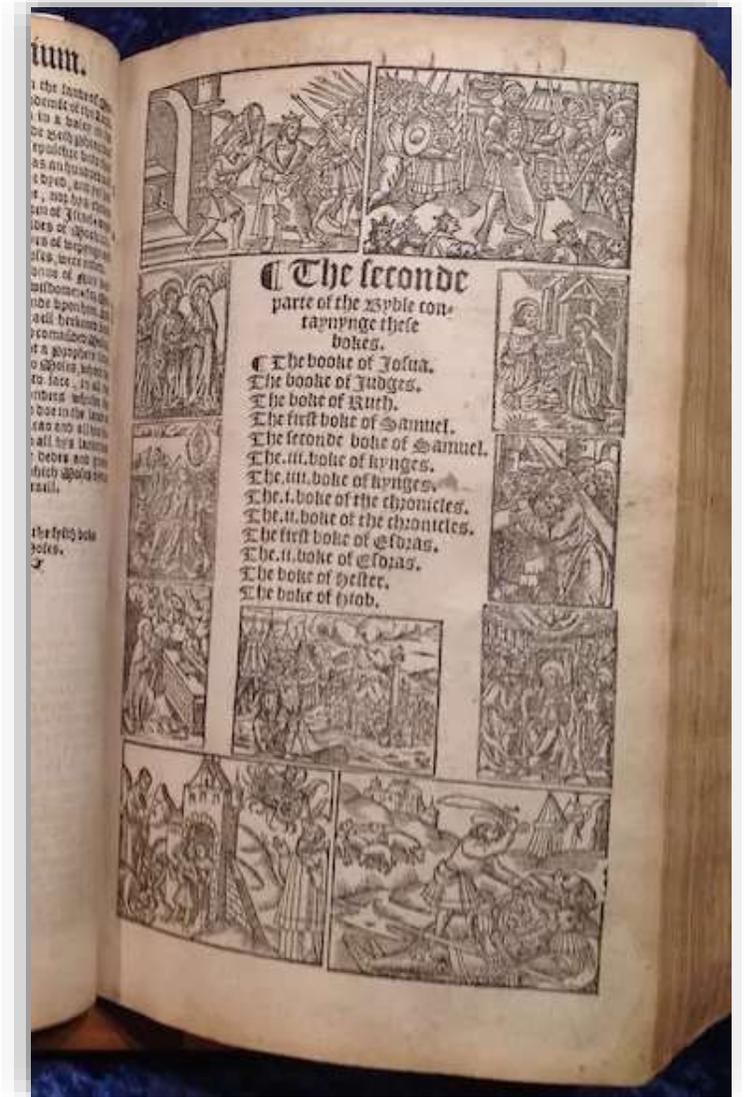
- Having God's Word available to the public in the language of the common man, English, would have meant disaster to the church.
- No longer would they control access to the scriptures. If people were able to read the Bible in their own tongue, the church's income and power would crumble.
- They could not possibly continue to get away with selling indulgences (the forgiveness of sins) or selling the release of loved ones from a church-manufactured "Purgatory".
- The contradictions between what God's Word said, and what the priests taught, would open the public's eyes and the truth would set them free from the grip of fear that the institutional church held.
- Salvation through faith, not works or donations, would be understood.

*“I defy the Pope,
and all his laws,
and if God spare
my life, ere many
years, I will cause
a boy that driveth
the plough shall
know more of the
Scriptures than
thou dost.”*

William Tyndale

Tyndale New Testament

- Any copies printed prior to 1570 are extremely valuable.
- Tyndale's flight was an inspiration to freedom-loving Englishmen who drew courage from the 11 years that he was hunted. Books and Bibles flowed into England in bales of cotton and sacks of flour. Ironically, Tyndale's biggest customer was the King's men, who would buy up every copy available to burn them... and Tyndale used their money to print even more!
- In the end, Tyndale was caught: betrayed by an Englishman that he had befriended.
- Tyndale was incarcerated for 500 days before he was strangled and burned at the stake in **1536**.
- Tyndale's last words were, *"Oh Lord, open the King of England's eyes"*.



**1551 Tyndale NT Original:
Into. to Historical Books**

Myles Coverdale

- **Myles Coverdale** and John “Thomas Matthew” Rogers had remained loyal disciples the last six years of Tyndale’s life, and they carried the English Bible project forward and even accelerated it.
- Coverdale finished translating the Old Testament, and in **1535** he printed the first complete Bible in the English language, making use of Luther’s German text and the Latin as sources.
- Thus, the first complete English Bible was printed on **October 4, 1535**, and is known as the **Coverdale Bible**.



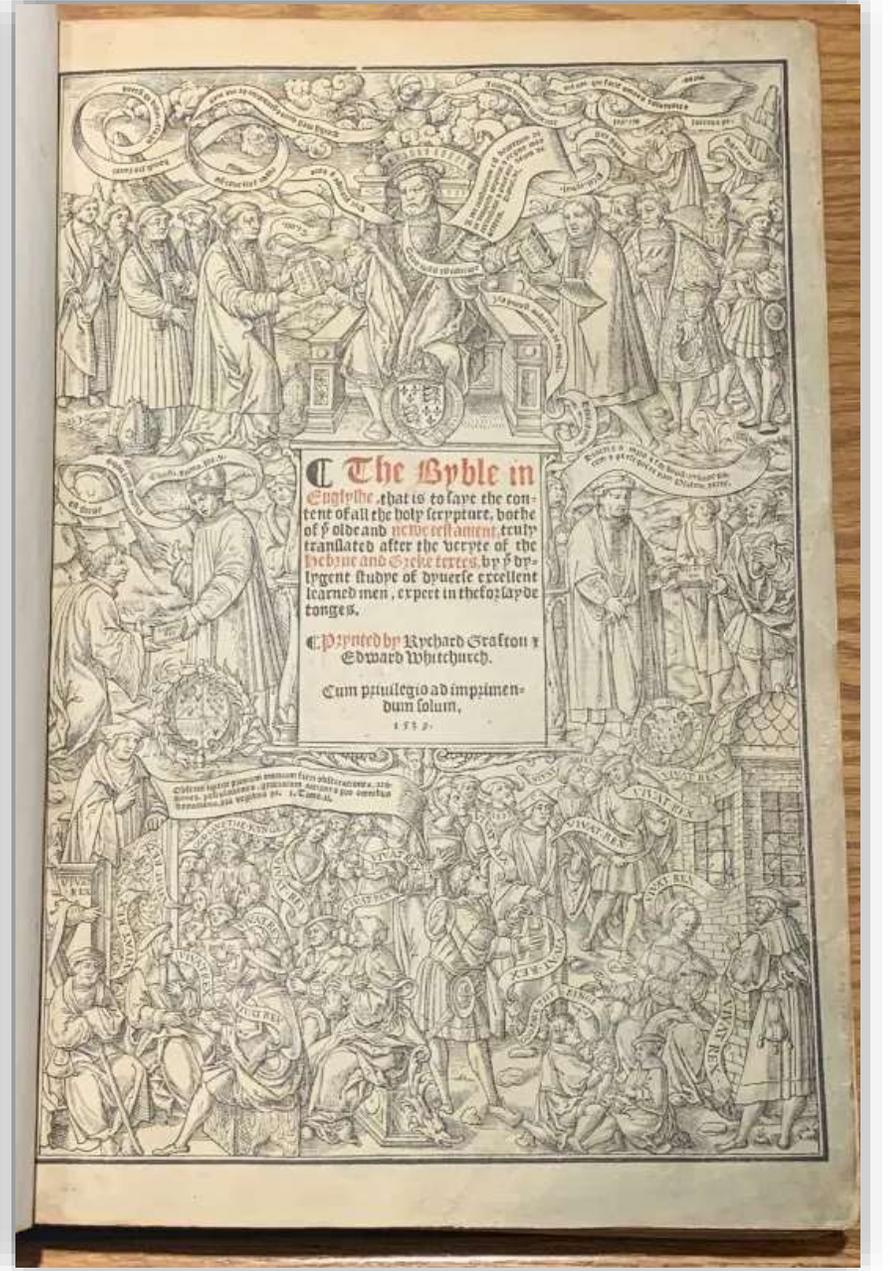
John Rogers

- Went on to print the second complete English Bible in **1537**.
- He printed it under the pseudonym “**Thomas Matthew**”, (an assumed name that had actually been used by Tyndale at one time) as a considerable part of this Bible was the translation of Tyndale, whose writings had been condemned by the English authorities.
- It is a composite made up of Tyndale’s Pentateuch and New Testament (1534-1535 edition) and Coverdale’s Bible and some of Roger’s own translation of the text. It remains known most commonly as the Matthew-Tyndale Bible. It went through a nearly identical **second-edition printing in 1549**.



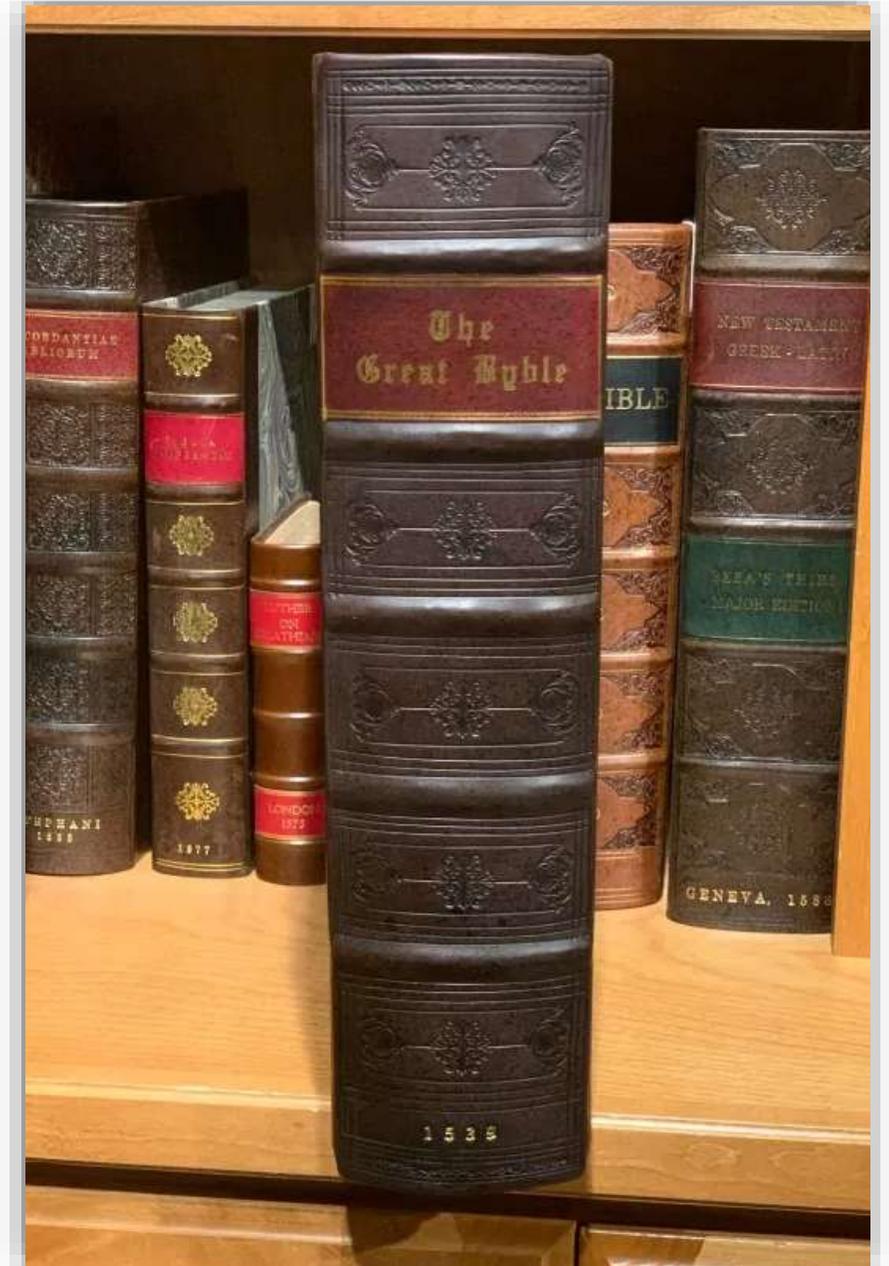
The Great Bible

- In 1539, Thomas Cranmer, the Archbishop of Canterbury, hired Myles Coverdale at the bequest of King Henry VIII to publish the “**Great Bible**”.
- It became the first English Bible authorized for public use, as it was distributed to every church, chained to the pulpit, and a reader was even provided so that the illiterate could hear the Word of God in plain English. It would seem that William Tyndale’s last wish had been granted...just three years after his martyrdom.
- Cranmer’s Bible, published by Coverdale, was known as the Great Bible due to its great size: a large pulpit folio measuring over 14 inches tall.



The Great Bible

- It was not that **King Henry VIII** had a change of conscience regarding publishing the Bible in English. His motives were more sinister... but the Lord sometimes uses the evil intentions of men to bring about His glory.
- King Henry VIII had in fact, requested that the Pope permit him to divorce his wife and marry his mistress. The Pope refused. King Henry responded by marrying his mistress anyway, (later having two of his many wives executed), and thumbing his nose at the Pope by renouncing Roman Catholicism, taking England out from under Rome's religious control, and declaring himself as the reigning head of State to also be the new head of the Church. This new branch of the Christian Church, neither Roman Catholic nor truly Protestant, became known as the Anglican Church or the Church of England.
- King Henry acted essentially as its "Pope". His first act was to further defy the wishes of Rome by funding the printing of the scriptures in English... the first legal English Bible... just for spite.

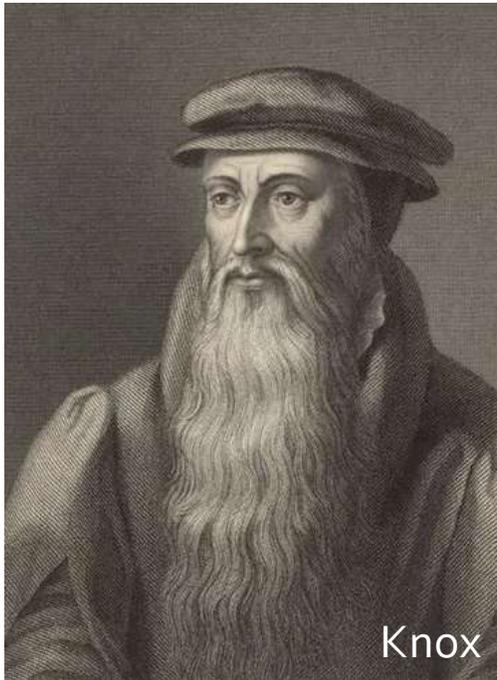


The Marian Exile

- The ebb and flow of freedom continued through the 1540s...and into the 1550s. After King Henry VIII, King Edward VI took the throne, and after his death, the reign of Queen “Bloody” Mary was the next obstacle to the printing of the Bible in English.
- She wanted to return England to the Roman Church.
- In **1555**, John “Thomas Matthew” Rogers and Thomas Cranmer were both burned at the stake.
- Mary went on to burn reformers at the stake by the hundreds for the “crime” of being a Protestant. This era was known as the Marian Exile, and the refugees fled from England with little hope of ever seeing their home or friends again.



Refuge in Geneva



- In the 1550s, the Church at Geneva, Switzerland, was very sympathetic to the reformer refugees and was one of only a few safe havens for Protestants.
- Many of them met in Geneva, led by Myles Coverdale and **John Foxe** (publisher of the famous **Foxe's Book of Martyrs**, which is to this day the only exhaustive reference work on the persecution and martyrdom of Early Christians and Protestants from the first century up to the mid-16th century).
- There, with the protection of the great theologian **John Calvin** and **John Knox**, the great Reformer of the Scottish Church, and **Myles Coverdale**, an associate of Tyndale, the Church of Geneva determined to produce a Bible that would educate their families while they continued in exile.

The Geneva Bible

- The New Testament was completed in **1557**, and the complete Bible was first published in **1560**.
- It became known as the **Geneva Bible**. Due to a passage in Genesis describing the clothing that God fashioned for Adam and Eve upon expulsion from the Garden of Eden as “Breeches” (an antiquated form of “Britches”), some people referred to the Geneva Bible as the Breeches Bible.
- The Geneva Bible was the first Bible to add numbered verses to the chapters, so that referencing specific passages would be easier.
- Every chapter was also accompanied by extensive marginal notes and references so thorough and complete that the Geneva Bible is also considered the first English “Study Bible”. William Shakespeare quotes hundreds of times in his plays from the Geneva translation of the Bible.



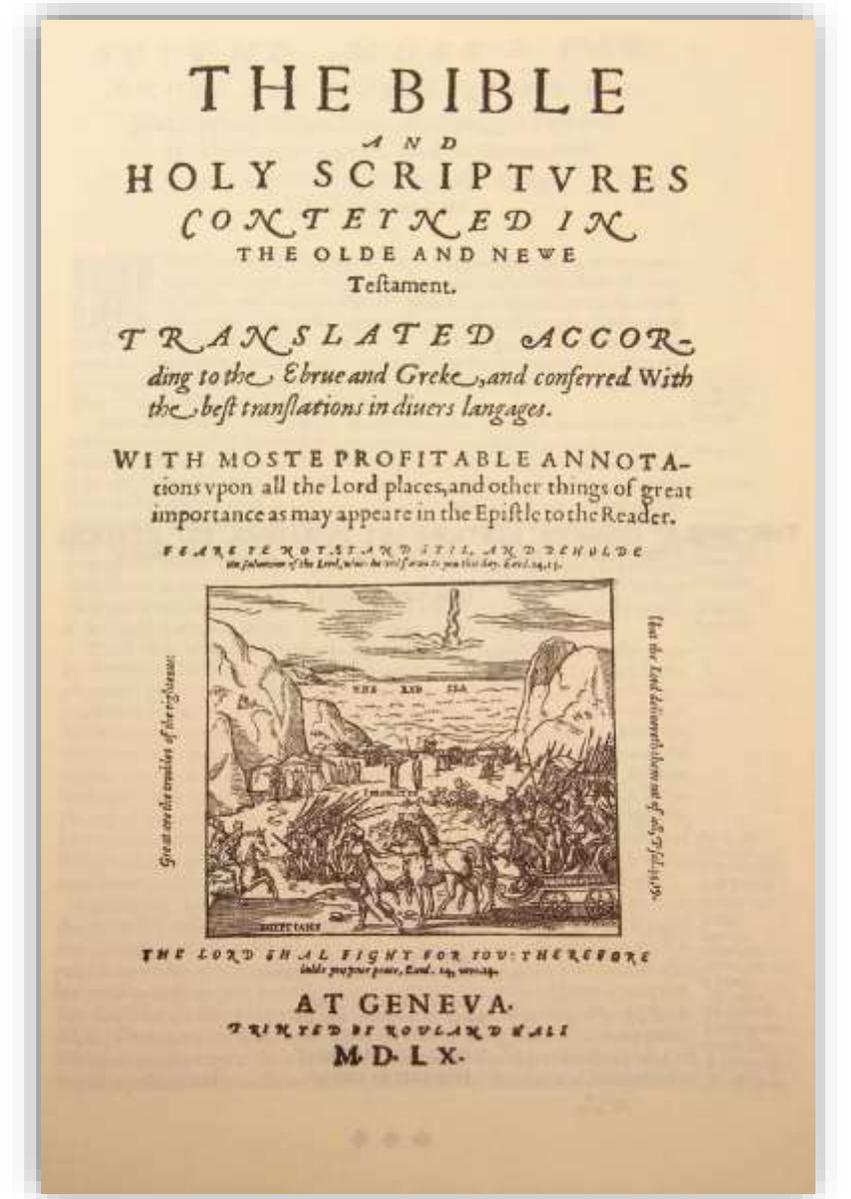
The Geneva Bible

- The Geneva Bible became the Bible of choice for over 100 years of English-speaking Christians.
- Between 1560 and 1644 at least 144 editions of this Bible were published.
- Examination of the 1611 King James Bible shows clearly that its translators were influenced much more by the Geneva Bible, than by any other source.
- The Geneva Bible itself retains over 90% of William Tyndale's original English translation.
- The Geneva Bible remained more popular than the King James Version until decades after its original release in 1611!
- The Geneva holds the honor of being the first Bible taken to America, and the Bible of the Puritans and Pilgrims.
- It is truly the "Bible of the Protestant Reformation."



The Geneva Bible

- The Geneva Bible is the version quoted hundreds of times by William Shakespeare in his plays. Also called the “Breeches Bible,” the Geneva Bible is the only Bible ever able to outsell and exceed the popularity of the King James Bible, as it did in the early 1600s until its printing ceased in 1644.
- One of the greatest ironies of history is that Protestants of all denominations today embrace the King James Version of the Bible (which reads 90% the same as the Geneva), even though the King James Version is not a Protestant Bible (it’s Anglican / Church of England).
- Most Protestants have never even heard of the Bible of their own heritage: the Geneva Bible. It was produced by John Calvin, John Knox, Myles Coverdale, John Foxe, & other English refugees in ever-neutral Geneva, Switzerland... fleeing the persecution of Roman Catholic Queen “Bloody” Mary in England.
- Mary would not tolerate the Protestant Geneva Bible, which proclaimed the Pope an “antichrist” in its commentary notes.



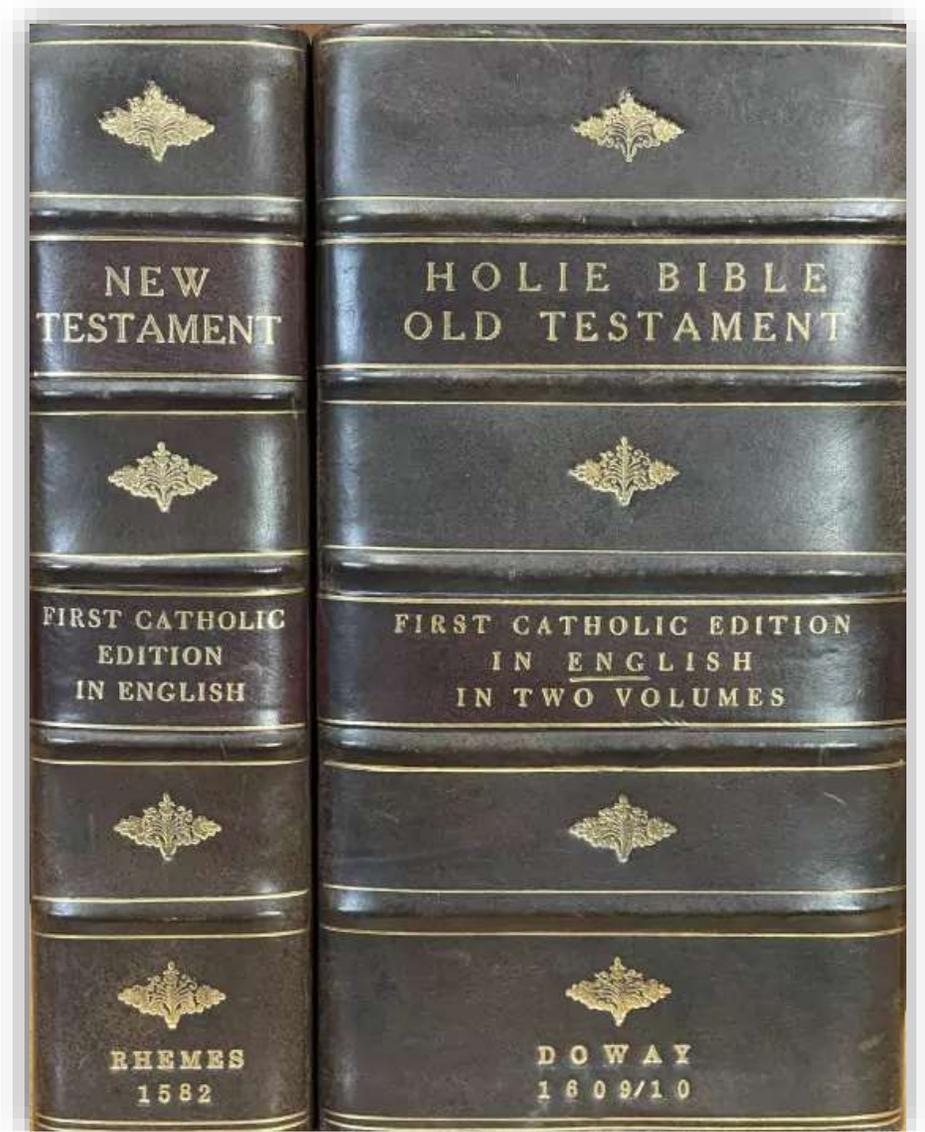
The Bishops Bible

- With the end of Queen Mary's bloody reign, the reformers could safely return to England. The Anglican Church, now under Queen Elizabeth I, reluctantly tolerated the printing and distribution of Geneva version Bibles in England.
- The marginal notes, which were vehemently against the institutional Church of the day, did not rest well with the rulers of the day. Another version, one with a less inflammatory tone was desired, and the copies of the Great Bible were getting to be decades old.
- In 1568, a revision of the Great Bible known as the **Bishop's Bible** was introduced. Despite 19 editions being printed between 1568 and 1606, this Bible, referred to as the "rough draft of the King James Version", never gained much of a foothold of popularity among the people. The Geneva may have simply been too much to compete with.



The Douay/Rheims Bible

- In 1582, the Church of Rome surrendered its fight for “Latin only” and decided that if the Bible was to be available in English, it would at least have an official Roman Catholic English translation. And so, using the corrupt and inaccurate Latin Vulgate as the only source text, they went on to publish an English Bible with all the distortions and corruptions that Erasmus had revealed and warned of 75 years earlier.
- Because it was translated at the Roman Catholic College in the city of Rheims, it was known as the **Rheims New Testament**.
- The Douay Old Testament was translated by the Church of Rome in 1609 at the College in the city of Douay. The combined product is commonly referred to as the “Douay/Rheims” Version.
- In 1589, Dr. William Fulke of Cambridge published the “Fulke’s Refutation”, in which he printed in parallel columns the Bishops Version alongside the Rheims Version, attempting to show the error and distortion of the Roman Church’s corrupt compromise of an English version of the Bible.



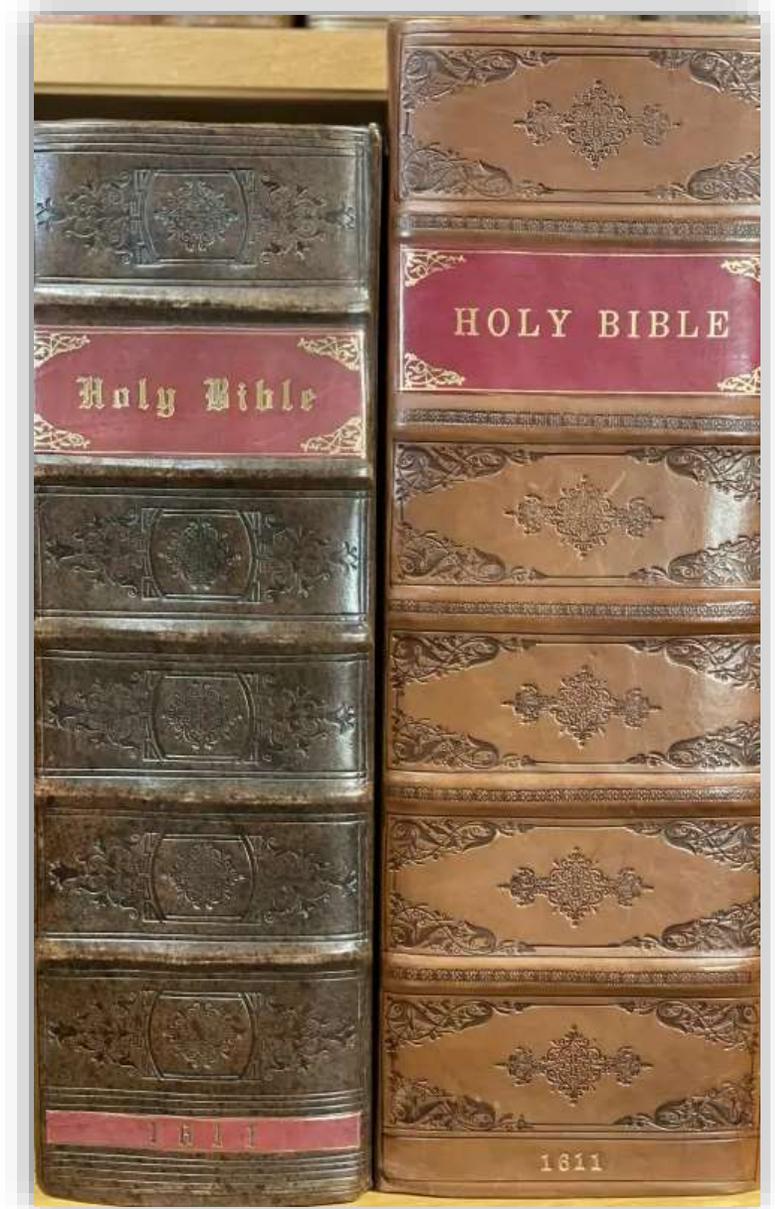
King James Paves the Way

- With the death of Queen Elizabeth I, Prince James VI of Scotland became **King James I** of England.
- The Protestant clergy approached the new King in 1604 and announced their desire for a new translation to replace the Bishop's Bible first printed in 1568.
- They knew that the Geneva Version had won the hearts of the people because of its excellent scholarship, accuracy, and exhaustive commentary. However, they did not want the controversial marginal notes (proclaiming the Pope an Anti-Christ, etc.)
- The leaders of the church desired a Bible for the people, with scriptural references only for word clarification or cross-references.
- This “translation to end all translations” was the result of the combined effort of about fifty scholars. They took into consideration: The Tyndale New Testament, The Coverdale Bible, The Matthews Bible, The Great Bible, The Geneva Bible, and even the Rheims New Testament. The great revision of the Bishop's Bible had begun.



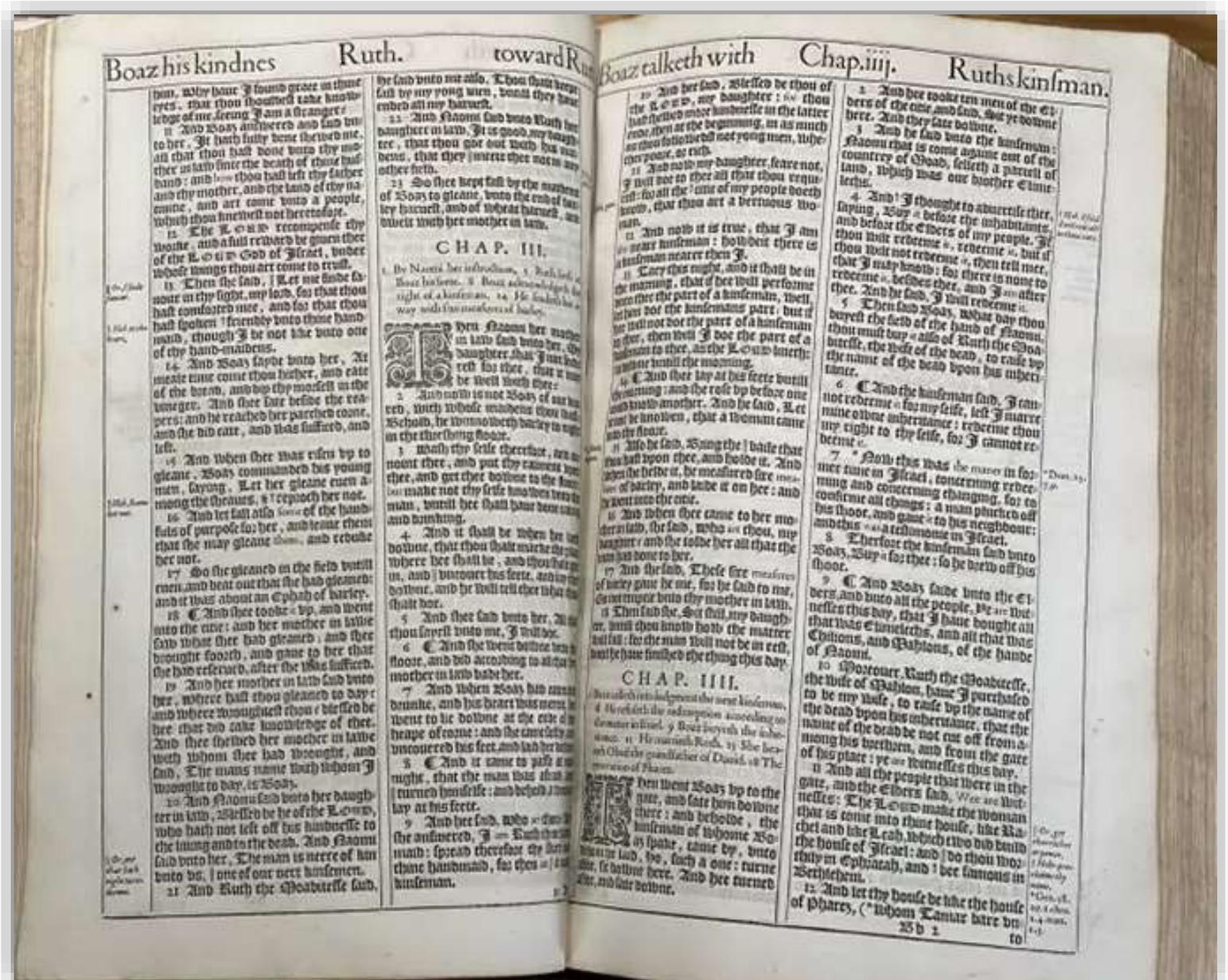
The King James Bible

- From 1607 to 1609 the work was assembled. In 1610 the work went to press, and in 1611 the first of the huge (16 inch tall) pulpit folios known today as “**The 1611 King James Bible**” were printed.
- Starting just one year after the huge 1611 pulpit-size KJV Bibles were printed and chained to every church pulpit in England, printing then began on the earliest normal-size printings. These were produced so individuals could have their own personal copy of the Bible.
- The Anglican Church’s King James Bible took decades to overcome the more popular Protestant Church’s Geneva Bible.



KJV "He" Bibles

- A typographical discrepancy in Ruth 3:15 rendered a pronoun "He" instead of "She" in that verse in some printings.
- This caused some of the 1611 First Editions to be known by collectors as "He" Bibles, and others as "She" Bibles.



An Irony of Bible History

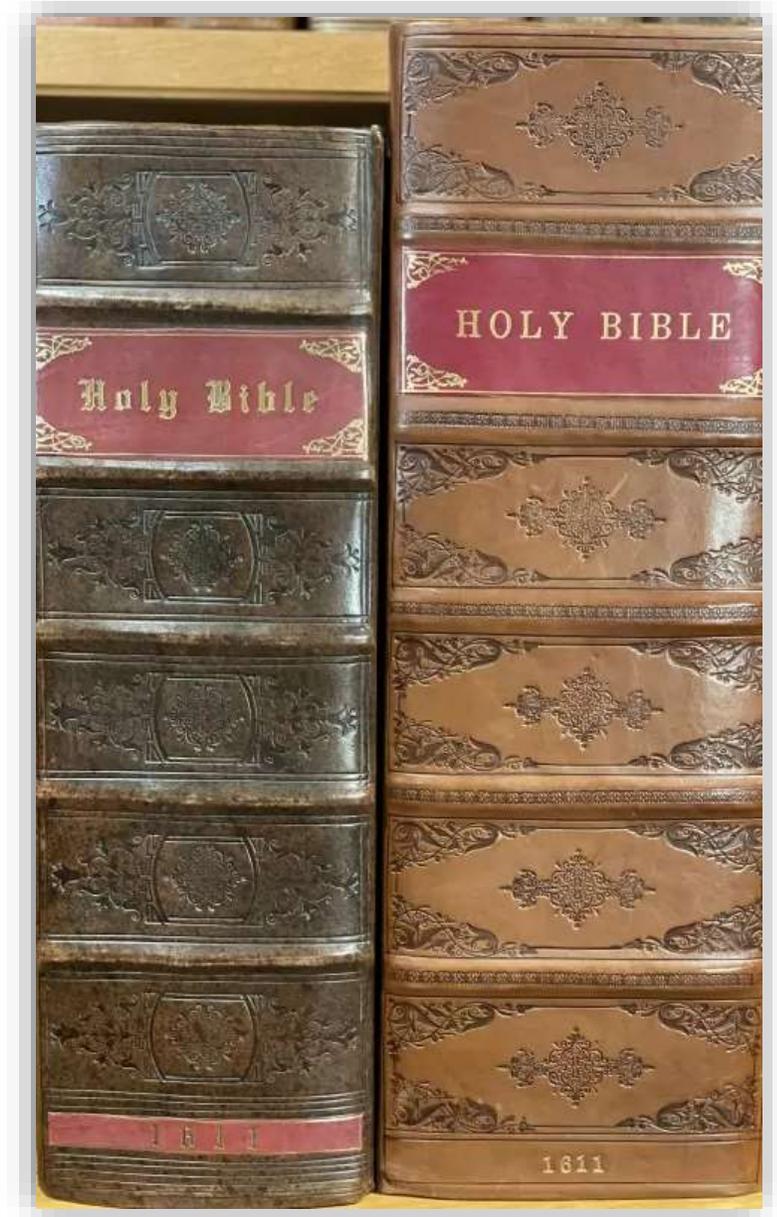
- One of the greatest ironies of history, is that many Protestant Christian churches today embrace the King James Bible exclusively as the “only” legitimate English language translation... yet it is not even a Protestant translation!
- It was printed to compete with the Protestant Geneva Bible, by authorities who throughout most of history were hostile to Protestants... and killed them.
- While many Protestants are quick to assign the full blame of persecution to the Roman Catholic Church, it should be noted that even after England broke from Roman Catholicism in the 1500s, the Church of England (The Anglican Church) continued to persecute Protestants throughout the 1600s.
- One famous example of this is **John Bunyan**, who while in prison for the crime of preaching the Gospel, wrote one of Christian history’s greatest books, Pilgrim’s Progress.
- Throughout the 1600s, as the Puritans and the Pilgrims fled the religious persecution of England to cross the Atlantic and start a new free nation in America, they took with them their precious Geneva Bible, and rejected the King’s Bible. America was founded upon the Geneva Bible, not the King James Bible.



Bunyan
1628-1688

The King James Bible

- Protestants today are largely unaware of their own history and unaware of the Geneva Bible (which is textually 95% the same as the King James Version, but 50 years older than the King James Version, and not influenced by the Roman Catholic Rheims New Testament that the King James translators admittedly took into consideration).
- Nevertheless, the King James Bible turned out to be an excellent and accurate translation, and it became the most printed book in the history of the world, and the only book with one billion copies in print.
- In fact, for over 250 years...until the appearance of the English Revised Version of 1881-1885...the King James Version reigned without much of a rival.

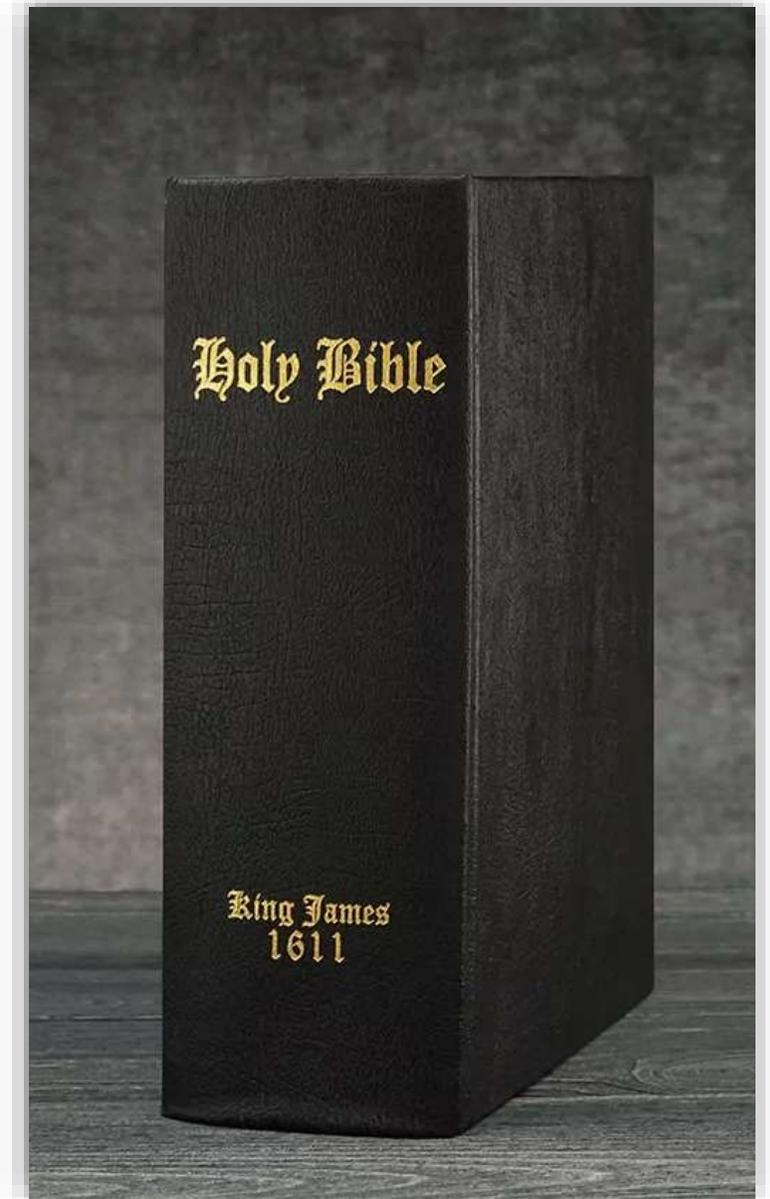


John 3:16 in English Through Time

- 1st Ed. King James (1611): “For God so loued the world, that he gaue his only begotten Sonne: that whosoeuer beleueth in him, should not perish, but haue euerlasting life.”
- Rheims (1582): “For so God loued the vworld, that he gaue his only-begotten sonne: that euery one that beleueth in him, perish not, but may haue life euerlasting”
- Geneva (1560): “For God so loueth the world, that he hath geuen his only begotten Sonne: that none that beleue in him, should peryshe, but haue euerlasting lyfe.”
- Great Bible (1539): “For God so loued the worlde, that he gaue his only begotten sonne, that whosoeuer beleueth in him, shulde not perisse, but haue euerlasting lyfe.”
- Tyndale (1534): “For God so loveth the worlde, that he hath geuen his only sonne, that none that beleve in him, shuld perisse: but shuld have everlastinge lyfe.”
- Wycliff (1380): “for god loued so the world; that he gaf his oon bigetun sone, that eche man that bileueth in him perisch not: but haue euerlastynge liif,”

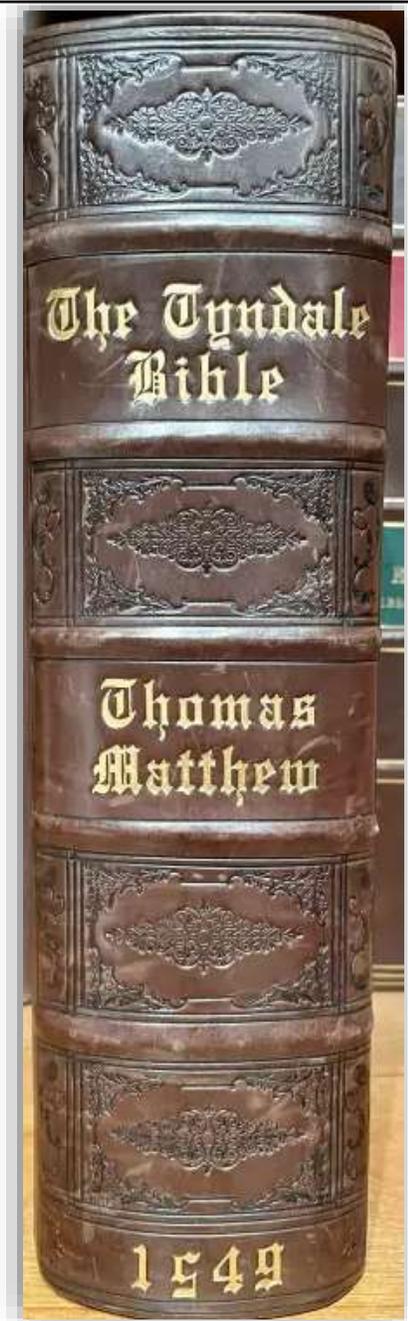
It is Really a 1611 KJV?

- One little-known fact, is that for the past 250 years, all “King James Version” Bibles published anywhere by any publisher are actually Blaney’s 1769 Revised Oxford Edition of the 1611 King James Bible.
- The original “1611” preface is almost always deceptively included by modern Bible publishing companies, and no mention of the fact that it is really the 1769 version is to be found, because that might hurt sales among those imagining that they are reading the original 1611 version.
- The only way to obtain a true, unaltered, 1611 version is to either purchase an original pre-1769 printing of the King James Bible, or a less costly facsimile reproduction of the original 1611 King James Bible.



Points of Application

- Thank our Lord God for
 - Preservation of His Word
 - Giving us His Word in our language
 - Giving men, like Tyndale, gifting in languages, courage and determination to defy authorities, and many helpers to ensure that Bibles could be printed and distributed
 - Giving the martyrs a love and thirst for God's Word that was unquenchable
- Don't quench the Holy Spirit's work in your life – pick up your Bible and regularly read it
- What value do you place on the Word of God? If it were outlawed, would you risk your life to read it and publish it for others?



28 Rather then mans dissolution should not be punished, the dumb creatures shall cry for vengeance.

Gen. 19. 50. Judges 1. 9. 28 Such are the people commonly as their rulers are.

Beholde, this stone shall be a witness unto vs: for it hath heard all the words of the Lord which he spake unto vs, it shall be there for a witness against you, lest you deny your God.

28 Then Iudah let the people depart every man into his inheritance.

29 And after these things, Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord died, being an hundred and ten yeeres old.

30 And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnath serah, which is in mount Ephraim, on the South side of Mount Gaath.

31 And Israel served the Lord all the

dayes of Joshua, and all the dayes of the Elders that overruled Joshua, and which had known all the works of the Lord that he had done for Israel.

32 And the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Iacob bought of the sonnes of Hamor the father of Shechem, for an hundred pieces of silver, and the children of Joseph had them in their inheritance.

33 Also Eleazar the sonne of Aaron died, whom they buried in the hill of Ephraim, which was given him in mount Ephraim.

Gen. 50. 25. 1 Cor. 15. 12. Gen. 33. 19.

1 Chr. 5. 26. 1 Chron.

The booke of Iudges.

THE ARGUMENT.

Albeit there is nothing that more prouoketh Gods wrath, then mans ingratitude: yet is there nothing so displeasent and vaine, that can turne backe Gods loue from his Church. For now when the Israelites were entred into the land of Canaan, and saw the truth of Gods promise performd, in stead of acknowledging his great benefits, and giving thanks for the same, they fell to most horrible obliuion of Gods graces, contrary to their solemne promise made vnto Iudua, and so prouoked his vengeance (as much as in them stood) to their vnto destruction. Whereof as they had most euident signes by the mutabilitie of their state: for hee suffered them in beeing ierusalemly vexed and tormented by tyrants: he pulled them from libertie, and call them into slavery, to the intent they might feel their owne miseries, and so call vnto him, and be deliuered: so to them that his mercies endure for ever, he raised vp from time to time such as should deliuer them, and assure them of his fauour and grace, if they would turne to him by true repentance. And these deliuerers the Scripture calleth Iudges, because they were executors of Gods iudgements, not choic'd of the people, nor by succession, but raised vp as it seemed best to God for the gouernance of his people. They were some time in number besides Iudua, and gouerned from Iudua to Saul the first king of Israel, Iudua and these vnto the time of Saul, ruled 177 yeeres. In this booke as many notable points declared, but two especially: first the hatred that the Church of God hath for the maintenance of true Religion against idolatry and superstition, next, what great dangers that common wealth is in, when as God giueth not a magistrate to reuaine his people in the purposes of Religion, and his iust seruice.

CHAPTER I.

1 After Joshua was dead, Iudah was confederate captaine. 6 Adoni-besek is taken. 14 The rockwell of Ashph. 16 The children of Kani. 28 The Canaanites are made tribute vnto vs, but not destroyed.

having the thumbers of their hands and of their teete cut off, gathered bound vnder my table: as I haue done, so God hath rewarded me: so they brought him to Ierusalem, and there he died.

8 (Now the children of Iudah had fought against Ierusalem, and had taken it, and smitten it with the edge of the sword, and had set the city on fire.)

9 Afterward also the children of Iudah were come to fight against the Canaanites, that dwelt in the mountaine, and toward the South, and in the low country.

10 And Iudah went against the Canaanites that dwelt in Gebon, which Gebon defunctus was called: and they slew Shephai, and Heman, and Tamai.

11 And from thence hee went to the inhabitants of Debir, and the name of Debir in old time was Hebat-huui.

12 And Caleb said, See that I smite Hebrah the Gibeon, and take her, since to him will I give Achish my daughter to wife.

13 And it was the name of Hebrah, Calebs younger brother: and hee gave Achish his daughter to wife.

14 And when he came to her, hee wooed her as a maid of her father a dowry, and shee lighted off her selfe, and shee said vnto her, What wilt thou?

2 Which was afterward built againe and possessed by the Iebusites, 1. Sam. 5. 6.

Josh. 15. 14. 1 Chron. 2. 41. 1 Sam. 5. 6.

2. Reg. 14. 11. 15.



After that Joshua was dead, the children of Israel asked the Lord, saying, Who shall goe vp for vs against the Canaanites, to fight first against them?

2 And the Lord said, Iudah shall goe vp: behold, I haue giuen her Iudah into his hand.

3 And Iudah saide to Simcon his brother, Come vp with me into my lot, that we may fight against the Canaanites, and I shew thee what I will do vnto thee: for Simcon went with him.

4 Then Iudah went vp, and the Lord deliuered the Canaanites, and the Perizzites into their hands, and they slew of them in Bezek ten thousand men.

5 And they found Adoni-besek in Bezek: and they fought against him, and slew the Canaanites and the Perizzites.

6 Vnto Adoni-besek then, and they pursued after him, and caught him, and cut off the thumbers of his handes and of his teete.

7 And Adoni-besek said, Seventy kings

a By the iudgement of Vrim: read Exod. 18. 30. Num. 27. 12. 1. Sam. 28. 6. b Who shall be our captaine?

c For the tribe of Simcon had their inheritance within the tribe of Iudah, Josh. 19. 1. d Or, the lord of Bezek. e This was Gods iust iudgement, as the tyrant himselfe could feel, that as he had done, so did he receive, Leuit. 24. 19. 20.

NEXT LESSON

History of the English Bible from KJV to Legacy Standard Bible (LSB), including details on the benefits of the LSB