



PRODUCING AN ACCURATE AND FAITHFUL TRANSLATION OF THE WORDS OF GOD

NINE IMPORTANT FACTORS

By

H. D. Williams, M.D., Ph.D.



- Dean Burgon Society Website:
- <http://www.deanburgonsociety.org>
- Bible For Today Website:
- <http://www.biblefortoday.org/>

- William Carey Bible Society
- <http://wcbible.org/index.html>



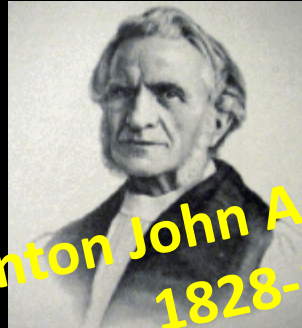
HOW DID WE GET INTO THE MODERN TRANSLATION MESS?



The Storm



CODEx SINAITICUS



Fenton John Anthony Hort
1828-1892

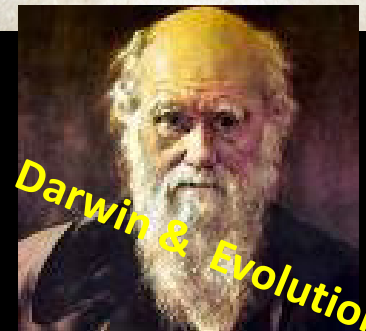
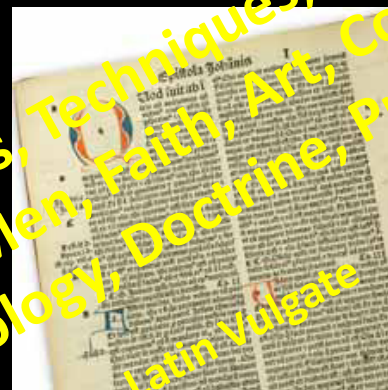


Codex Vaticanus



English Revised
Version

Methods, Techniques, Texts,
MSS, Men, Faith, Art, Counselors,
Bibliology, Doctrine, preservation
Latin Vulgate



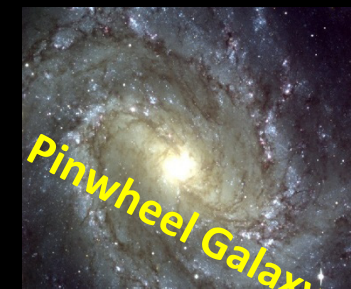
Darwin & Evolution



Brooke Foss Westcott
1825-1903



Dynamic Equivalent Translating



Pinwheel Galaxy

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CONTAINING THE

OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

TRANSLATED OUT OF THE ORIGINAL TONGUES:

BEING THE VERSION SET FORTH A.D. 1611

COMPARED WITH THE MOST ANCIENT AUTHORITIES AND REVISED.

PRINTED FOR THE UNIVERSITIES OF
OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE

Dr. Waite's, Dr. Moorman's
warnings about doctrinal changes

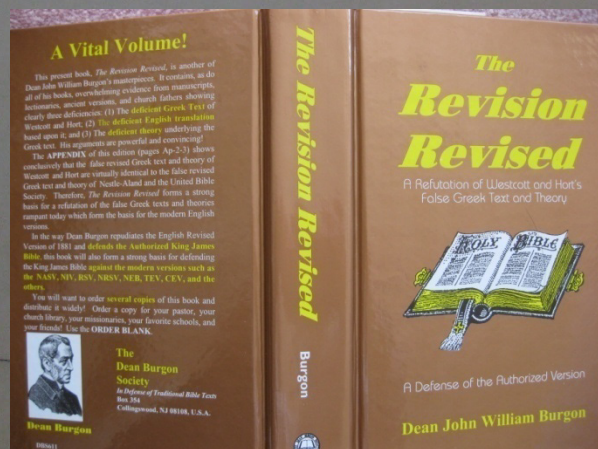
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DEAN BURGON
WARNED!!

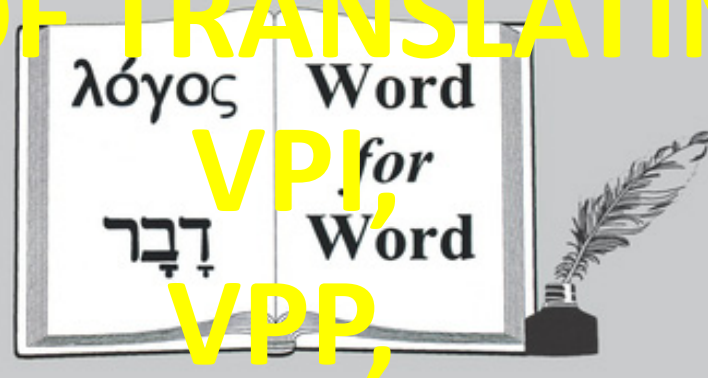
NINE FACTORS PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 1

Translating Method

THIS BOOK DISCUSSES
METHODS,
TECHNIQUES,
ART OF TRANSLATING,
VPI,
VPP,
VPT,
EXAMPLES

Word-For-Word
Translating of
The Received Texts
Verbal Plenary Translating



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Editor: D. A. Waite, Th.D., Ph.D.

Contributors: C. S. Long, Ph.D. & Phil Strange, Ph.D.

NINE FACTORS

PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 2

The Texts
Used For
Translating

NINE FACTORS PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 3

Translation Experience
&
The Art of Translating

NINE FACTORS

PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 4

**Excessive National & Scholarly Pride
That Overrides
The Principles of Translating Found
In The Words of God**

NINE FACTORS

PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 5

**Bibliology & Theology
Of The Translator**

NINE FACTORS PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 6

Adequate Funds For Translating

NINE FACTORS PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 7

The Need For Multiple Counselors

NINE FACTORS

PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 8

Faith In God

NINE FACTORS PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 9

“Without Ceasing” Prayer



PREFACE

1. PLENTY OF FAITH

2. PRESERVATION OF THE TEXT

3. PRIMARY TRANSLATORS

#1. FAITH

UNBELIEF

: απιστος

LITTLE FAITH

: ολιγοπιστος

GOD SAID:

“And he said, I will hide my face from them, I will see what their end *shall be*: for they are a very froward generation, children in whom is **no** faith.”

Deuteronomy 32:20 (derivative of

Heb. emuwn)

JESUS SAID:

“And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.”

Matthew 8:26



#2. PRESERVATION

1. THE ATTACK ON PRESERVATION OF THE HEBREW, ARAMAIC, AND GREEK WORDS

- HEBREW MASORTIC TEXT: 2ND Edition, Jacob Ben Chayyim & Daniel Bomberg text.
- GREEK TR/TT TEXT:

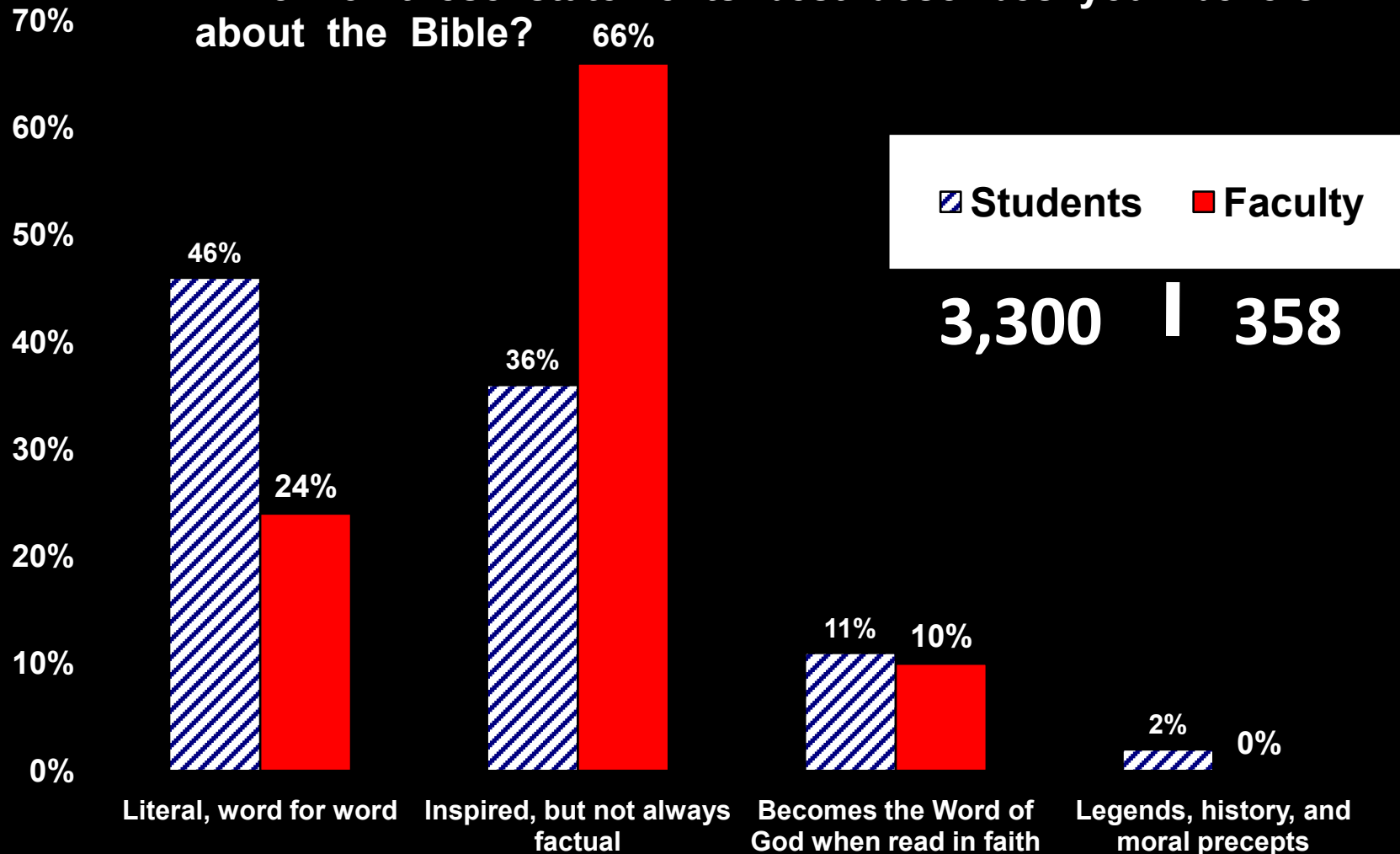
2. THE ATTACK ON THOSE WHO BELIEVE PRESERVATION

- BELIEF IN GOD'S PROMISE TO PRESERVE HIS WORDS PRECIPITATES:
 - NAME-CALLING (uneducated, apostates, heretics, common people)
 - FEAR, FRUSTRATION, FATIGUE, FAINT
 - FIRING (LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT), FUTURE WORRIES.

Oregon's Christian University Since 1891

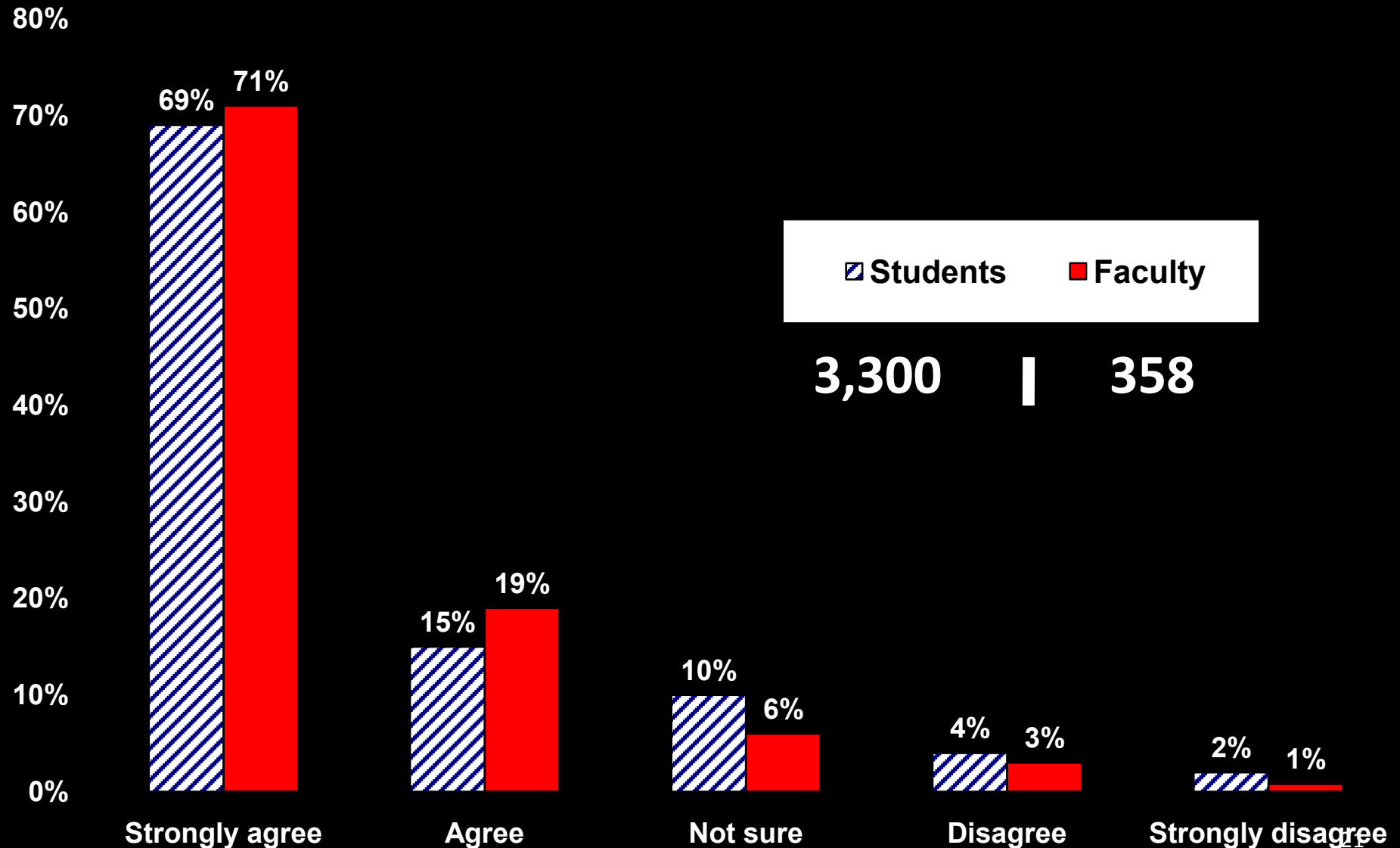
GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY

Which of these statements best describes your beliefs about the Bible?



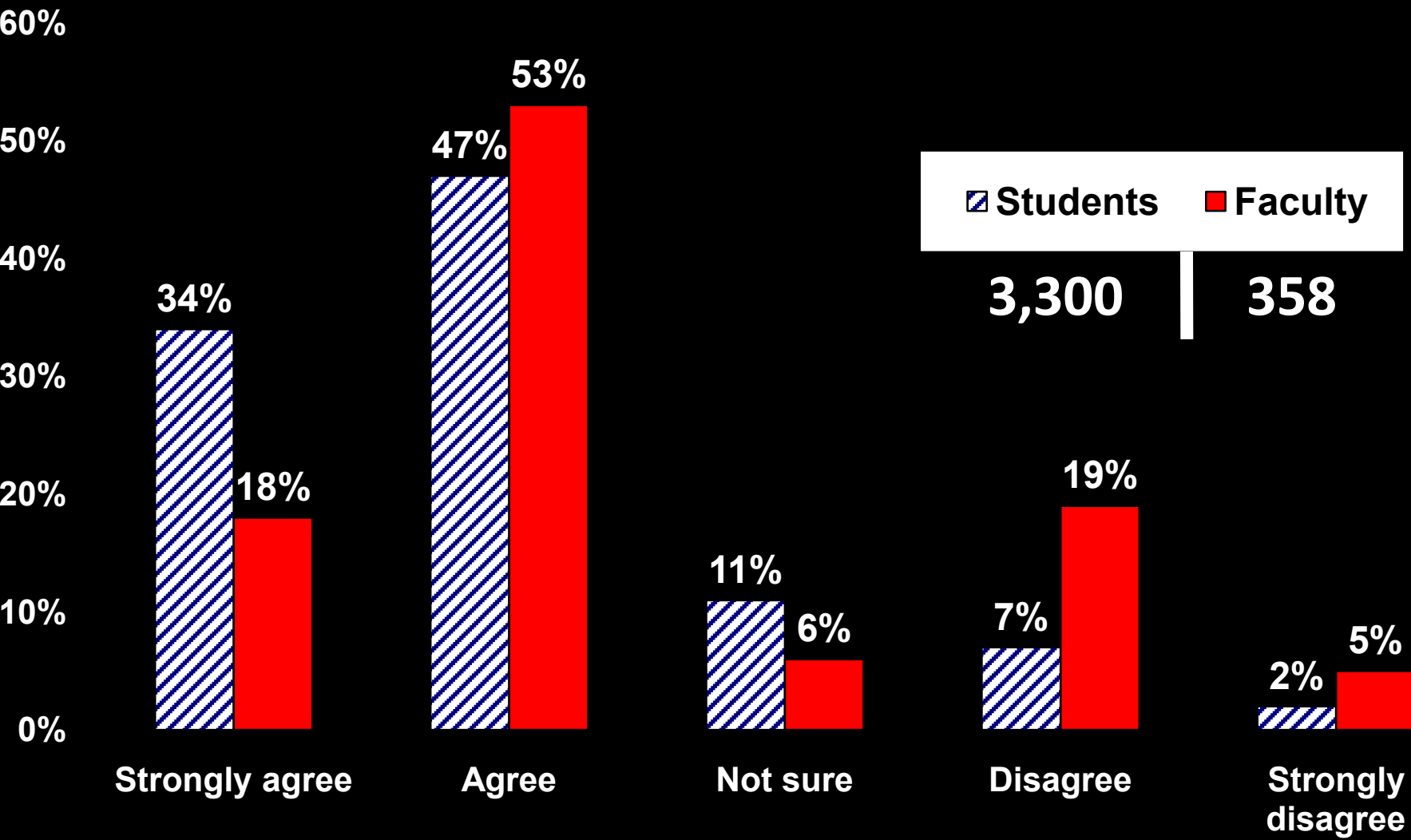
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Jesus' virgin birth is an historical fact.



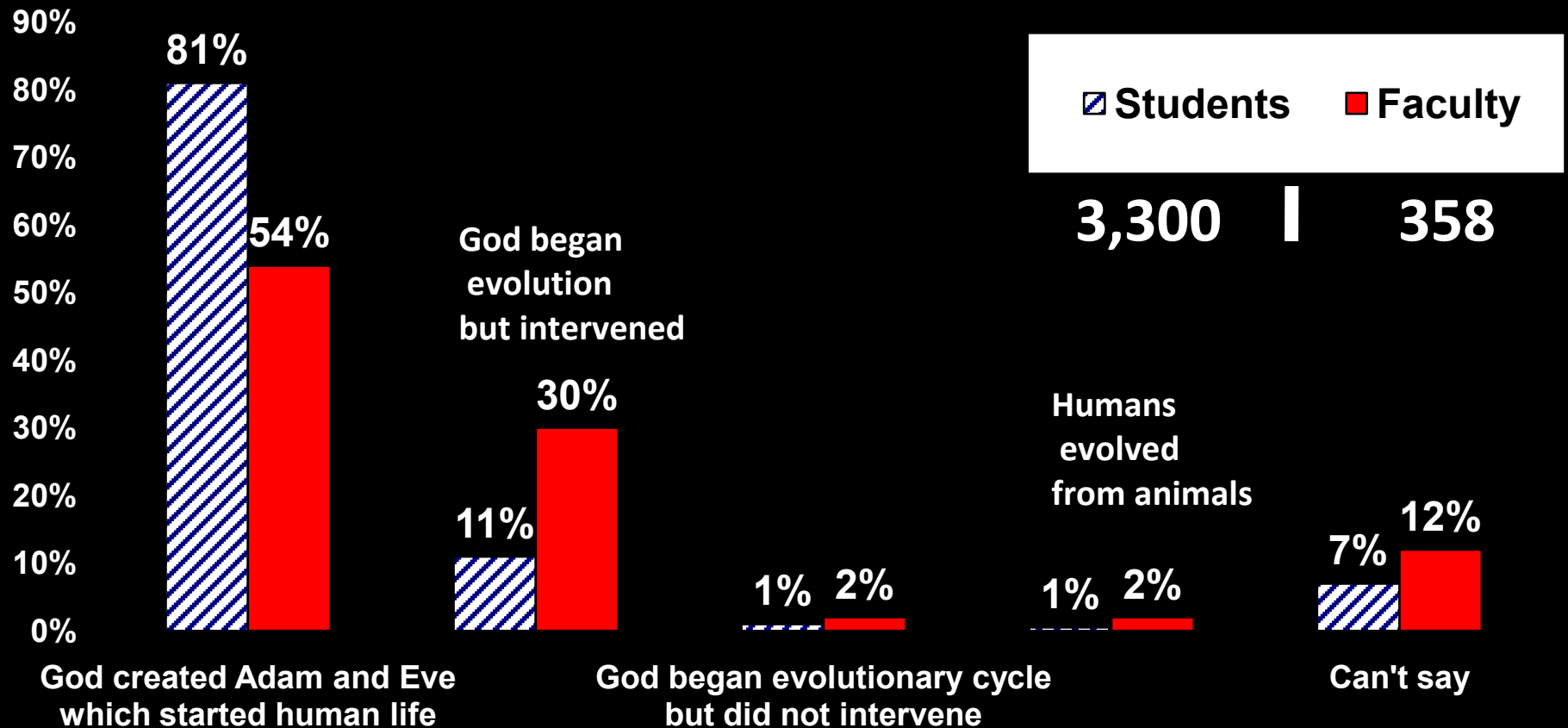
Oregon's Christian University Since 1891

America was founded upon Christian principles.



Oregon's Christian University Since 1891

Which of these statements best describes your beliefs about the origin of humans?





3. THE PRIMARY TRANSLATORS

- **1. Missionaries are the primary translators.**
 - **A. But they are under pressure:**
 - (a). To translate in non-Biblical ways.
 - (b). To retain retirement funds, family income.
 - (c). To keep “friends,” who do not agree with conservative translating principles; co-dependence.
 - (d). To keep financial support.
 - **B. Many are confused by the promulgation of false translating principles (e.g. Eugene Nida et al).**

What Follows in this Presentation

- 1. Brief explanations of the “Nine Factors.”
- 2. These factors must be addressed by a missionary & by the sending church:
 - Preferably before heading off to the mission field
 - Ideally, before a missionary starts his/her training
 - Before a church deputizes a missionary:
 - Because the missionary may be involved in translating in the field.
 - Because many ‘bibles’ translated in the field miss the mark since the issues were not addressed PRIOR TO much ‘water going under the bridge.’

NINE FACTORS PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 1

Translating Method

1. TRANSLATING METHODS

- TRANSLATING METHODS

- 1. SEVERAL TO CHOOSE FROM
 - A. Verbal Plenary Translating (VPT) (e.g. KJB, RVG)
 - Formal, verbal equivalence
 - Word-for-Word Translating
 - Translating for the glory of God
 - B. Dynamic Equivalence (DE, FunE) (e.g. NIV, LB, Message)
 - Paraphrase Translating
 - Translating for the receptor
 - C. ESSENTIALLY LITERAL Translating (ELT) (e.g. ESV)
- 2 NON-BIBLICAL (INAPPROPRIATE) TRANSLATING METHODS ARE CAUSING BIBLES TO APPEAR IN THE MARKET PLACE THAT CONTAIN:
 - A. A FEW ERRORS TO
 - B. MANY ERRORS OF FACT, CONTRADICTIONS & ANOMALIES.

THE WRONG PRECEPT: 'THE PARAPHRASE'



Eugene Nida

Eugene Nida's influence on translating the Words of God should not be underestimated.

Furthermore, he did not believe:

1. Inspiration of the Words of God.
2. The Atonement, etc.

He was on the UBS Editorial Board.

UBS Editorial Board

- 1. Roman Catholic Archbishop Carlo Maria Martini
- 2. Bruce Metzger, Princeton, Apostate CT Scholar,
National Council of Churches.
- 3. Kurt Aland, German CT Scholar, Apostate
- 4. Matthew Black, Denies inspiration
- 5. Allen Wikgren, American Bible Society
- UBS materials are used by at least 145 Bible Societies listed on their website.



NIDA'S TWO MAJOR PREMISES

- 1. Since he believes the Words of God are not inspired and not preserved, he concludes that only the message, idea, concept, or thought needs to be conveyed to a receptor-group (dialect).
- 2. As a result of #1, he claims the primary aim of a translator should be to make the 'message' understandable to the receptor group. This is the root problem of paraphrase or interpretive translating.

THE OUTCOME OF PARAPHRASE TRANSLATING

- **7 PRECEPTS SUBVERTED IN
SCRIPTURE:**

#1. THE LORD'S CLAIM TO AND FOR GLORY

- “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.” Revelation 4:11
- “For mine own sake, *even* for mine own sake, will I do *it*: for how should *my name* be polluted? And I will not give my glory unto another.” Isaiah 48:11

#2. THE REASON GOD'S WORDS ARE HIS GLORY

- “I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.”

Psalms 138:2

#3. THE NUMEROUS EXAMPLES OF 'WORD FOR WORD' TRANSLATING IN THE BIBLE

- TWO EXAMPLES: (Interpreted means translated)
- “And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” Mark 15:34
- “He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ”. John 1:41

#4. The Bible's Warnings

- “Behold, ye trust in lying words, that cannot profit.”
Jeremiah 7:8
- “The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What *is* the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD.”
Jeremiah 23:28

#5. THE BIBLE'S COMMAND (IN MANY PLACES)

- “And thou shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear: for they *are* most rebellious.”

Ezekiel 2:7

#6. THE BIBLE'S ASSERTION OF THE RIGHT WORDS (IN MANY PLACES)

- “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” Isaiah 8:20
- Speak (from Hebrew amar), = certify, publish, command,

#7 THE 'RIGHT WORDS' ARE SEALED

- “Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples.” Isaiah 8:16
- “The law and testimony” are sealed, just as surely as a saved person is sealed for all eternity.
- Sealed (from Heb. chatham) = close up



THE TRANSLATORS JOB

- **1. TRANSLATE THE WORDS ON THE PAGE**
- **2. AVOID THE INFLUENCE OF BIAS FROM THEOLOGICAL BELIEFS AND INTERPRETATION.**
 - The emphasis is on the words that form the message,
 - The emphasis is not on a message derived from one's beliefs or interpretation or questionable words.



DEFINITION OF ‘WORD-FOR-WORD ‘ TRANSLATING

- “Dynamic Equivalent (DE) theorists mistakenly think that word-for-word translating is only one word for one word and only one class of words (nouns, verbs, pronouns, etc.) for one class of words. Although the primary attempt should be one word for one word and one class for one class, the syntax of language determines the final disposition of translating.

DEFINITION OF WORD-FOR-WORD TRANSLATING

- “Nothing could be further from the truth than the accusation by modern language theorists that word-for-word translating is rigid. Rather, it is militancy for accurate and faithful translation of His Words!”
- “Literal word-for-word translating is translating words in the source-language for words in the receptor-language so far as the syntax of the receptor-language will allow. No one would deny the difficulty that often occurs, but the primary aim of translators is for God’s glory through faithful preservation of His glorious Words in any language.” (Isa. 42:8)

NINE FACTORS PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 2

The Texts Used
For Translating

FACTOR #2

THE TEXTS USED FOR TRANSLATING

- 1. Not understanding this factor alone results in many corrupted 'bibles' or versions.
- 2. There are many original language texts available; all claiming to be the Words of God. How can it be?
- 3. God's Words proclaim preservation in MANY places.



MAJOR REVISIONS OF THE UBS/NA

- **1. Twenty-eight editions for the NA Texts**
- **2. Four for the UBS Texts**
- **3. Two major Majority Texts**
 - Robinson/Pierpont
 - Hodges/Farstead
- **4. Many Hebrew Texts**
 - Ben Asher texts
 - Stuttgartensia
 - Leningardensia

TEXTUS RECEPTUS/TT TEXTS

- 1. They did not originate with Erasmus.
- 2. They go back to the Apostles.
- 3. Ninety-nine percent of MSS support the RT/TT
 - Uncials
 - Minuscules.
- 4. One percent support the CT. The Aleph and B MSS are not the oldest.
- 5. Nearly 70% of church elder quotes before 325 A.D. Support the RT/TT
- 6. All lectionaries support the RT/TT
- 7. In this dispensation, many translations from early to late support the RT/TT

DEAN BURGON SAID:

- “Variety distinguishing witnesses massed together must needs constitute a most powerful argument for believing such Evidence to be true.
- Witnesses of different kinds; from different countries; speaking different tongues:--witnesses who can never have met, and between whom it is incredible that there should exist collusion of any kind:--such witnesses deserve to be listened to most respectfully.

DEAN BURGON SAID:

- “Indeed, when witnesses of so varied a sort agree in large numbers, they must needs be accounted worthy of even implicit confidence...
- “Variety it is which imparts virtue to mere Number, prevents the witness-box from being filled with packed deponents, ensures genuine testimony.

DEAN BURGON SAID:

- “False witness is thus detected and condemned, because it agrees not with the rest. Variety is the consent of independent witnesses...”
- “It is precisely this consideration which constrains us to pay supreme attention to the combined testimony of the Uncials and of the whole body of the Cursive Copies.”
- (HDW, not just a few corrupted texts)

DEAN BURGON SAID:

- “They are (a) dotted over at least 1000 years:
(b) they evidently belong to so many divers
countries,--Greece, Constantinople, Asia Minor,
Palestine, Syria, Alexandria, and other parts of
Africa, not to say Sicily, Southern Italy, Gaul,
England and Ireland:

DEAN BURGON SAID:

- “(c) they exhibit so many strange characteristics and peculiar sympathies:
- “(d) they so clearly represent countless families of MSS., being in no single instance absolutely identical in their text, and certainly not being copies of any other Codex in existence,--that their unanimous decision I hold to be an absolutely irrefragable evidence of the Truth.”
- Dean John William Burgon, *The Traditional Text of the Holy Gospels*, Vol 1 (The Dean Burgon Society Press, Collingswood, NJ, 1998) pp. 50-51.

Dr. D. A. Waite, Th.D., Ph.D. said:

- “If you are talking about the Textus Receptus of the New Testament we find those manuscripts virtually identical one with the other...a seamless garment. There are a few spelling differences but other than that not much else.”
- Pastor D. A. Waite, Th.D., Ph.D., *Fuzzy Facts From Fundamentalists on Bible Versions* (The Bible For Today, Collingswood, NJ) p. 65.



SO WE ASK:

- What is all this “noise” from ‘scholars’ about the 1% of MSS that have so little support in:
- 1. Variety of Evidence
- 2. Consent of Witness, or Number
- 3. Respectability of Witness, or Weight
- 4. Continuity, or Unbroken Tradition.
- 5. Antiquity, or Primitiveness.
- 6. Evidence of the Entire Passage, or Context.
- 7. Internal Considerations, or Reasonableness



OVERPOWERING EVIDENCE

- Why and What is all of this confusion produced by “scholars” and essentially all Bible Societies?
- We will let you insert your explanation, but perhaps it involves:
- Greed, pride, money, lust (for control or power), position, confusion, knowledge, fear (of boards, editors, publishers, not being deputized).



THE MOST IMPORTANT JOB OF A TRANSLATOR

- **1. PRODUCE A TRANSLATION FOR GOD'S GLORY**
 - Using the proper original texts
 - Using Formal & Verbal Equivalence without wavering
- **2. Remember, VPI demands VPP, which in turn demands VPT.**
- **3. The result of God's way of translating is God's Words preserved in the receptor language.**



- When the emphasis is on the receptor rather than the Author's WORDS, the technical name for this type of translating is dynamic or functional equivalent (FunE) translating.
- It produces a paraphrase

HOW A TRANSLATOR FAILS

- The translator, who produces a translation whose major guiding principle is the receptor in a language-group, will fail his call to be a translator of the Words of God.
- As indicated in Psalm 138:2, God has a very high opinion of His Words. Deviating from this important precept leads to failure to produce an accurate and faithful translation that can be said to preserve the Words of God in a receptor language.

THE EXAMPLE

- The primary and classic example of accurate and faithful translating of God's Words and also of almost perfect English literature is the King James Bible.
- It is a product of Great Britain; that is, it was produced in England, not America. For those around the world who are caught up in prejudice against America and in national pride, purge your narrow-mindedness.

THE EXAMPLE

- The King James Bible can and should be used as confirmation of a translation in many language-groups.
 - First of all because of its allegiance to the Preserved Words of God.
 - Second because it is recognized by many scholars of literature as the greatest of all English writing.

One Commentator Wrote:

- “Our translators have not only made a *standard translation*, but they have made their translation the *standard of our language*.”

— Adam Clarke (1762-1832)

Other Commentators Said:

- “Historically, it is the most influential version of the most influential language.”

Geddes MacGregor (1909-1998)

- “It is a thing so rare that it may indeed be called unique when a book translated faithfully from one language becomes a literary classic in another... In the case of the Authorized Version the unique has become the universally recognized fact. It is not only a classic, it is *the* English classic *par excellence*,

John Genung (1850-1919)

Another said:

- “the best standard of our language”
and “the noblest monument of English
prose.”

Robert Lowth (1710-1787)

Why this?

- In the Philippines:
- “There is an Iloco Bible sponsored by the United Bible Societies and the Filipino Bible Society.
- “According to a personal letter from the head of the translation committee to Michael Trumpp there were six translators. Four Protestant ministers and two Catholic priests. They translated from the English using four resources: The Revised Standard Version, The American Standard Version, The Moffat Bible and the Catholic Bible.

Why this in the Philippines?

- “The translators attended a thirty day training program in Dynamic Equivalency together (e. g. like Wycliffe Bible Society’s SIL).
- Their translation is aimed at teenagers and includes slang.”

SOMETHING MISSING?

- **Something has to be missing in the synapses of the brain when some translators, pastors, missionaries, or evangelists ‘thumb their noses’ at the King James Bible. Disregarding this most excellent of all translations of the Bible and its indelible contribution to English literature is akin to denying the Preservation of the Words of God in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek that underlie the Authorized Version.**

EVER INCREASING CHORUS AGAINST THE KJB

- In the past, many men have stood for the English translation of the KJB, but not any more.
- (See: David Cloud, *For Love Of The Bible, The Battle for the King James Version and The Received Text from 1800 to Present* (Way of Life Literature, Oak Harbor, Washington, or London, Ontario, Canada, 1995).

EVER INCREASING CHORUS

- **However and very wrongly, there is an ever increasing chorus of men in opposition to those who would defend the 1604 to 1611 English translation of the Bible as the most accurate and faithful.**
- **Those opposed fall into two groups.**

Two Groups Opposed to the KJB

- First, many recent ‘scholars’, neo-evangelicals, protestants, emerging church leaders, and even more and more fundamentalists, loudly proclaim:
 - 1. “The KJB translation is not very good because:
 - A. It has many errors,
 - B. The English is outdated, and
 - C. It is based upon the wrong text.
 - 2. The modern translations and texts are better.”

For Example, Dr. James Price said:

- **“In my early days , it never entered my mind that the King James Version needed revision in modern English because I cut my teeth on that edition of the Bible, memorizing it from early childhood.**
- **“Consequently, I understood King James English as well as Modern English and did not know some people had trouble comprehending it.**

For Example, Dr. Price said:

- “It was not until I began teaching in seminary that I discovered I was investing a worthwhile percentage of my teaching Elizabethan English in my classes instead of Bible. Many students did not understand (or they misunderstood) what they read in the King James Bible because of its archaic language.
- “That encouraged me to participate in the editing of the New King James Version.”
- James D. Price, *King James Onlyism: A New Sect* (Saik Wah Press, Singapore, 2006) p. xiii.

Second Group Opposed to the KJB

- Some individuals, although they use the King James Bible for preaching and teaching, claim those individuals defending the preservation of God's Words to the "jot and tittle" and to "every word" of the canon of Scripture are duped.
(Mat. 5:17-18, Mat. 4:4)
- In other words, they believe the KJB translation conveys the thoughts, ideas, concepts, or message adequately, but they admit to preferring another text than the Traditional Texts underlying the KJB.



An Example of the Second Group:

- Dr. Michael Sproul said:
 - “I write from the perspective of a preference for the Byzantine/Majority Text. My purpose is not to defend that position necessarily, but I am certain some of my beliefs will be apparent. I preach every week from the Old Scofield King James Version that relies on Blayney’s 1769 revision.”
- Dr. Michael D. Sproul, *God’s Word Preserved* (Whetstone Precept Press, Tempe, Arizona, 2005) p. 14

Are there only a few poorly trained men who stand for the KJB and its underlying texts?

- Many like to lump all defenders of the KJB and underlying texts as “King James Only” ‘dupes’ after the fashion of Peter Ruckman, which is deceptive and libelous. Do all of these things fall into the hands of the enemy to eventually influence translators?
 - Of course it does!


Those Defending Our Position

- They have not attacked the “persons” making the false claims; rather, they have defended their beliefs with Grace and Wisdom.
- They always start with the Words of God.



As a Translator, You Will Be Attacked!

- **Therefore, always start your defense with the Words of God.**
- **Avoid man's ideas and philosophies.**
 - **Col. 2:8**




Your judge is the Lord and His Words:

- “For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord.”
 - 1 Corinthians 4:4
- “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.”
 - John 12:48



- “And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know.”
 - 1 Corinthians 8:2



NINE FACTORS

PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 3

Translation Experience
&
The Art of Translating



The Art of Translating

- The ‘art of translating’ the Bible into a language-group must by definition occur with a great depth of knowledge :
 - 1. In the languages of the Bible,
 - 2. In the customs and culture of the Biblical era,
 - 3. In the receptor -language, and
 - 4. In the customs and culture of the receptor language-group.



The Art of Translating

- The nuances of translating are greatly influenced:
 - 1. By the understanding of idioms in the Biblical language and the receptor-language,
 - 2. By precise sense of a word in a passage or “signification,” and
 - 3. By many similar concepts in both languages (metaphors, parables, euphemisms, hyperbole, metonym, etc).
- This experience (acquired knowledge) cannot not be reflected in a translation by a novice (1 Tim. 3:6). It requires a team of experienced Christians with exceptional knowledge.

NINE FACTORS

PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 4

**Excessive National & Scholarly Pride
That Overrides
the Principles of Translating Found
In The Words of God**

NATIONAL PRIDE

- National pride related to translating the Words of God is extolled by many authors.
- Kurt and Barbara Aland use it as a reason to translate the Words of God.
- This may be related to “pride for country” or for “pride by nationals” of a nation to produce a translation in their receptor-language.



The Alands said:

- “Consequently in most languages at least revisions of Bible translations were (and are) long overdue, if only to satisfy a sense of pride in a text prepared by national Christian translators.”
- Kurt and Barbara Aland, *The Text of the New Testament* (William B. Eerdmann Publishing Company, Grand Rapids, MI, paperback edition, 1995) p. 31.

The Body of Christ

- **On the basis of our Lord's commands and the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, national barriers for the body of Christ are removed.**
- **Brothers and sisters in every nation are charged with the same responsibilities; namely, to make the faith "once delivered unto the saints" made known to the world.**

(Jude. 1:3, Mat. 28:18-20).

The Body of Christ

- The members of the body of Christ in the world know no borders. The Bible recognizes only three groups pertaining to the Gospel. The first two are unbelievers, the third, believers. They are:
 -
- *“Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God:”*

1 Corinthians 10:32

The Purpose of Translating:

- The purpose of translating the Bible into a language-group is for 1. God's glory, 2. saving souls, 3. knowing God's will, and 4. educating the 'body of Christ' until:
-
- *"...the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."*

Ephesians 4:16

The Purpose of Translating:

- **This applies to the local church as well as to the “whole body.” Anyone who has traveled to another nation for evangelistic purposes will immediately recognize the bond of fellow believers.**
- **Translate the Words of God; first, for His glory, and second, for the “body of Christ.” It is a matter of emphasis that results in unity.**

2. PERSONAL PRIDE

- **A translator who has begun the arduous task of properly and appropriately translating the Words of God secondary to personal pride will soon lose his way.**

PERSONAL PRIDE

- *“When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.” Proverbs 11:2*
- *“Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.” Proverbs 13:10*
- *“Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.” (Proverbs 16:18)*
- Need we say more?

NINE FACTORS

PIVOTAL POINTS

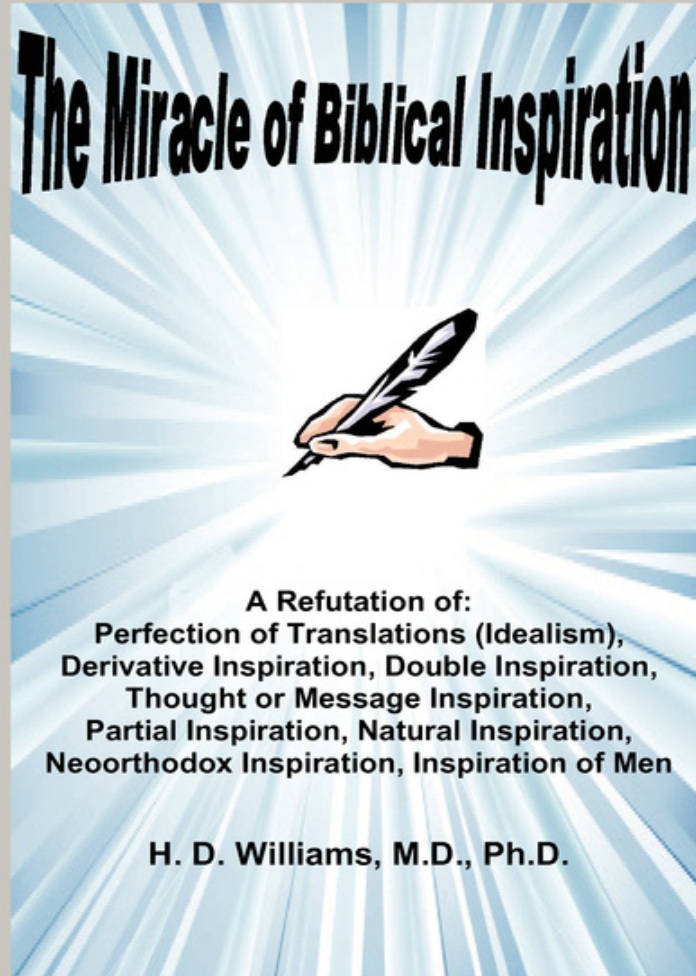
NUMBER 5

**Bibliology & Theology
Of The Translator**

A CARDINAL POINT

- **This is a cardinal point for producing an accurate and faithful translation of the Bible.**
- **Pastors, local churches, training institutions must be attuned to the Bibliology of the missionaries or translators they are supporting.**

THE FALSE MESSAGE OF MESSAGE INSPIRATION



WHAT DOES THE TRANSLATOR BELIEVE

- Although conservative, fundamental men should believe the following, they increasingly do not:
- “The Old Testament in Hebrew...and the New Testament in Greek...being immediately inspired by God, and, by His singular care and providence, kept pure in all ages, are therefore authentic; so as, in all controversies of religion, the Church is finally to appeal unto them.”

• *Westminster Confession of Faith* (1646).

How terms are defined?

- Many words were defined and applied in the area of bibliology over the centuries to combat many errors.
- For example, “inerrancy” and “infallibility” of the Scriptures were applied during the Reformation as theological terms to combat higher and lower criticism that were sweeping Europe and America.
- Many critical texts and translations of the corrupted texts were developing as a result of the work of Hugo Grotius, John Fell, Gerhard von Maestrict, J. A. Bengel, Johann Semler, J. J. Griesback, Carl Lachmann, and many others. The terms helped refute modernistic, liberal teachers.

How terms are defined?

- Many “opinions of men” have undermined faith in VPI, VPP, and the necessary corollary of VPT.
- Let it suffice to say in this brief presentation that pastors and churches supporting translators (missionaries) need to know where they stand on these issues. Are the missionaries/translators solid literal bibliologists?



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Adequate Funds For Translating

TWO SIGNICANT FACTORS

- 1. Acquisition of funds.
- 2. Loss of funds.

THE HEAVY PRICE

Count the Cost BEFORE You Begin

- 1. For producing the translation:
 - A. Includes books (lexicons, dictionaries, references, etc.)
 - B. TIME
 - C. Paper
 - D. Computer
 - E. Printing copies to be sent to others
 - F. Inflationary pressures (value of money will go down).
- 2. For loss of income to the translator because of the tremendous amount of time devoted to the translation.
- 3. For the price to his family (away from them).

THE DROP-OUT PROBLEM

- The pressures related to this area of producing an accurate and faithful translation are often overlooked. Drop-outs secondary to:
 - Illness.
 - Family problems.
 - Money.
 - Fatigue.
- Those left to complete the translation subsequently assume a much greater responsibility and MUCH more time than was anticipated. The drop-out rate goes up

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NUMBER 7

The Need For Multiple Counselors

PROPER COUNCELORS

- How many times have we learned of a single solitary translator working by himself.
- This does not preclude an excellent translation, but the Scripture is clear about the need.

THE SCRIPTURE SAYS

- *“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.”*

Proverbs 12:15

- *“Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.”*

Proverbs 20:18

SCRIPTURE

- *“Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.”*

Proverbs 15:22 (cf. Prov. 19:20)

CAUTIONS

- **1. NEGATIVELY:**
- False counsel may be used by the Lord to test your resolve, to test your wisdom and understanding, and to test your sanctified counselors assisting with the translating project. (see 2 Sam. 17).
- Also, an evil spirit can be used to confuse a matter. A lying spirit may be involved. (Judges 9:23, 1 Kg. 22:23, Acts 19). Any counsel that is opposed to Scripture should not be accepted (Job 5:13, Acts 4:19-20).

CAUTIONS

- **2. POSITIVELY:**

- God can thwart evil counsel (Neh. 4:15). Sometimes, the counsel of the Lord should make a believer tremble; this certainly applies to a translator because of the awesome responsibility (Ezra 10:3, Jer. 23:28).

THE COUNSELOR

- **1. GOD THE COUNSELOR:**
- “Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God shall be with thee: Be thou for the people to God-ward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God: And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.” Exodus 18:19-20
- “With him *is* wisdom and strength, he hath counsel and understanding.” Job 12:13

THE COUNSELOR

- 2. GOD WARNS THE TRANSLATOR:

- “Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge,” Proverbs 22:20
- “Who *is* this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?” Job 38:2

THE COUNSELOR

- 3. GOD REAFFIRMS HIS PROMISE THAT HIS WORDS (COUNSEL) WILL STAND FOREVER, SAYING:
 - “The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.”
Psalms 33:11
 - “*There are* many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand.”
Proverbs 19:21

THE COUNSELOR

- 4. A TRANSLATOR IS TO DELIGHT IN HIS COUNSEL.

– “Thy testimonies also *are* my delight *and* my counsellors.”
Psalms 119:24

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THE COUNSELOR

- **5. BE CERTAIN THAT YOU DO NOT REBEL AGAINST GOD IN THIS MOST IMPORTANT WORK.**
 - “Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High:”
Psalms 107:11
 - “But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:”
Proverbs 1:25
 - “*There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the LORD.*”
Proverbs 21:30

ANOTHER WARNING

- 6. TOO MANY HAVE SOUGHT “THE COUNSEL OF BALAAM”

- “Behold, these caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to commit trespass against the LORD in the matter of Peor, and there was a plague among the congregation of the LORD.” Numbers 31:16

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OUR PRAYER

- 7. FOR GOD TO REVEAL TO THOSE WHO DESIRE TO TRANSLATE HIS WORDS:
- “O LORD, thou *art* my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful *things*; thy counsels of old *are* faithfulness *and* truth.”
 - Isaiah 25:1

THE COUNSEL OF THE POOR

- 1. The cries of the lonely poor fundamental defenders of the Words of God are shunned:
 - “Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the LORD *is* his refuge.” Psalms 14:6
- 2. Avoid the council of the rich through the RCC by use of the UBS/NA CT and their subsidiaries (most ‘bible’ societies)
 - Remember Archbishop Carlo Maria Martini and other RC advisors to the UBS.



THE FIELD TEST

- The translation process is so overwhelming that not only is there a need for many men on a committee, but also for many sanctified well-trained men not on the committee to be utilized.
- It appears the most significant weak point in the process of translating for many translations is not allowing the review of the work by those in the “field.”

EXAMPLES OF THE FIELD TEST

- 1. “The KJV committee consisted of roughly 50 scholars, many of whom were incredibly gifted and knowledgeable. They were divided into six companies, and the revision went through the hands of each company. The finished product was submitted to a 12-man final-review committee composed of the two chief men from each company. By this process each part of the translation was examined at least 14 times.”

EXAMPLES OF THE FIELD TEST

- “Further, the committee received assistance and feedback from other scholars throughout England. I am not aware of any Bible translation in history that has gone through such an extensive sifting process.”
- David Cloud, “Is the KJV in Error in Romans 8:16?” (FBIS, Way of Life Literature, Port Huron, MI, August, 2008).

EXAMPLES OF THE FIELD TEST

- **2. Dr. John de Wycliffe and his associates did similar things. Andrew Miller said:**
- **“As soon as the translation of a portion was finished, the labor of the copyists began, and the Bible was ere long widely circulated wither wholly or in parts. The effect of this bringing home the word of God to the unlearned—to citizens, soldiers, and the lower classes—is beyond human power to estimate. “Wycliffe,” said one of his adversaries, “has made the gospel common, and no more open to laymen and to women who can read than it is wont to be to clerks well leaned and of good understanding; so that the pearl of the gospel is scattered and is trodden under foot of swine.”**
- Andrew Miller, *Church History* (Way of Life Literature electronic edition, Port Huron, WI, May 2003, Chapter 30, John Wycliffe) p. 7 of chapter 7.

POD

- **PRINT-ON-DEMAND**

THE FATIGUE FACTOR

- Translating work requires a dedication beyond many extremes, without reward, without praise, without compassion; and certainly, it is often accompanied by much criticism, even vulgar attacks. Even so, this last step of seeking multiple counselors by sending the translation to many others for comments **SHOULD NOT** be neglected.

NINE FACTORS

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NUMBER 8

Faith In God

“And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.” Mark 11:22

- If someone truly understands our God, his enormous ability (just look at the heavens and look at His Son), and His love for us, then we should have respect of no (one) man, and seek multiple counselors.
- This leads us to making a few comments about a foundational doctrine. Too many translators today have *“little faith.”* Their doctrines of inspiration, preservation, and translation are 180 degrees in the opposite direction of Scripture.

**“Jesus answered and said unto them,
Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith,
and doubt not,...”**

Mat. 21:21

- They have no fear of changing, adding to, or subtracting from the Words of God by two important ways hinted at above.

TWO IMPORTANT WAYS

- (1) Using “so-called” ‘original’ language texts:
 - That are built upon man’s idea that God preserved only His message, concept, thoughts, ideas, etc., but not His perfect, pure, Words, or
 - That are corrupted texts.
- (2) Using interpretive translating (paraphrase or dynamic equivalent or functional equivalent) translating that invariably inserts man’s idea. Why do they believe this? Because they do not have faith in God’s promises.

WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE HIM

- “But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.” Hebrews 11:6
- So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17



WHERE FAITH DOES NOT ORIGINATE

- Faith does not come through or by man's interpretations, man's works, or man's philosophy (Col. 2:8). These factors, which were briefly discussed above, are causing a paresis of faith among baptized saints.

NINE FACTORS

PIVOTAL POINTS

NUMBER 9

“Without Ceasing” Prayer

PRAYER

- Although this element will not be expounded, any translator or believer would be foolish to attempt a translation of the Words of God “without ceasing” prayer
- Pray without ceasing. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

PRAAYER

- The prayer should include every aspect:
 - funds,
 - people involved,
 - first phase—selecting the team,
 - texts,
 - time,
 - printing,
 - printers,
 - patience,
 - longsuffering,

CONCLUSION

- There are many more things that could be presented that are important to producing an accurate and faithful translation of the Bible such as:
 - Selection of the translation team,
 - the number on the team,
 - National translators,
 - pre-translation stage,
 - books to have on hand, time schedules, and similar topics.

CONCLUSION

- **“The LORD bless thee, and keep thee:
The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and
be gracious unto thee:**

**The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee,
and give thee peace.” Numbers 6:24-26**

CONCLUSION

- “I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies *are* my meditation.”

Psalms 119:99