

A common question arose about the scriptures. How can we trust the scriptures? This question was specifically about the KJV bible translation and who King James was.

King James the 1st of England, in the year 1604, authorized a translation of scripture to be written in English. The translation was completed in 1611. This version of scripture was written to make the translation better than before. This is written in the preface of the 1611 edition "To make a good one (translation) better." This version is highly recommended and used by the protestants.

The reason we are speaking about the KJV is because of the belief that he translated it to divorce his wife. But how is this the case if he wasn't the one who translated it? King James had 47 scholars who worked on this translation. Not only do we now have the 1611 version of the KJV, but we also have "better versions of the KJV." This is why we have different versions of the same bible. For example, we can look at 1 Corinthians 13:1-3 in the KJV. So, in the 1611 version, we have the words "vnderstand," "charitie," and "brasse." In the 1769 version of the KJV, these words are updated to clearer English compared to the 1611 version.

The King James 1611 version was translated from the Textus Receptus, a series of Greek texts. The Old Testament was translated from the **Masoretic Hebrew text** which can be broken up into three groups:

1. Torah (Teaching)
2. Nevi'im (Prophets)
3. Ketuvim (Writings)



The Apocrypha was translated from the Greek **Septuagint text** and contains 51 books from the old testament and new testament in these groups:

1. The Pentateuch
2. Historical Writings
3. Wisdom literature
4. Minor Prophets
5. Major Prophets
6. Appendix



The Textus Receptus was a printed text created in the 15th century to make it easier for more translations to be done by those who took these copies around

to the surrounding people. The problem was that when these copies were made and taken out to be translated into other languages, the people translating from Greek to English or other languages didn't know how to translate it correctly. This problem was caught on quickly, and there was a solution. This solution is what scholars call "textual criticism," which is the process of attempting to ascertain the original wording of a text.

So, does it matter what King James did if he interpreted the scriptures falsely to have a divorce? The answer is that it doesn't matter anymore. This is not excusing anyone who takes scripture and misinterprets it to achieve power, sex, or wealth. Those people will be dealt with according to scripture.

When we read scripture, we see multiple parts where the Bible speaks on adding and subtracting from the scriptures given. Those who translate the scriptures should be God-fearing men and women who understand the importance and responsibility of translating the scriptures.

Revelation 22:18-19 "I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which is written in this book."

Deuteronomy 4:2 "You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you."

The best verse that comes to adding to God's word is Proverbs 30:5-6 which reads, "Every word of God is tested; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him. Do not add to His words, Or He will reprove you, and you will be proved a liar." This verse at the end I not only take as that they will be proven as a liar but also that we can know they are liars. In scripture, we are told to divide the word rightfully. In 2 Timothy 2:15, we read, "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Other translations write "rightly laying out the word of truth." The Greek word for "rightly dividing" is Orthotomeō which means to "Cut a straight line" or "To divide right."

Orthotomeo

or-thot-om-eh'-o

Verb

NAS Word Usage - Total: 1

1. to cut straight, to cut straight ways
 1. to proceed on straight paths, hold a straight course, equiv. to doing right
2. to make straight and smooth, to handle aright, to teach the truth directly and correctly

2 Timothy 2:15

Make every effort

Σπουδάσων (Spoudason) Verb - Aorist Imperative Active - 2nd Person Singular

[Strong's 4704](#): To hasten, be eager, be zealous. From spoude; to use speed, i.e. To make effort, be prompt or earnest.

to present

παρστήσαι (parastēsai) Verb - Aorist Infinitive Active

[Strong's 3936](#): Or prolonged paristano from para and histemi; to stand beside, i.e. to exhibit, proffer, recommend, substantiate; or to be at hand, aid.

yourself

σεαυτὸν (seauton) Personal / Possessive Pronoun - Accusative Masculine 2nd Person Singular

[Strong's 4572](#): Of yourself.

approved

δοκιμὸν (dokimon) Adjective - Accusative Masculine Singular

[Strong's 1384](#): Approved, acceptable, tried. From dokeo; properly, acceptable, i.e. Approved.

to God,

Θεῷ (Theō) Noun - Dative Masculine Singular

[Strong's 2316](#): A deity, especially the supreme Divinity; figuratively, a magistrate; by Hebraism, very.

[an] unashamed

ἀνεπαίσχυντον (anepaischynton) Adjective - Accusative Masculine Singular

[Strong's 422](#): Having no cause to be ashamed. Not ashamed, i.e. Irreprehensible.

workman

ἐργάτην (ergatēn) Noun - Accusative Masculine Singular

[Strong's 2040](#): A field-laborer; then: a laborer, workman in general. From ergon; a toiler; figuratively, a teacher.

who accurately handles

ὀρθοτομοῦντα (orthotomounta) Verb - Present Participle Active - Accusative Masculine Singular

[Strong's 3718](#): From a compound of orthos and the base of tomoteros, to make a straight cut, i.e. to dissect correctly.

the

τὸν (ton) Article - Accusative Masculine Singular

[Strong's 3588](#): The, the definite article. Including the feminine he, and the neuter to in all their inflections; the definite article; the.

word

λόγον (logon) Noun - Accusative Masculine Singular

[Strong's 3056](#): From lego; something said; by implication, a topic, also reasoning or motive; by extension, a computation; specially, the Divine Expression.

of truth.

ἀληθείας (alētheias) Noun - Genitive Feminine Singular

[Strong's 225](#): From alethes; truth.

In 2 Timothy 2, Paul is writing to Timothy, who has been ministering to the church in Ephesians. This is just before the death of Paul in 67AD. We are told to be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. We are advised not to strive towards words that have no profit. By striving and giving attention to words that have no gain, we are subverting to the hearers. These are unnecessary conversations and disputes that lead no one to a better understanding of Christ Jesus.

We can not fall for simple words and excuses from people who have nothing more to say but criticism. "King James changed the bible!" Did he? If he did, how do we know that? To understand what's wrong with his translation, there must be a "correct" translation to compare it to. The duty to see the truth is on the individual who is searching.

More fragments and manuscripts are being discovered daily, proving that what we have is true and correct. Even if King James the 1st did translate scripture falsely, we have the capability of correcting and refuting false teachings and claims.

Translation is a process by which a text (oral or written) in one language is transformed into an equivalent text in another. In other words, to transform a text from one style into a text in another, but in the same language. The goal of a translation is usually to create a text in another language that is roughly the same style as the original. We create texts not only to convey or elicit certain information but also to accomplish certain goals and to affect our readers or listeners in certain ways.

To understand Bible translation, we must know how the Bible came to us. When scholars do Bible translation, **what are they translating from?**

None of the original manuscripts still exist. But thousands of copies of various portions of the Old and New Testaments exist. Very early, they were also translated into languages like Greek, Latin, Aramaic, Syriac, Coptic, Armenian, and Ethiopic.

Can we know what God's prophets or apostles wrote?

Over a thousand years after Moses and seven hundred years after Isaiah, Jesus quoted and cited many passages in the Hebrew Scriptures or the Septuagint and prefaced them not only with "Scripture says," but also "God says," "Moses says," or "Isaiah says." All the biblical manuscripts have been

collated and studied for hundreds of years and melded into modern editions of the Hebrew Old Testament and the Greek New Testament. For the Old Testament, we use the Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia which is the modern heir of the original. For the New Testament, we use the 28th edition of the Novum Testamentum Graece (2012), edited originally (1898) by Eberhard and Erwin Nestle and more recently by Barbara and Kurt Aland and others to translate scripture.

Using the same criteria by which we judge other historical works, not only is the Bible reliable, it is more reliable than any other comparable writings. As is true with any historical work, not every detail in the Bible can be directly confirmed. The Bible cannot be called unreliable simply because it contains parts that cannot be confirmed or have not yet been confirmed. More importantly, no facts presented in the Old or New Testaments have been shown to be false. This historical reliability is crucial to our trust in other statements made in Scripture. Even the “miraculous” occurrences of Genesis have an evidential basis we can appeal to today. Accurate copying is also an important factor in the Bible’s reliability.

Step 1: Developing a Paperwork Management System: Organization is a key factor in successful research. The teacher should encourage students in the beginning stage of research to select a paperwork management system

Step 2: Selecting a Topic: Teachers should work with students to select a topic related to the annual theme. Brainstorming ideas or looking through the history textbook are great ways to begin thinking about potential topics. For ideas on theme connection and topic selection, please see the NHD annual theme book.

Step 3: Background Reading for Historical Context: In the excitement of getting started, students sometimes skip one of the most important steps: building historical context for the research topic. Take time to support students in reading widely about their topic. Look at several different history books about the time period in which the topic takes place.

Step 4: Narrowing Your Topic: Selecting a National History Day topic is a process of gradually narrowing the area of history (period or event) that interests the students. For example, if the student is interested in American Indians and the theme is “Rights and Responsibilities in History,” a natural topic would be treaty rights.

Step 5: Gathering and Recording Information: To be responsible researchers, students must credit sources from which they gathered information. To begin the process, however, it is important for the student to collect critical information from each source as they read, including the author's name, title, publisher, date of publication, and page number for quotes.

Step 6: Analyzing and Interpreting Sources and the Topic's Significance in History: Historians do more than describe events. They analyze and interpret information gathered from their sources to draw conclusions about the topic's significance in history. Students should do the same. Therefore, teachers should help students to ask questions about their topic and research, considering the following:

- Elements of change and continuity
- Historical context: the economic, political, social, and cultural atmosphere of the time period.

Step 7: Developing a Thesis:

The thesis statement is usually one sentence that presents an argument about the topic. The body of the paper or website, the script of the performance or documentary, and the headings and captions in an exhibit are then used to support the thesis using evidence from the research.

Step 8: Finalizing a NHD Research Project:

When research is completed and ready to present to an audience, ask students to review whether their work includes:

- Analysis and interpretation
- Significance and impact
- In-depth research
- Historical accuracy
- Historical context
- Adherence to the theme

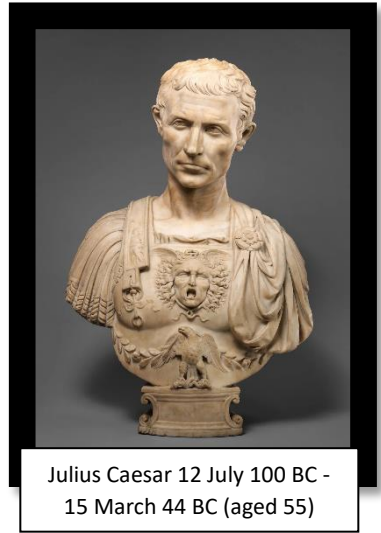
All these steps are used to find the history behind an event that took place in scripture. (Source: <https://www.pastordivine.com/can-the-bible-be-trusted>)

NOTES:

Historians have access to a tremendous number of manuscripts, proving the New Testament was reliably and quickly copied and distributed. This gives great confidence that what we read today correctly represents the original writing.

Comparing earlier and later manuscripts showed a Careful approach to transmission, once again adding to our confidence that what we have today represents the original texts.

For example, there are 251 copies of the works of Julius Caesar, and 109 copies of the works of the Historian Herodotus, Archaeologists have found 1800+ manuscript copies of the works of Homer & there are currently more than 5,000 manuscripts of the New Testament.

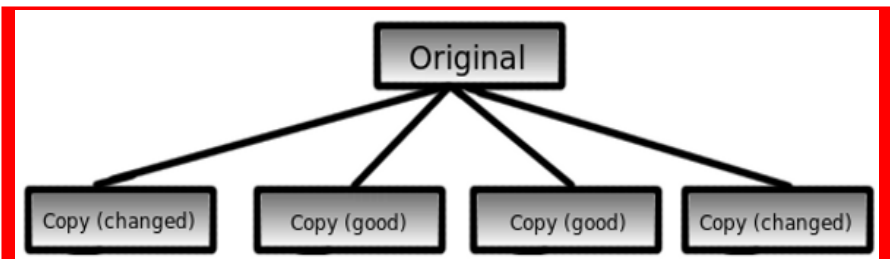
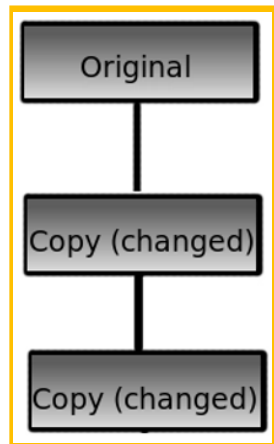


In short, we not only have objective reasons to claim the Bible is reliable, but we cannot call it unreliable without throwing out almost everything we know of ancient history.

The graphs are shown to show the two ways that are viewed by the public when it comes to translating.

The top graph is the 'Telephone Translation.'

The bottom graph Represents the proper way of translating.



Other resources we have that are considered evidence are the 10,000 Latin Vulgate and at least 9,300 other early versions and additional 24,000 manuscripts of portions of the New Testament. When you add up the evidence for the scriptures, we have over 50,000. The closest writings that even compare to the number of manuscripts are the Iliad by Homer which has 643 manuscripts that we still have today.

Another example when we compare the amount of evidence is Buddha, whose name was Siddhartha Gautama, with only 19 birch-bark scrolls and close to 22 different texts. You have 92 manuscripts when it comes to Radha Krishna Yugal Prakash, and for Islam, there are 4,000 pages of manuscripts of the Qur'an within 168 years after the death of Muhammad.

When we look at scripture, the gospels were written after the death and resurrection of Christ in Greek at around 50 – 90 AD. When we look at the time that Jesus was born, which is about 6 and 4 BC, according to many scholars, Jesus died in 33 AD putting the gospels at 17 – 60 years after the death of Christ Jesus.

The crucifixion of Jesus – A.D. 30-33

Galatians - **A.D. 49**

James – **A.D. 49**

1 Thessalonians – **A.D. 51**

2 Thessalonians - **A.D. 51**

1 Timothy – **A.D. 54**

1 Corinthians – **A.D. 55**

Mark – **A.D. 55-65 (25-35yrs)**

2 Corinthians - **A.D. 55-57**

Luke – **A.D. 60 (30yrs)**

Ephesians - **A.D. 60**

Philemon – **A.D. 60**

Colossians – **A.D. 60**

Matthew - **A.D. 60-65 (30yrs)**

Acts – **A.D. 63-70**

Titus – **A.D. 65**

1 Peter – **A.D. 65**

Jude – **A.D. 65**

2 Peter – **A.D. 66**

Philippians – **A.D. 61**

2 Timothy – **A.D. 67**

Hebrews – **A.D. 68**

Romans – **A.D. 70**

John - **A.D. 85-90 (55yrs)**

1, 2, 3 John – **A.D. 90-95**

Revelation – **A.D. 95**

In the next booklet will be going over the 1st step of 8 steps of analyzing the scriptures.

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Step 2: Selecting a Topic

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Step 5: Gathering and Recording Information

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Step 7: Developing a Thesis

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