

The History of the King James Bible – Part 1 – God’s Promise of Preservation

Psalm 12:6-7 “*The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.*” – Pure is perfect with no admixture - Notice God says His words are purer as time goes on.

The more you put God’s word on trial the purer it becomes. The writer, under the influence of the Holy Ghost, says God will preserve His word forever.

God will not let sinful, corrupt men rid the world of His pure words!

God preserves us and so will He keep and preserve the word He has authorised.

Psalm 19:7-11 show us God’s law, statutes and commandments “is” and “are”.

Proverbs 30:5-6 “*Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.*” – God is truth and man is a liar.

Matthew 24:35 “*Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*” – It is not right to say, “All bibles have the same message” if they all say different things!

2 Timothy 3:16 “*All scripture IS given by inspiration of God...*” – The word that was give still IS!

There is no such thing as an “original” – Professions of faith saying they believe in the inspiration of the “original writings” are saying God’s word does not exist in its perfection!

We have to believe in God’s word to be saved and there is no problem for God to re-write the original in preservation – **Ex 20** shows us that God gave commandments. In **Ex 31:18** we see Moses is given writings/commandments by God’s own hand/finger and when he saw his people’s wicked idolatry he casts down the tablet and brake them (**Ex 32:9**).

What was God’s response to the destruction of His written word? He re-writes them in **Ex 34:1**. Then in **Exodus 35:1** we see God’s preserved word delivered and He is still doing this!

Jeremiah 36:2 “*Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spoke unto thee, from the days of Josiah, even unto this day.*” – We see here God tells His prophet to get a book and write down His words.

Jeremiah 36:20 – The word is told to the wicked king and in V23, the king cuts out God’s word until there is nothing left! – However, in V27-28 God gets Jeremiah to write His words again and we even see in V32 “*Then took Jeremiah another roll, and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah; who wrote therein from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire: and there were added besides unto them many like words.*” - God adds words!

Jer 51:59-64 – The 2nd original is gone as it was cast to the bottom of the river Euphrates – Nevertheless in V60 it says “*...all these words...*” telling us we have the same words! God does no need to preserve an original manuscript.

How Good are God’s Translations?

Colossians 1:13 – God “*...hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:*” – I am better off now I am translated! The bible says the translation is better than the original.

2 Samuel 3:10 “*To translate the kingdom from the house of Saul, and to set up the throne of David over Israel...*”- Surely, it is so that David’s kingdom was superior to Saul’s!

Who are these people the translation is inferior to the “original”?

Hebrews 11:5 "**By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death... God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.** – Enoch was far better off after his translation in leaving this sin-sick world and abiding with God! Every time the bible mentions translation, it results in something superior to the original.

The bible supports translation!

There are approximately 5400 extant (surviving/existing to this day) manuscripts that contain part of God's word none of the whole) and found in different places.

Copies come in various forms – **Minuscule** (all lower-case letters), **Majuscule** (all upper-case letters), **Cursives** (written in long hand/script form), Lectionaries (book with hymns and portions of scripture) – There are many scripture portions recovered from such hymnals/documents where these writings were found.

Versions (scripture in different languages), writings of the church fathers (leader letters written one to another) – Letters that contained portions of scripture.

There are 5400 of these combined manuscripts to check if what we have is correct.

Why is the translation superior, therefore?

Paper/writing material were very valuable in time gone by – If many wanted a copy of God's word, he would squeeze the words into every bit of the paper and so no spaces, punctuation marks were allowed for – This, in turn, made it very hard to read.

There were no verses, demarcation and this made the scripture very unclear – We have a better, clearer translation with verses easier to find, easier to divide and distinguish!

Many say they trust the better preserved/older manuscript – This makes no sense, as the ones that have fallen apart are the used ones!

The translated word of God is better as we can read it and study it with greater clarity praise God!

