

WHY WE KEEP TO THE AUTHORISED VERSION OF THE WORD OF GOD



The chief aim of the Bible translators in preparing the Authorised Version (AV) was to express, without addition or deletion, the exact meaning of the original Scriptures.

The English Bible is designed for public reading and to be a help to the reader and a benefit to the hearer. The passages that refer to our conduct and comfort, our salvation and our sanctification must all be striking and impressive to make them more easily remembered.

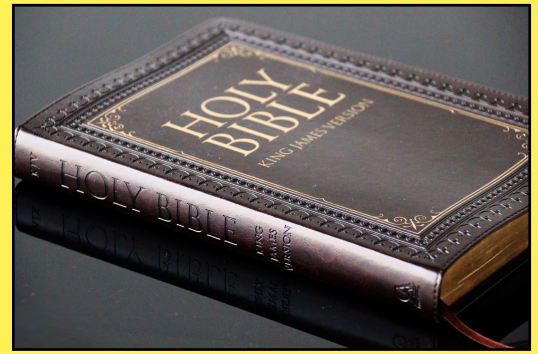
During the centuries which have followed the publication of the AV in 1611, it has withstood the onslaught of its most demanding critics – it has stood the test of time – and has impacted the lives of, not only English-speaking people, but of millions throughout the world.

Indeed, in a day in which Bible publishers proclaim that we now have God's Word in an English form that anyone can read and understand (referring to modern versions), it is amazing how little impact these modern Bibles seem to have on the lives of their readers.

One excellent feature of the Authorised Version is its 'ring of authority', which is lacking in modern versions. A simple example will suffice. "*Thus saith the Lord*" carries much more weight than "*God says.*" The AV, with its majestic style and reverence, communicates not only words and thoughts, but power and boldness, so needed by the Church in our day.

Thus the AV stands today as a beacon of light in a world growing darker by the day. It continues strong, proclaiming God's message to a lost and dying world. It stands ever true, unchanged by the thoughts of man.

FURTHER REASONS TO KEEP TO THE AUTHORISED VERSION OF THE BIBLE



- The AV is based on a better text, the Textus Receptus, and, not as modern versions, on the Codex Vaticanus, discovered in the Papal Library in Rome, or on the Codex Sinaiticus, found in a monastery on Mount Sinai. It is largely based on the 'Majority Text', which is the safest and most trustworthy of manuscript groups.
- The AV is a more accurate translation – keeping as close to the original as possible – and is a reliable guide to what the inspired writers actually wrote.
- The retention of *thee* and *thou* (singular) and *you* or *ye* (plural), as opposed to just 'you' in every case, can be very important in rightly interpreting a verse. For example, in John 3 the Lord is addressing Nicodemus individually (*thee*), but He tells him in verse 7, "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again". All people generally must be born again, if they are to enter into the kingdom of God, not just Nicodemus.
- As the Bible is the word of God, it should be read to be remembered. It needs to be easy to learn by heart. The AV is written in simple English that even a child can read, learn and understand.
- There are now more than 100 modern English versions, but the Authorised Version has an excellence, a faithfulness, power and fruitfulness, which must not be changed for an inferior version. The greatest evangelists over the last 400 years have used this version and, by its means, God has blessed millions of people with the light and truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



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