



A quick look at the different Bible versions, and it is quite apparent that it does matter which you read. In some versions a few words are changed, in others it is a whole verse or chapter. From a non-Christian point of view it is difficult to commit to a faith when there are so many contradicting views in the same religious faction. Similarly it is difficult to convince someone of the truth from scripture when there are so many versions all seemingly saying something different.

Over the years, the Bible has been translated into all languages around the world from the original Greek/Hebrew texts. It is easy to assume that some versions are incorrect in translation, or have been altered over time to fit with what the translator believes or the ideals of the governing bodies. However God himself said that the holy scriptures would be preserved.

The Old Testament Hebrew text was preserved by the Levites. The apostles quoted it, and we can trust it. For the New Testament, of all the copies in existence today, 95% agree in an incredible way. God *did* keep His promise! Only 5%, a tiny minority, have been radically altered. By putting together Hebrew and Greek texts made up from our overwhelming majority of ancient texts, and we will have a text that we can be confident is the same as the one held by the early church. Today, this text is called by several names, the most common being the "Received Text" or "Textus Receptus."

This was the text used by devout translators like William Tyndale, Martin Luther, John Calvin and others, some of whom died to preserve the Scriptures. This is also the text used to make the most famous and durable of all English Bibles, the King James Bible.

The King James Bible was published in 1611, the printing process was fairly slow, difficult and tedious, resulting in frequent errors. Hence the KJV underwent 4 separate revisions. The first two revisions were a careful correction of earlier printing errors and Dr. Samuel Ward and John Bois, two of the original translators, participated in both of these revisions. 72% of the approximately 400 textual corrections were completed by 1638. Hence, we find that instead of two major revisions, there were two stages of a single process - namely, the purging of early printing errors. Similarly, the last two revisions were but two stages in standardizing the spelling. Very few textual corrections were necessary for these two publications (1762 and 1769).

Over 30,000 changes, were spelling alterations, since the original printing was in Gothic type, the lower case Gothic 's' looked like a Roman 'f', (Mofes to Moses), the Gothic 'v' looks like a Roman 'u' and visa versa (Dauid to David, wiuues to wives, vnto to unto). Changes similar to this reflect a large percentage of the alterations in the KJB. Also in the 1600's spelling was largely phonetic as standards had not yet been established. Even among the well educated, an author would spell the same word several different ways, often in the same book and even on the same page. It was not until the eighteenth century that spelling began to be uniform. Therefore, in the last half of that century, the spelling of the 1611 KJB was standardized. Over 30,000 additional changes involved dropping the final "e" off of the old English spellings such as - sunne to sun, fowle to fowl, goe to go, shee to she, nowe to now etc. Double vowels and double consonants were more common such as mee to me and ranne to ran. Other changes included farres to stars, ynough to enough, moneth to month, yeeres to years grinne to grin; flying to fleeing; neezed to sneezed etc. These typographical and spelling changes account for almost all of the so-called "thousands" of alterations since 1611. Obviously none of them in any way alter the text. Thus they cannot be compared with the thousands of actual textual changes which blatantly appear in the modern versions. The significance of this simply cannot be overstated.

To summarize, the character of the textual changes is that of obvious printing errors, not changes made to alter the reading. The frequency of the textual changes is meager, averaging only one every three chapters. The time frame of the textual changes is early, about three-fourths occurring within twenty seven years of the first printing. These particulars establish that there were no true revisions in the sense of updating the language or **correcting translation errors**. There were only editions which corrected early typographical errors. Over 5,000 of the remaining changes were in substituting periods for commas, colons for commas, semi-colons for colons and capital letters for lower case.

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Christ Abundant Life Ministries

*Empires of the Fallen*

**Separating Fact from  
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## The Bible

**Psalms 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."

**Deuteronomy 12:32** "What thing soever I command you, observe to do it; thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it."

**Mark 13:31** "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away."

**Isaiah 40:8** "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever."

**1 Peter 1:25** "But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you."

**Revelation 22:18-19** "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

**Psalms 11:3** "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?"

Further information relating to this topic can be found in the book, "Which Version is the Bible?" By FLOYD NOLEN JONES, Th.D., Ph.D. This book, and others can be downloaded free of charge from [www.3bible.com](http://www.3bible.com).

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# Alterations in the Word

The words of the Bible are very important and have very specific meanings. Therefore even the slightest of changes can alter their meaning.

At the start of the Bible it states that "the evening and the morning were **the first day**" (KJV, Genesis 1:5)

However other Bible versions change one word of this sentence, which can drastically alter the meaning;

"And there was evening and there was morning, **one day**". (NASV)

"And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, **a first day**". (NWT)

By altering the words 'the first day' to 'a first day' or 'one day' the meaning of what God did on the first day of creation is changed, allowing for ambiguity regarding the creation week. Since *a* day or *one* day could mean any single day, new theories relating to the age of the earth and Genesis can be expanded and taken away from God's original word. The gap theory, the day age theory and others are used by individuals in the science community who wish to merge evolution and God together in what is called Theistic Evolution.

If doubt is put onto the words of the Bible in genesis, then this allows for doubt and questions to be raised about the rest of the Bible.

To prevent alterations to and perversions from scripture, the Bible tells us not to add or take away from it. (Deuteronomy 12:32). Changes in the Bible over time have allowed for questions to enter on God's word, and caused Christians to argue amongst themselves, which in turn allows vain philosophies (**Colossians 2:8**) to gradually enter the hearts of men. If people can no longer turn to the Bible for answers then they will turn to their own knowledge, and the inclinations of their hearts, inevitably leading to desolation of the soul away from God.

Not only are words of the Bible altered in different versions, but different passages are given different meanings by different factions of Christianity. Labelling certain parts as truth, and others as simply figurative, diminishes the word of the Lord and alters its intent. The whole Bible is meant to be taken literally, as Jesus himself said;

**"For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me; for he wrote of me."** (John 5:46).

Therefore, you must believe the words of the Old testament, as well as the words of the New testament. Jesus goes on to say;

**"But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?"** (John 5:47).

Which is true, many arguments that arise amongst Christians is relating to the truth in the words of the Bible. Leading to some factions not believing in the holy spirit, the soul and the eternal torment of Hell. Changing words in the Bible, gives rise to questions as to the authority of the word, allowing philosophies to creep in. This is where certain factions bring in ideas of symbolism and/or suggest that certain passages in the Bible are to be taken figuratively rather than literally.

If we read Leviticus in the Bible, it tells us not to regard symbolism, produce graven images or worship false idols. The word of God goes on to tell us that if we keep His commandments;

**"Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit."** (Leviticus 26:4).

Along with having an abundance in foods of the land, the Lord promises to increase the nations numbers;

**"For I will have respect unto you, and make you fruitful, and multiply you, and establish my covenant with you."** (Leviticus 26:9).

Many people in all factions of Christianity are setting up idols to worship, making graven images and regarding symbols. In this time we are repeatedly told by the governments of the world's nations that there is over-crowding in cities and a world food shortage.

Some Bible scholars try to teach individuals that the soul will not be subject to eternal torment in Hell if an individual sins, but instead the only punishment awaiting a sinner is the grave. Some scholars have tried to return to the original Greek/Hebrew scriptures (old definitions of words and religious concepts, which were later corrected by Jesus) their premise is an attempt to re-translate them more accurately, taking the Hebrew word Scholl as grave. (Essentially correcting the new testament with the Old Testament). However Jesus defines Hell saying;

**"the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."** (Matthew 8:12).

If we start to doubt the severity of Hell and the words of revelation, we question those who spoke of revelation, the words of Jesus, and eventually the entire Bible is in question.

In the King James Bible, Isaiah 14:12, 15 reads:

**"How are thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! ... Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell."**

However, the New International Version pens:

**"How you have fallen from heaven O morning star, son of the dawn ... but you are brought down to the grave."**

Indeed, the New American Standard and all the modern versions read almost exactly like the NIV (except the NKJV). In verse twelve of the King James, Lucifer is in heaven; in verse fifteen Satan is in hell, and the continuing context establishes that Lucifer and Satan are one and the same being. The new versions have removed the name "Lucifer" thereby eliminating the *only* reference to his true identity in the entire Bible. The change in these versions is not the result of translation from the Hebrew language. The Hebrew *helel, ben shachar*, translates as "Lucifer, son of the morning" (as is found in all the old English translations written before 1611 when the KJB was published). The NIV, NASB and others read as though the Hebrew was *kokab shachar, ben shachar* or "morning star, son of the dawn" (or "son of the morning").

Moreover, Revelation 22:16 (2:28 and II Peter 1:19) declares unequivocally that Jesus Christ is the "morning star" or "day star" (II Peter 1:19, Luke 1:78, Malachi 4:2), meaning the sun and not the planet Venus.

"I *Jesus* have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and *morning star*." (Revelation 22:16).

Thus it must be understood that the identification of Lucifer as being the morning star does not find its roots in the Hebrew O.T., but from classical mythology and witchcraft where he is connected with the planet Venus (the morning "star").

Among the modern versions, only the King James (and NKJV) gives proof that Lucifer is Satan. Without its testimony this central vital truth would soon be lost. This fact alone sets the King James Bible apart from and far above all modern would-be rivals. Truly, it is an achievement *sui generis*. Indeed, the older English versions (the 1560 Geneva etc.) also read "Lucifer".

Exerts and images taken from the case studies relating to The Correct Version of the Bible from the book, Empires of the Fallen, by Dale Pywell

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