Marriage 101
Back to the Basics
Building the Next Generation of Successful Marriages

Begins
September 13, 2015
Can We Trust The Bible?

Real Life ABF
Series Schedule – Can We Trust the Bible?

Aug. 9th  What is the Bible?
Aug. 16th  John & Erin Brennan
Aug. 23rd  Is the Bible Complete?
Aug. 30th  Which Translation is Best?
Sep. 6th  Can We Trust the Bible?
Can We Trust The Bible? Which Translation is Best?
The Order 66 Challenge
Can You Recite All 66 books in Order?
Vocabulary Lesson
Translation
Interlinear
MT
LXX
NIV  RSV  KJV  NASB  ASV  NKJV  NLT  RV  NET Bible  Amplified Bible  The Message  New Century Version
Transmission vs. Translation
Transmission

Transmission is the copying/preservation of text. The movement, by either oral or written tradition is from generation to generation.
Transmission

From Generation

Preservation of Text

To Generation
Lost in Transmission?

Wehn yuo trnapsose teh eltters of wrosd in a snetnece, yuo cna sitll raed adn udnesrtand waht teh atuhor intedned.
Translation

Translation is the **movement** from the **original** language of the text to another **target** language. This comes with many **decisions**.
Translation

Original Text

Target Language

Decisions, Decisions???????
Understand Yoda, one can — even though proper English, he speaks not.
So, why do we need translations?
Jeremiah 29:11 (Wycliffe Bible)
For Y knowe the thouytis whiche Y thenke on you, seith the Lord, the thouytis of pees, and not of turment, that Y yyue to you an ende and pacience.
What does it say?
What does it mean?
Formal Translation vs. Dynamic Equivalence
Formal Translation

Formal translation refers to literal or interlinear translations of text.

“Word for Word.”
“Just give me the Word of God – pure and simple.”
1 Peter 1:13 (Authorized King James Version)

Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;
## Formal Translation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Preserves author’s style</td>
<td>• Difficult to understand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Preserves author’s language/words</td>
<td>• Not relevant in target language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Preserves accuracy</td>
<td>• Sometimes incomprehensible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dynamic Translation

Dynamic translation (also dynamic equivalence is a looser/paraphrase of the original text.

“Thought for Thought.”
“Just tell me what it means.”
1 Peter 1:13 (The Message)
So roll up your sleeves, put your mind in gear, be totally ready to receive the gift that’s coming when Jesus arrives.
Dynamic Translation

Pros
- Easier to understand
- Relevant in target language/style
- Difficult passages can be understood

Cons
- Less accuracy
- More left to the translator’s active mind/decisions
- Lose sense of “foreignness” of original context
Nice Clock
Another Nice Clock
Notice anything strange?
The Roman Numeral for “4” is “IV” – Not “IIII”!
“Every translator is a traitor.”
Bible Translation Timelines

250 BC
- Septuagint (LXX) Completed (OT translated into Greek)

AD 150
- Date of Oldest Known NT Manuscripts (Muratorian Canon)

AD 390-405
- OT and NT Scriptures translated into the Latin Vulgate (St. Jerome)
**Bible Translation Timelines**

**AD 397**
- Council of Carthage (Canon Made Official – although recognized long before then)

**AD 895**
- Earliest Known OT Texts - Codex Cairenisis (before the Dead Sea Scroll finds at Qumran) – Masoretic Texts

**AD 1384**
- John Wycliffe translates the Bible into English (from Latin Vulgate)/Updated by colleagues 1388-1395

**AD 1440**
- Invention of Printing Press /First Bible Printed (Gutenberg Bible - 1450)
AD 1530
• Martin Luther translates Bible into German

AD 1535
• William Tyndale translated Bible into English
  (from original manuscripts) – Completed by Miles Coverdale

AD 1536
• William Tyndale martyred

AD 1541
• King Henry VIII orders an English Bible placed in every parish
Do You Speak English?

• 1.5 billion people world-wide speak English

• English has grown from its Old English roots from approximately 50,000-60,000 words to over 1,000,000 words (500,000 in the Oxford Dictionary, Webster’s, etc.) – more added due to technological and scientific terms
Do You Speak English?

- English has 1,000,000 words
- German (other Germanic language) has 185,000 words
- French has less than 100,000 words
- Average person knows 20,000 words and uses 2,000 in the course of a week
The English language changes often.
English vocabulary grows every year.
There are literally dozens of English equivalents for original textual words.
What’s the big deal, anyway?

- idioms
- context
  (cultural/technological)
- jargon/religious jargon
- lexicon
- syntax
- semantics
- cliché
I defy the pope and all his laws! And, if God spares me, I will one day make the boy that drives the plow in England to know more of the scriptures than the pope does!"
Tyndale’s Translation

penance → repentance
charity → love
confession → acknowledgement
grace → favor
priest → senior → elder
church → congregation
Tyndale Coined the Phrase

• “Let there be light” (Gen. 1:3)
• “my brother’s keeper” (Gen. 4:9)
• “Salt of the earth” (Matt. 5:13)
• “the signs of the times” (Matt. 16:3)
• “the spirit is willing” (Matt. 26:41)
• “gave up the ghost” (Mk. 15:37, Lk. 23:46, Jn. 19:30, Acts 5:5)
• “Eat, drink, and be merry” (Luk. 12:19)
• “a law unto themselves” (Rom. 2:14)
• “The powers that be” (Rom. 13:1)
• “filthy lucre” (1 Tim. 3:3, Tit. 1:7, 1 Pet. 5:2)
• “fight the good fight” (1 Tim. 6:12)
Psalm 22:1-2 (The Message)

God, God . . . my God! Why did you dump me miles from nowhere? Doubled up with pain, I call to God all the day long. No answer. Nothing. I keep at it all night, tossing and turning.
Psalm 22:3 (The Message)

And you! Are you indifferent, above it all, leaning back on the cushions of Israel's praise? We know you were there for our parents: they cried for your help and you gave it; they trusted and lived a good life.
Dynamic Equivalence

Dynamic equivalence is a complaint against formal translation’s archaic, inaccessible, difficult textual rendering.
Psalm 22:1-2 (NASB)

My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Far from my deliverance are the words of my groaning. O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer; And by night, but I have no rest.
Psalm 22:3 (NASB)

Yet You are holy, O You who are enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
Formal Translation

Formal translation is a complaint against the human element (and consequent inaccuracy) of dynamic equivalence.
What Should We Defend?
The Word of God
or
The Literal Translation
Ultimate Goal
The Word of God
The Target Audience
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Translation</th>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Strengths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NASB</td>
<td>New American Standard Bible</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Literal, good for study, but wooden, rigid, not easily read.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KJV</td>
<td>King James Version</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Archaic, can be difficult to decipher, not best manuscripts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NKJV</td>
<td>New King James Version</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>Good for KJV fans who want readability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIV</td>
<td>New International Version</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>Good balance, most popular translation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NLT</td>
<td>New Living Translation</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>Good for easy reading, reflecting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TM</td>
<td>The Message</td>
<td></td>
<td>Good but limited. Brings new life to passages, but lots of liberties taken in translation.</td>
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<td>Phil. 2:1-4</td>
<td>1Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, 2 make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. 3 Do nothing by strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.</td>
<td>1 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, 2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be like minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. 3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than himself. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.</td>
<td>1 Therefore if there is any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others.</td>
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“Which Translation is Best?”

Can We Trust the Bible?

#3
Real Life

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Ultimate Goal of Translation
The Word of God gets to the Target Audience

William Tyndale Coined the Phrase

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Notes can be downloaded at: http://trinitywallawalla.org/online-community/abf-class-notes
Contact Glenn at: glenn.matlock.jr@gmail.com