

# The Bible (Part 9) The Language

## Lesson 20- Spiritual Discipleship and Growth

**Intro:** Many today would criticize the language of the King James Version saying that it is archaic and difficult to understand. God's plan is perfect in every way and He had His reasons for choosing this time period. Prayerfully the difficulty of the words will drive us deeper into the study of them so that we can get a deeper understanding of the things of God.

### A. The Language of the KJB is Superior:

The King James Version was translated (providentially) at a time when the English language was at its zenith. (Most powerful)

*"The English of the Authorized Version is the finest specimen of our prose literature at a time when English prose wore its stateliest and most majestic form"* **F. G. Kenyon** Our Bible and Ancient Manuscripts.

### B. The Use of Italics:

The translators used an italicized word to indicate it was not found in the Greek or Hebrew text, but that it had been supplied by the translators to facilitate the readability of the English.

This is a demonstration of:

1. The translators view of \_\_\_\_\_.

They would not dare add to the sacred words of God. They believed in verbal inspiration. (The very words of scripture are Gods Words)

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the translators.

By using italics, they were informing the reader of what had been done. Nothing was a secret.

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the translators.

Good translating requires such meticulous detail. Compare the King James Version with that of the New American Standard Bible in:

2 Samuel 21:19

NASB: "There was war with the Philistines again at Gob, and Elhanan the son of Jaare-oregim the Bethlehemite killed Goliath the Gittite, the shaft of whose spear was like a weaver's beam."

KJB: "And there was again a battle in God with the Philistines, where Elhanan the son of Jaareoregim, a Bethlehemite, slew \_\_\_\_\_ of Goliath the Gittite, the staff of whose spear was like a weaver's beam."

By omitting necessary italics, the NASB declares that Elhanan killed Goliath! (Which group of translators might best be trusted?)

An interesting side note which would surprise one who criticizes the use of italicized words.

Psalm 16:8

"I have set the LORD always before me: because \_\_\_\_\_ at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Acts 2:25

"For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for \_\_\_\_\_ on my right hand, that I should not be moved:

Acts 2:25 quotes Psalm 16:8 but where the same words are NOT italicized, indicating they are in the "original" Greek!

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### C. The Use of Punctuation:

Another criticism of the King James Version is that it overuses punctuation, especially commas. However, this Bible was made for public reading, "Faith cometh by hearing..." and its use of punctuation facilitates this.

The King James Version was also designed for use in private study, for the first editions contained over 9,000 cross-references.

### D. The Version Debate:

There is a question that arises when dealing with the fundamental doctrines of the Bible. "Did God preserve His Word?" and if so, Did He preserve His Word generally (all versions) or specifically (just one versions)?

Two questions that need to be asked about any version of the Bible:

1. What is its textual basis?
2. Who were the translators?

We do NOT hold to the Authorized King James Version because of its superior English or its readability (as much as they are most commendable qualities), but because of its sound textual basis and the godly stand taken by its translators.

Of all the popular versions available today, ONLY the Authorized, King James Version was translated from the Hebrew Masoretic text and the Greek Textus Receptus by godly, Bible-believing scholarship.

### E. Compare and Contrast:

### NIV

Mark 1:2-3 "As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, Behold I send my messenger before your face... The voice of one crying in the wilderness..

KJV uses the word \_\_\_\_\_.

The KJV is correct as both Malachi & Isaiah are quoted. The first quote is not found in Isaiah, it is in Malachi.

Can the true Word of God contain errors?

Acts 8:37 " \_\_\_\_\_ "

NIV- The entire verse is missing.

Ephesians 3:9 "...God who created all things by \_\_\_\_\_..."

NIV/NAS Omit "**by Jesus Christ**"

An attack of the deity of Christ!

Acts 3:13, 26 "...God, hath glorified his \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus...having raised up his \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus."

NIV/NAS – "**Son**" is changed to servant.

There is a significant difference between Son and servant.

**Closing:** There is great debate over Bible versions today. Keep in mind that things that are different cannot be the same. Although the KJB is a little harder to grasp the writing of, it carries more meaning in the words which is something that no modern version has. God used the time period of 1611 for His purpose of giving the English people His Special Revelation: The Word of God!