

## Revelation 3 Part 2

### Table Revelation 3:7-13

- 7 *And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;*
- 8 *I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.*
- 9 *Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.*
- 10 *Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.*
- 11 *Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.*
- 12 *Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.*
- 13 *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.*

See Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Revelation* pp 77-91 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 948, 970, 1647-1648. For further insight into "*the church in Philadelphia*" as applicable to the Church Age and those of that age who were like "*David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep...*" Acts 13:36 see the accompanying insert and studies:

*TBS 1517-2017 Protestant Reformation Timeline*

**Martin's Hymn – "Ein feste Burg" A Mighty Fortress**

**John's Hymn – "Who Would True Valour See"**

**Philadelphian English Reformers**

From [www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/) 'O Biblios' – *The Book* pp 14-19

*The KJB Story – 1611 to 2011*

Note further these accompanying extracts from [www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/) *Revelation Overview Attached Studies* pp 23, 50-51, 40 on Philadelphia, *Revelation Overview* pp 122-123 on faith tried by fire.

The first extracts highlight the folly of naming an entire city after – supposedly - an inferior kind of love in that Philadelphia means *brotherly love*. The folly, as usual, lies with the Greekolators *who never realised that the city was never called 'Agapeadelphia.'*

Fundamentalists often cite 'the Hebrew' and 'the Greek' for what God 'really' said. However, 'the Hebrew' and 'the Greek' so-called *never* reveal anything *authoritative* and instead *mislead*. See for example the *Ruckman Reference Bible* p 1425 on John 21:15-17 for debunking *agape* and *phileo* as superior and inferior forms of *love*. See John 21:15, 16 for "**lovest**" *agape* twice and John 21:17 "**lovest**" *phileo* "*the third time.*" See Matthew 23:6/Luke 11:43 *phileo/agape*, John 5:20, 11:3, 16:27 *phileo* each time, 2 Timothy 4:10 *agape*, 2 Peter 2:15 *agape*, 1 John 2:15 *agape* each time...

For detailed discussions of the superiority of the AV1611 to 'the Hebrew' and 'the Greek', with over 60 examples, see [*The Christian's Handbook of Biblical Scholarship*] Appendix 7 and *Bible Believers' Bulletin*, February, March 1989, November 1991. See also Dr Gipp's discussion of the distinction that should allegedly be drawn between the Greek words "phileo" and "agape," which are both

translated as “love” in the AV1611 [*The Answer Book*] pp 124-131<sup>\*2019</sup>. The English Bible’s comment on this alleged distinction is found in John 21:17 and comparison of ‘the Greek’ with the English in Luke 11:43, John 5:20, 42, 16:27, 1 Corinthians 16:22, Titus 3:4, 15, Revelation 3:19 will yield valuable further insight.

[See [www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/ 1 John 4 Part 2 p 2](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/1%20John%204%20Part%202%20p%202) and this extract. For detailed comments see Dr Ruckman’s commentary *The Books of the General Epistles* Volume 2 pp 133-161 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* p 1425 on John 21:15-17 for debunking the Christian fundamentalist urban myth about *agape* and *phileo* as superior and inferior forms of love respectively. See John 21:15, 16 for “lovest” *agape* twice and John 21:17 “lovest” *phileo* “the third time.” See also Matthew 23:6/Luke 11:43 *phileo/agape*, John 5:20, 11:3, 16:27 *phileo* each time, 2 Timothy 4:10 *agape*, 2 Peter 2:15 *agape*, 1 John 2:15 *agape* each time.]

<sup>\*2019</sup>See Question 47

[samgipp.com/47-what-about-nuggets-found-only-in-the-greek-new-testament/...](http://samgipp.com/47-what-about-nuggets-found-only-in-the-greek-new-testament/)

These extracts outline the pivotal role that “*the church in Philadelphia*” fulfilled in the Church Age.

Returning to persecution of Christians, it was not anything like it is today during the Philadelphian Church Age and the great missionary movement of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Note that as Dr Ruckman points out, the *Ruckman Reference Bible* p 1648, it was the Philadelphian Church, not the Apostolic Church of ‘the originals,’ that the Lord commended for keeping His word. “**I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name**” Revelation 3:8.

The Philadelphian Church of the great missionary movement of the 19th and early 20th centuries had ONE Book as the Standard and the Lord promised His protection when that standard was upheld. Note the missionary emphasis in what follows.

“So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him” Isaiah 59:19.

That explains the great missionary strides of the 19th and early 20th centuries the like of which has long gone because the standard has been abandoned for the re-hashed Catholic Jesuit-Rheims version that the 1984, 2011 NIVs basically are as are virtually all modern departures from the AV1611 Text, including those of the NKJV “falsely so called” 1 Timothy 6:20...

Faith tried by fire [1 Peter 1:7 “That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ”] is true faith that pleases God, Hebrews 11:6, which all of the Lord’s people should seek to do, especially in view of Revelation 3:16. This true faith is characterised by belief in “the word of faith, which we preach;” Romans 10:8. See also Romans 10:17 “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

Of the preaching of “the word of faith” that is “the word of God,” Proverbs 25:11 states “A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.”

“The word of faith” consists, of course, of “the words of faith” 1 Timothy 4:6.

The association between “the word of faith,” “the words of faith,” gold and silver is carried further in Psalm 19:10, 12:6, 7, along with the process of being “tried in the fire” and “tried by fire.”

“More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold:”

“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.”

Because God has kept and preserved His words, ***“the words of faith”*** that have been ***“in a furnace of earth, purified seven times,”*** therefore the Christian can keep them. This is the commendation that God gave ***“the church in Philadelphia”*** Revelation 3:7.

***“Thou...hast kept my word”*** Revelation 3:8.

***“Thou hast kept the word of my patience”*** Revelation 3:10.

***“The church in Philadelphia”*** is the church of the Reformation, revival and global, *effective* mission that in church history extended from approximately 1500 A.D. to 1900 A.D. It is *this church* that God *particularly* commends for keeping His word, *not* the apostolic, or immediately post-apostolic churches with ‘the originals’ and the so-called ‘oldest and best manuscripts.’

The testimony of church history is that ***“the word of my patience”*** that ***“the church in Philadelphia”*** kept is in its seventh and final state of purification is the 1611 Authorized King James Holy Bible.

1. **Revelation 3:7.** Concerning ***“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write”*** note first this extract from *Revelation Overview* p 3.
2. **Revelation 1:11.** Noting the embedded definition of ***“Alpha and Omega”*** as ***“the first and the last”*** the expression ***“Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last”*** identifies the Speaker the Lord Jesus Christ as the Lord Whose word is first, foremost, fixed and final as King David testifies in Psalm 119:160 ***“Thy word is true from the beginning; and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever”*** and the God Who said in Isaiah 46:9-10 ***“...for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.”***

The expression ***“I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last”*** is a description of the Lord’s excellent name according to Psalm 8:9 ***“O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!”*** and ***“the name of Jesus”*** Philippians 2:10. See therefore the attached studies **God’s Excellent Name** and ***“The Name of Jesus”*** Philippians 2:10 [*Revelation Overview Attached Studies* pp 1-4].

Noting the truth of Exodus 18:11 ***“Now I know that the LORD is greater than all gods: for in the thing wherein they dealt proudly he was above them”*** note that the expression ***“What thou seest, write in a book”*** immediately identifies the Lord Jesus Christ as He Who said to the Prophets:

***“Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin...Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever”*** Isaiah 30:1, 8.

***“Thus speaketh the LORD God of Israel, saying, Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book”*** Jeremiah 30:2.

What John is commanded to ***“write in a book”*** is for today’s believer part of ***“that which was written in the law of the LORD”*** 2 Chronicles 35:26. Revelation 2, 3 reveal that writing to be explicit to widely differing church congregations and epochs within the Church Age.

The lesson for today’s believer is Hebrews 4:12-13 ***“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.”***

Concerning **“These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth”** note this extract from *Revelation Overview* pp 31-32.

1. **Revelation 2:18.** The statement **“These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass”** yields further revelation of **“of Jesus Christ, the Son of God”** Mark 1:1 as **“...he...that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting”** Micah 5:2 of Whom Matthew records **“While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him”** Matthew 17:5 obviously with respect to words such as Daniel heard when he encountered the Speaker and in which today’s believer can take great comfort.

**“Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz: His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude...Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me, And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me”** Daniel 10:5-6, 18-19.

**“hear ye him”** Matthew 17:5 therefore according to **“These things saith the Son of God”** with respect to:

- **“the words of eternal life”** John 6:68
- **“the words of truth and soberness”** Acts 26:25
- **“the words of faith and of good doctrine”** 1 Timothy 4:6.

Moreover, in the light of Matthew 17:5 and Galatians 3:26 **“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus”** today’s believer should aim to receive a commendation equivalent to that of Mark 1:11 **“And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”**

The statement **“he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth”** is a reminder of, an exhortation for and a comfort to today’s believer and indeed all saints with respect to:

**Deuteronomy 29:29 “The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law”** for today’s believer with respect to Galatians 6:2 **“Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ”** and James 2:8 **“If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well”**

**Psalms 119:99, 104, 130 “I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation...Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way...The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple”**

**Luke 24:45 “Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures”**

**John 1:9 “That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world”**

**2 Corinthians 13:8 “For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth”**

**1 Peter 1:15-16 “But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy”**

1 John 5:20 “And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.”

2. Revelation 3:8. Concerning the statement “I know thy works” see *Revelation Overview* pp 13, 16, 23-25, 32, 53-54 and remarks with respect to Revelation 2:2-3, 9, 13, 19, 3:1. Today’s believer should therefore keep to the fore with respect to the *exercise* of faith Galatians 6:9-10 “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith” e.g. with respect to tract distribution *as an overview of current events in the context of “the gospel of Christ”* Romans 1:16\* after the manner of James 2:8 “Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.”

\*See

[www.chick.com/catalog/tractlist.asp?q=169&Language=English](http://www.chick.com/catalog/tractlist.asp?q=169&Language=English)

[www.chick.com/reading/tracts/1019/1019\\_01.asp](http://www.chick.com/reading/tracts/1019/1019_01.asp).

English “**Squatters**”

Bible prophecy shows that only Israel will ultimately inherit the holy land. All others making claim upon the land are just **squatters**.

Concerning “behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it” this is an *evangelisation and missionary door* after the manner of these scriptures that should be an incentive to today’s believer to minister according to Luke 10:37 “...Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise” i.e. go through “**an open door**”:

Acts 14:27 “And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles”

1 Corinthians 16:9 “For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries”

2 Corinthians 2:12 “Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ’s gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord”

Colossians 4:3 “Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds.”

Concerning “for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name” note these scriptures that today’s believer should abide by:

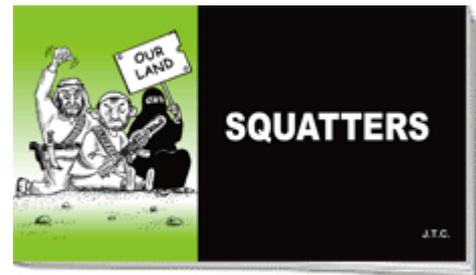
Isaiah 41:10 “Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness”

Jeremiah 15:16 “Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.” See the accompanying insert and studies

John 16:24 “Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full” *with respect to answered prayer*. See *Revelation Overview Attached Studies* pp 1-4 on God’s Excellent Name and “*The Name of Jesus*” Philipians 2:10.

Acts 4:12 “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” *with respect to witnessing*

Acts 4:29-30 “And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs



**and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus**” with respect to trusting God for **“great and mighty things”** Jeremiah 33:3

Acts 5:41 **“And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name”** with respect to rejoicing in right suffering

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 **“And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ’s sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong”**

Ephesians 3:14, 16 **“For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man”**

Philippians 4:13 **“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me”**

Colossians 1:9, 11 **“For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding...Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness”**

2 Timothy 2:1 **“Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus”**

2 Timothy 4:17 **“Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion”**

Hebrews 11:32-34 **“And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of...Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens”**

1 Peter 4:14, 16 **“If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified...if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf”** with respect to glorifying God in suffering rightly

1 Peter 5:10 **“But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.”**

3. Revelation 3:9. See Revelation Overview Attached Studies pp 25-29, 32 **Israel – the ‘Re-interpretations’** and **Appendix 2 – ‘Khazars,’... - 2010 Notes...** Note further this extract from [www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/) Romans 1-11 Summary Thoughts pp 66-68.
3. Romans 11:12-29. Paul here in Romans 11:12, 15-16 **“Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness?...For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?”** describes the advantages of Israel in obedience to, say, Deuteronomy 13:4 **“Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him,”** a good scripture for today’s believers, compared with **“...through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles...”** Romans 11:11.

Paul no doubt has in mind the Lord’s designation of Israel and the judgement that fell upon her in Jeremiah 11:16 **“The LORD called thy name, A green olive tree, fair, and of goodly fruit: with the noise of a great tumult he hath kindled fire upon it, and the branches of it are broken.”** Paul says of this green olive tree that **“...the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches”** Romans 11:16.

Paul then says of each Gentile believer, cautioning each one “...some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee...because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee” Romans 11:17-18, 20-21.

Paul is there warning the Gentile believer that “...the LORD hath chosen Jacob unto himself, and Israel for his peculiar treasure” Psalm 135:4 and that “The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, The city of the LORD, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel” Isaiah 60:14.

By faith, Romans 11:20, the Gentile believers should therefore believe Psalm 147:19-20, Jeremiah 31:35-37, 33:19-21, 25-26, see point 1 on Romans 11:1-6, with respect to Israel “For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance” Romans 11:29 and *not* assume that God is all through with Israel as a nation or that the Church has replaced Israel. That is how to ensure “...toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off” Romans 11:22.

Note again therefore the articles [Yes, the King James Bible IS Perfect](#) and [The Manuscript Dichotomy – Bro. Al Cuppett’s Vision Vindicated](#) and the *saved* individuals whose ministry collapsed and whose praise and worship is unclean “...because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel” Isaiah 5:20.

See also:

[defendproclaimthefait.org/blog/2102/](http://defendproclaimthefait.org/blog/2102/)

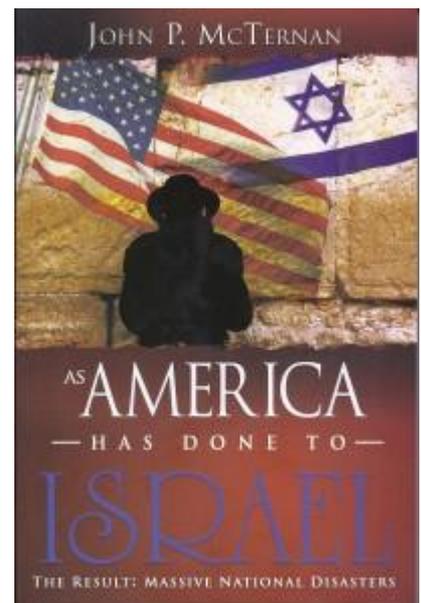
[www.chick.com/catalog/books/1289.asp](http://www.chick.com/catalog/books/1289.asp) and this extract:

### **Is America on a collision course with God?**

There is a direct correlation between the alarming number of massive disasters striking America and her leaders pressuring Israel to surrender her land for “peace.”

Costing hundreds of lives and causing hundreds of billions of dollars’ worth of damage, dozens of disasters, including devastating earthquakes, raging fires, hurricanes, floods, tsunamis, and tornadoes, have hit America — and always within twenty-four hours of putting pressure on Israel.

What can you do as an individual — and what can America do — to change the direction of our country in relation to Israel to prevent an increasing number of calamities?



This book has many pictures, some of which have never before been released. These unique pictures include the Nazi movement in Long Island, New York prior to World War II; the US Navy saving the Zionist movement in Palestine during World War I; and many more.

The USA and the world is set to be taught as with Gideon’s declaration “And Gideon said, Therefore when the LORD hath delivered Zebah and Zalmunna into mine hand, then I will tear your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and with briers...And he took the elders of the city, and thorns of the wilderness and briers, and with them he taught the men of Succoth” Judges 8:7, 16 that “Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep” Psalm 121:4.

It follows therefore, as Paul states in Romans 11:23-24, 26-28 **“And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graff them in again...how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree...And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins...as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers’ sakes.”**

Paul is here referring to those of Israel the Second Advent who will fulfil Isaiah 25:9 **“And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”**

Then shall genuinely come to pass via **“their fulness...life from the dead”** Romans 11:12, 15 for the whole world in that **“...for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more”** Isaiah 2:3-4 in that **“As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore”** Psalm 133:3.

That is why Paul warns Gentile believers **“For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in”** Romans 11:25. It is because **“of this mystery... that blindness in part is happened to Israel”** in turn **“That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel”** Ephesians 3:6.

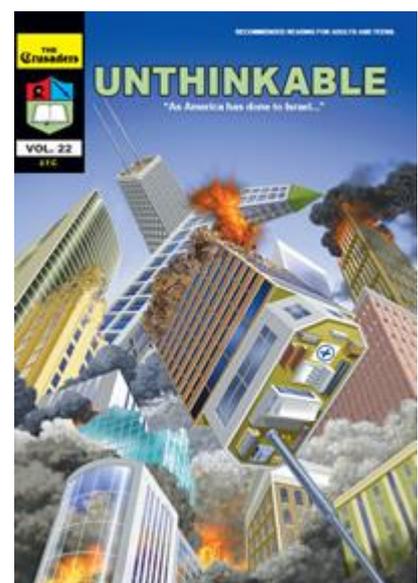
That is, however, only **“...until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in”** at which time the Lord says of today’s believers **“...I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also”** John 14:3 after which, as a real incentive now to **“...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved...”** Acts 16:31, shall come to pass following the Second Advent, with the nation of Israel pre-eminent among the nations, noting Isaiah 25:9 again, Isaiah 49:23 **“And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me.”**

See also [www.chick.com/catalog/comics/3022.asp](http://www.chick.com/catalog/comics/3022.asp).

**Theme: Israel**

Learn about:

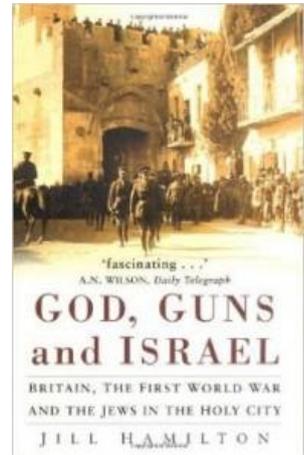
- The American industrialist honored by Hitler for promoting American anti-Semitism.
- The Nazi camp in New York wiped out by God with a monster storm after 40,000-person Nazi rally.
- The Jewish merchants who helped fund and supply the American Revolution at their own expense.
- The Jewish friend whom George Washington called for help, when one more battle would win the war, but the war chest was empty.
- The U.S. President who died suddenly after promising the Arabs there would be no State of Israel without their approval.



- The U.S. President who ordered, “Whatever it takes, save Israel!” and a massive military support operation was sent when Israel faced defeat by the Arabs.
- The four U.S. Presidents who betrayed Israel, and saw America immediately ravaged by increasingly costly disasters.

In addition see [www.jill-hamilton.com/books/god-guns-israel](http://www.jill-hamilton.com/books/god-guns-israel) and this extract from the site. The book was given to this writer by his elder son and this writer has not seen the following material in any other source.

The roots of the present conflict in the Middle East can be traced back to the very foundation of the Jewish Homeland in the First World War. God, Guns and Israel weaves two threads together, the military advance and the influences of Protestant Nonconformism and the Old Testament on the founding of the modern state of Israel...[Prime Minister] Lloyd George...called in General Sir Edmund Allenby with the instructions to seize Jerusalem ‘as a Christmas present for the British nation.’ As Allenby’s guns were poised ready to start the third Battle of Gaza at the end of October 1917, in London Lloyd George’s War Cabinet issued the Balfour Declaration with the promise to make ‘a homeland for the Jews’.



The founding of the modern state of Israel therefore owes much to the pre-WWI influence of British politicians from working-class i.e. Nonconformist backgrounds such as David Lloyd George who believed in a *literal* fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies on the restoration of Israel *because they had been brought up on the King James Bible*. It should be noted that Allenby becomes *Allah Bey* in Arabic meaning *Prophet of God*. See [www.jvim.com/weekly-newsletter-august-3-2015/](http://www.jvim.com/weekly-newsletter-august-3-2015/).

Jill Hamilton pp 75, 168 cites historians Barbara Tuchman and David Fromkin as stating respectively that ‘After the publication of the King James Version in 1611...the Bible was as much England’s own as Good Queen Bess or Queen Victoria’ and therefore ‘Biblical prophecy was the first and most enduring of the many motives that led Britons to want to restore the Jews to Zion.’

Such a Biblical prophecy is Amos 9:15 **“And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God.”**

Today’s believer should therefore keep in mind with respect to *the nation of Israel* at the Second Advent Zechariah 2:8, 10 **“For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye...Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the LORD.”**

That said, today’s believer and the End Times saint who takes the *Biblical* position on the nation of Israel can be assured of experiencing the Lord’s promise **“behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee”** against those who *don’t* because **“For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us”** 2 Corinthians 1:20.

4. **Revelation 3:10.** What is largely beyond dispute is that from a Church Age perspective Philadelphia Church Age believers had gone to be with the Lord before the ravages of the 20<sup>th</sup> century described as follows by Stephen Elliott.

See [www.vision.org/visionmedia/history/violence-and-war/5956.aspx](http://www.vision.org/visionmedia/history/violence-and-war/5956.aspx).

## The Most Violent Century

In the introduction to his 2006 book *The War of the World: Twentieth-Century Conflict and the Descent of the West*, Niall Ferguson says, “The hundred years after 1900 were without question the bloodiest century in modern history, far more violent in relative as well as absolute terms than any previous era... By any measure the [Second World War](#) was the greatest man-made catastrophe of all time... There was not a single year before, between or after the world wars that did not see large-scale violence in one part of the world or another.”

In a prophetic sense therefore the Lord did fulfill His promise to Philadelphian Church Age believers that **“Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation”** that hour as Stephen Elliott states being of worldwide impact in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and in that sense matching what the Lord Himself prophesied **“which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.”**

For today’s believer and the End Times saint respectively **“the hour of temptation”** points to 2 Timothy 3:1 **“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come”** before 1 Thessalonians 4:17 **“...so shall we ever be with the Lord”** i.e. the Rapture and Matthew 24:21 **“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be”** before Acts 3:19 **“...when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord”** i.e. the Second Advent.

In both cases for whatever deliverance may be experienced *the principle is the same* according to the Lord’s exhortation **“Because thou hast kept the word of my patience”** as King Solomon urges ideally as *patient father teaching an attentive son* **“the words of truth and soberness”** Acts 26:25 *with a multiplicity of applications.*

**“For I was my father’s son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live...Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away...My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh”** Proverbs 4:3-4, 14-15, 20-22.

For the practicalities of so doing see the overview [www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/) *Memory Verse Analyses.*

Note further that **“the hour of temptation”** can refer to **“this present hour”** 1 Corinthians 14:1 when Christian fundamentalists *are confronted with and succumb to the temptation to condone evil.* See *Revelation Overview Attached Studies* pp 11-12, 60-61 **The Sovereign Power of Darkness** and **“The Cry of Sodom” – Genesis 18:20.** Today’s believer should therefore remember Colossians 3:25 **“But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.”**

5. Revelation 3:11. **“Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown”** sums up the following exhortations for both today’s believer and the End Times saint. See the graphic for illustration. See [www.amazon.co.uk/What-Have-Hold-Australian-Battalion/dp/187643936X](http://www.amazon.co.uk/What-Have-Hold-Australian-Battalion/dp/187643936X).

*Habakkuk 2:3* **“For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry”**

*1 Thessalonians 5:21* **“Prove all things; hold fast that which is good”**

*2 Thessalonians 3:5* **“And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ”**

*2 Timothy 1:13* **“Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus”**

*2 Timothy 4:8* **“Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing”**

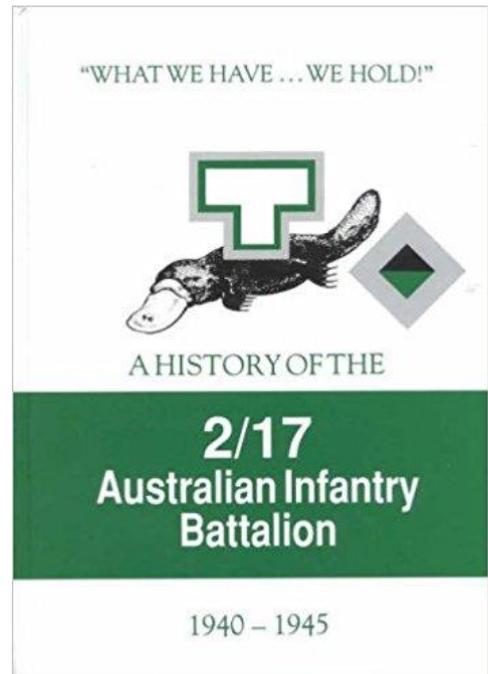
*Hebrews 10:23* **“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)”**

*2 Peter 3:3-4, 13* **“Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation...Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.”**

6. Revelation 3:12. Revelation 3:12 is in the first part a precursor for the End Times saint who fulfills Matthew 24:13 **“But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved”** of the Lord’s promise explaining **“a pillar in the temple of my God”** of Revelation 7:14-17 **“...These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”**

For today’s believer Revelation 3:12 is already fulfilled according to Ephesians 2:4-6, 22 **“But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus...In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.”**

Concerning Revelation 3:12 **“...and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name”** the statement may be taken as a threefold witness **“a threefold cord is not quickly broken”** Ecclesiastes 4:12 for the *Second Advent* fulfillment noting the term **“Selah”** for the Church Age saint **“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever”** 1 Peter 1:23



to have a personalized certificated birthright to permanent residence in **“the city of my God...new Jerusalem”** according to Psalm 87:5-6 **“And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her. The LORD shall count, when he writeth up the people, that this man was born there. Selah.”**

7. **Revelation 3:13.** Note again these remarks from [www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/) *Revelation Overview p 57, Revelation 2 Part 3 p 9.*

Concerning Revelation 2:29 **“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches”** note again [www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/) *Revelation 2 Part 1 pp 4, 8 with respect to Revelation 2:7, 11 and Revelation 2 Part 2 pp 1, 7 with respect to remarks under Revelation 2:12, 17.*

Remember in closing therefore that Paul **“speaking by the Spirit of God”** 1 Corinthians 12:3 speaks according to **“what the Spirit saith unto the churches”** Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29, 3:6, 13, 22 when he declares *in principle* **“And so ordain I in all churches”** 1 Corinthians 7:17.

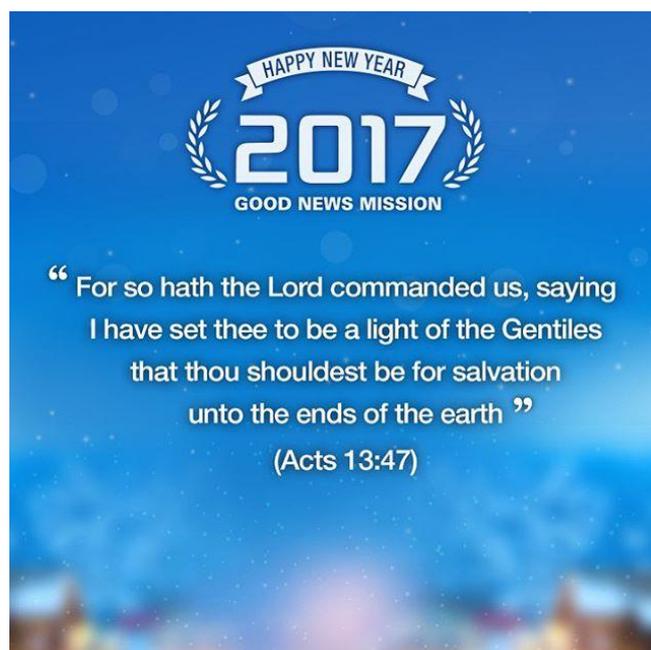
Remember too King Solomon’s exhortation, as applied to **“the law of Christ”** Galatians 6:2 **“the royal law”** James 2:8 for **“patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ”** 1 Thessalonians 1:3. **“Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law”** Proverbs 4:1-2.

In addition for Revelation 3:13 note the following passages in the spirit of Zechariah 1:13 **“And the LORD answered the angel that talked with me with good words and comfortable words.”** The different colorations show how the Lord updated the Hebrew original into no doubt Aramaic **“words easy to be understood...to the edifying of the church”** 1 Corinthians 14:9, 12.

**“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord”** Luke 4:18-19.

**“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD...”** Isaiah 61:1-2.

## Conclusion



## Study Questions and Sample Answers

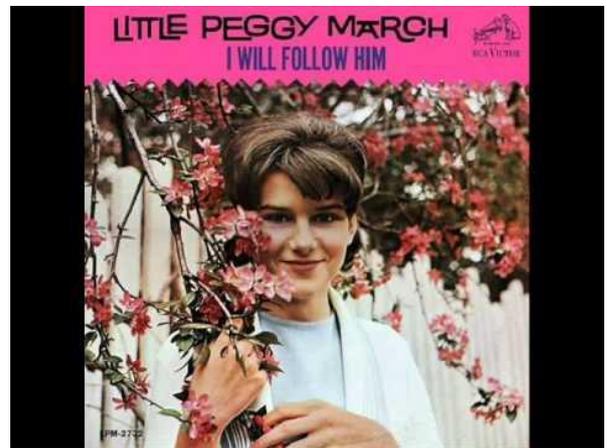
### Study Questions

1. How does the Lord commend the church in Philadelphia?
2. What could today's believer do in the light of the Lord's commendation of the church in Philadelphia?
3. How could today's believer then encourage other believers after the manner of the church in Philadelphia?

### Sample Answers

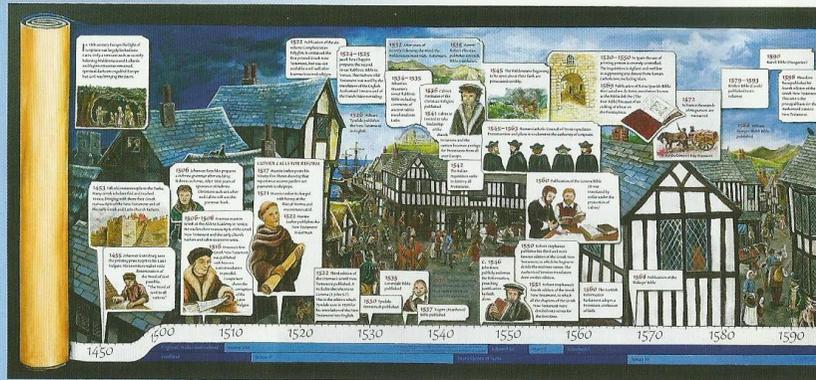
1. **"For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word"** Isaiah 66:2.
2. **"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee"** Psalm 119:9-11.
3. **"But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost...Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen"** Jude 20, 24-25.

See [www.youtube.com/watch?v=xf1e\\_kc6jUQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xf1e_kc6jUQ).



**Behold,  
I come quickly:  
hold that fast  
which thou hast,  
that no man  
take thy crown.  
Revelation 3:11  
<http://delightthyself.wordpress.com>**

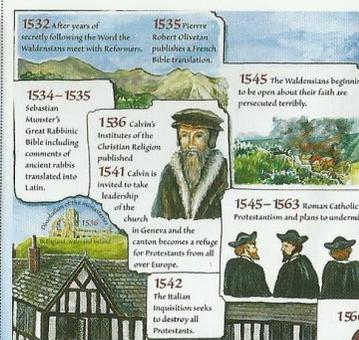
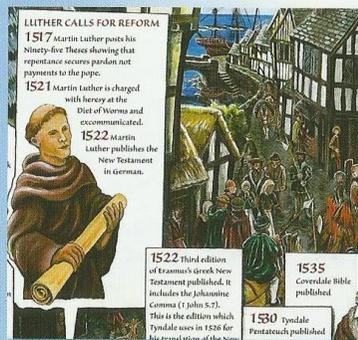
# TBS 1517-2017 Protestant Reformation Timeline



To commemorate the five hundredth anniversary of the recognised beginning of the Protestant Reformation, the Society have been pleased once again to enlist the skills of Abigail Mohon

in the preparation of an historical timeline. This timeline focuses on Bibles translated during the early years of the Reformation, together with key events of those times.

**Product Code: TL2017REF**  
**Size: 1818mm x 410.37mm (in two sections 909mm x 410.37mm)**  
**Prices: UK£4.20, Aus\$5.75, Can\$5.00, Euro€4.00, NZ\$6.00, USA\$4.50**



## Martin's Hymn – “Ein feste Burg” A Mighty Fortress

*A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing;  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.*



Martin Luther  
1483-1546

*“...I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the Word of God.*

*“I cannot and will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. May God help me. Amen.”*

### Wartburg Castle<sup>1</sup>, Eisenach, Germany – “A Mighty Fortress”

#### Introduction – “A good company of Lutherans”

This writer first met this hymn *A Mighty Fortress* over forty years ago at a church service in Sydney. After the hymn had been sung, the pastor said, “*That was one of the great hymns of the Reformation and you sang it like a good company of Lutherans.*” The hymn has remained special ever since to this writer, who always thinks of it as “*Martin’s hymn.*” Who was Martin?

#### Miner’s Son

Martin Luther was a miner’s son from Saxony. He was brought up as a strict Catholic and entered Erfurt University in 1501 at the age of 19 because his dad wanted him to become a lawyer. Luther gained his Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees by 1505 but that year it is said that he was almost killed by a lightning bolt. Terrified of God’s judgement, Luther became an Augustinian monk.

#### Despairing Monk

In spite of his academic achievements and his dedication as a monk, Luther was miserable. While in the monastery, he endured long hours of [fasting](#) and ritual [prayer](#), [pilgrimages](#) to saints’ shrines, repeated scourging i.e. self-harm and frequent [confessions](#). He later said of that time, “*I lost touch with Christ the Saviour and Comforter, and made of him the jailor and hangman of my poor soul.*”

## Saved Man

No doubt in despair about his soul, Luther turned to the scriptures. He had at the time the old Tepl Bible, named after Tepl in Bohemia. The Tepl Bible had been translated into German in 1389<sup>2</sup> from the Old Latin Bibles of the Waldenses, who were the faithful Bible believers of northern Italy.

Henry Halley in *Halley's Bible Handbook*, pp 787ff, says that *"One day, in 1508, while reading Romans, [Luther's] enlightenment and peace came suddenly: [he read] "the just shall live by faith" [Romans 1:17]. He saw, at last, that salvation was to be gained by Trust in God through Christ, and not by rituals and sacraments and penances of the Church. It changed his whole life, and the WHOLE COURSE OF HISTORY."* Martin's conversion would make history as the Reformation.

## World Shaker, **"These that have turned the world upside down" Acts 17:6**

In 1517, the pope wanted to build what is now St Peter's Basilica. He raised money for the project by selling what were called *"indulgences,"* to have your sins forgiven. Luther was outraged. He wrote a list of 95 arguments, called the 95 Theses, against indulgences and nailed them to the door of Wittenberg Cathedral on October 31<sup>st</sup> 1517. That date became known as Reformation Day. It's now Halloween, so **"the god of this world"** 2 Corinthians 4:4 got a stroke in later on.

James 3:5 says **"Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!"** and from Luther's 95 theses, the Lord fanned the flames of revival into a revolution against Rome and the Reformation spread like wildfire. Large sections of the Catholic Church broke away to form their own national churches, such as the Lutheran Churches, and the Church in England became the Church of England. They sought to follow the scripture, instead of the pope, by means of the basic Reformation principle of *sola scriptura*, by scripture alone<sup>3</sup> as *Article VI* of the *Articles of Religion of the Church of England* specifies, *Of the sufficiency of the Holy Scripture for Salvation.* Amen.

## Papal Enemy No. 1

Rome reacted typically against Luther. In April 1521, he was summoned before an imperial assembly or Diet by Emperor Charles V in the German town of Worms. The emperor tried to get Luther to recant. He refused. See figure. Again, Rome reacted typically, like Caiaphas' crew in John 11:53 **"Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to death."**

## Bible Translator and Hymn Writer<sup>4</sup>

However, just as **"the Lord hid"** Jeremiah and Baruch, Jeremiah 36:26, He hid Luther. [Frederick III, Elector of Saxony](#), transported Luther to [Wartburg Castle](#) and Rome never did get him. Luther was in Wartburg from May 1521 to March 1522. In that time he translated the New Testament into German with the help of the Greek Text first published in 1516 by Erasmus of Rotterdam. Luther translated the whole Bible by 1534. It should be noted that Luther's Bible, Erasmus' Greek Text, the 1389 Tepl Bible and the pure Old Latin Waldensian Bibles from as far back as 157 A.D. closely match the 1611 Authorized Holy Bible and they were all used by the King James translators.

Wartburg Castle may in part have inspired the hymn *A Mighty Fortress*. Luther composed it from Psalm 46:1 **"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."** Psalm 46:1 is a great verse that is special to this writer and in turn therefore so is Martin's hymn composed from it.

## Home Call, the Devil's Backlash and God's Providence

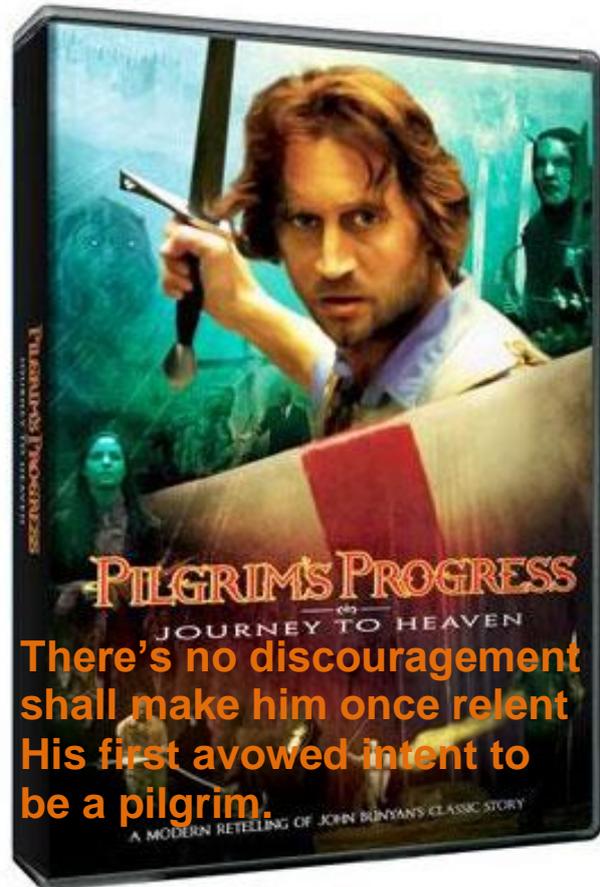
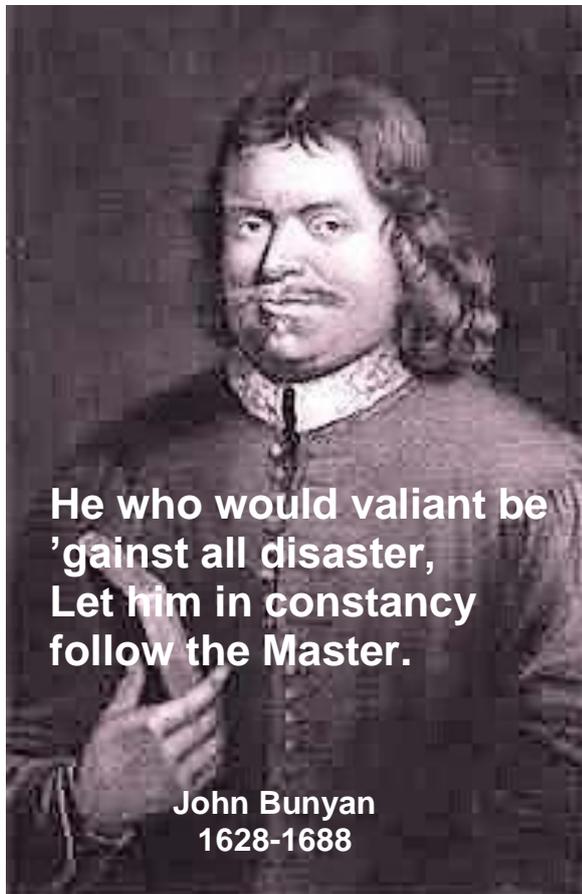
Luther died peacefully in 1546 aged 62. Henry Halley says that Martin was *"next to Jesus and Paul, the Greatest Man of all the ages."* Satan, though, was determined to crush the Reformation and almost did so in Europe through Rome's 100-year religious wars of the Counter-Reformation.

God had nevertheless sustained **"the time of reformation"** Hebrews 9:10 in another nation that would take the fruits of the Reformation **"to the uttermost part of the earth"** Acts 1:8 because it was a seafaring nation. That nation was England. From England, a century after Luther, another hymn and hymn-writer emerge, that are special to this writer - but that's another story.

## John's Hymn – “Who Would True Valour See”

Monk's Gate, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOPW-9mSw8Y](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOPW-9mSw8Y), [www.hymntime.com/tch/](http://www.hymntime.com/tch/)

**“Take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God”  
Ephesians 6:17**



**“At your peril be it if you meddle!” – Mr Valiant-for-Truth<sup>5</sup>**

### Introduction – *The Pilgrim's Progress*

This writer met John's Hymn 40 years ago and it's been special ever since. Although it's not men-only, the hymn is a call to men. **“If any man serve me, let him follow me”** the Lord says in John 12:26. John Bunyan wrote the hymn based on Jeremiah 9:2-3, where God, sadly, is compelled to rebuke **“treacherous men...they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth...saith the LORD.”** **“The truth,”** as shown, is **“the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”**

John Bunyan wrote *The Pilgrim's Progress* and John's Hymn appears in Part 2. Part 1 is about Christian who journeys from **“the city of destruction”** Isaiah 19:18 to the Celestial City of Heaven. In Part 2, Christian's widow, Christiana, her four sons and a lass named Mercy journey to the Celestial City led by Mr Great-Heart. Part 2 describes how they meet Mr Valiant-for-Truth.

### Mr Valiant-for Truth

*“Then they went on; and just at the place where Little-Faith formerly was robbed, there stood a man with his sword drawn, and his face all over with blood. Then said Mr. Great-Heart, Who art thou? The man made answer, saying, I am one whose name is Valiant-for-truth. I am a pilgrim, and am going to the Celestial City...they took him and washed his wounds, and gave him of what they had, to refresh him: and so they went together.”* Mr Valiant explains what befell him. *“...as I was in my way, there were three men that did beset me, and propounded unto me these three things: 1. Whether I would become one of them. 2. Or go back from whence I came. 3. Or die upon the place. To the first I answered, I had been a true man for a long season, and therefore it could not be expected that I should now cast in my lot with thieves...to the second...I told them that*

*the place from whence I came, had I not found incommodity there, I had not forsaken it at all...to the third...I told them my life cost far more dear than that I should lightly give it away...wherefore at your peril be it if you meddle. So we fell to it...for the space of above three hours...They are but just now gone...[they heard] your horse dash, [i. e. approach] and so they betook themselves to flight...They have left upon me, as you see, some of the marks of their valor, and have also carried away with them some of mine.”* Mr Valiant later sings John’s Hymn in its first version. So how are you **“valiant for the truth”**? You **“stand against the wiles of the Devil”** Ephesians 6:11 e.g.

### **“Valiant for the truth” – Against Family Unbelief**

Years ago, this writer met up with an international Rugby League player, who played for Kingston Rovers. He came to know **“the gospel of Christ”** Romans 1:16 but didn’t get saved. However, his wife did, so she was **“valiant for the truth”** because she had to stand against family unbelief.

### **“Valiant for the truth” – Against Popular Opinion**

In 1970, Pope Paul VI visited Sydney to lead a city-wide ecumenical service. The then Anglican Archbishop of Sydney was a godly man named Marcus Loane<sup>6</sup>. Marcus Loane caused a stir because he refused to attend the service. Loane was interviewed on the radio about his refusal. He answered every question the same way; *“What does the New Testament teach?”* He then no doubt used scriptures like Ephesians 5:11 **“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.”** Marcus Loane was therefore **“valiant for the truth”** in standing against popular opinion. Today, many folk say it’s fine for Islam to be in Britain. It isn’t and the book *Slavery, Terrorism & Islam* by long-term missionary to the Sudan, Peter Hammond, explains why. So, one way to be **“valiant for the truth”** today is that you don’t just “expose” Islam. You **“reprove”** it as **“the unfruitful works of darkness,”** even against popular opinion.

### **“Valiant for the truth” – Against Ungodly Authorities**

John Bunyan<sup>7</sup> was **“valiant for the truth”** in standing against ungodly authorities. He was gaoled for 12 years between 1660 and 1672 because he faithfully preached the scriptures. Of course, ungodly authorities pose a threat to the Gospel to this day. La Toya Harding<sup>8</sup> is a young lady studying at Aston University. As part of her witness, she asked the university authorities if she could use the university’s email system to send a broadcast Gospel message to all students. They said no, so she sent out personal emails, 200 a day. She reached 9,500 students with the Gospel before the university authorities forced her to stop. Nevertheless, La Toya’s efforts are an up-to-date example of being **“valiant for the truth”** by standing against ungodly authorities.

### **“Valiant for the truth” – Against “highminded” Education, 2 Timothy 3:4**

John Bunyan was **“valiant for the truth”** in standing against **“highminded”** education. This is from *John Bunyan, The Immortal Dreamer*, by W. Burgess McCreary: *“A university man met Bunyan on the road near Cambridge. Said he to Bunyan, “How dare you preach, not having the original Scriptures?” “Do you have them - the copies written by the apostles and prophets?” asked Bunyan. “No,” replied the scholar. “But I have what I believe to be a true copy of the original.” “And I,” said Bunyan, “believe the English Bible to be a true copy too.””* That takes some resolve!

### **“Valiant for the truth” – Against “perils by the heathen” 2 Corinthians 11:26**

John Bunyan stood against **“perils by the heathen,”** who gaoled him. However, others **“valiant for the truth”** would do so on the mission field in the New World. There, 300 years after Bunyan, another hymn special to this writer would arise from events in Ecuador but that’s for another time.

## Philadelphian English Reformers

From [www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/) 'O Biblios' – The Book pp 14-19

### 3

## The Men Behind The English Bible

“Go now ye that are men and serve the Lord; for that ye did desire” Exodus 10:11.

As the Greek New Testaments were being published on the Continent, God was at work preparing the English Bible, before and during the Reformation. These were the Englishmen whom He used for this purpose [during the 16<sup>th</sup> century English Protestant Reformation]...

### 3.2 William Tyndale, 1495 (1484?)-1536

1. He was a student of Erasmus, at Cambridge. He was probably converted there under the ministry of Latimer, Bilney and Cranmer.
2. He was “so skilled in seven languages, Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Italian, Spanish, English, French, that whatever he spoke you would suppose it his native tongue” [*Which Bible?* 5<sup>th</sup> Edition David Otis Fuller, D.D.] pp 228-229, citing Herman Buschius.
3. He is said to have “stamped his genius upon English thought and English language” [*Which Bible?*] p 228.
4. He produced two editions of the New Testament, in 1526 and 1534. This was the first English New Testament translated from the Greek Received Text [*Which Bible?*] pp 228-229. He was actively engaged in translating the Old Testament certainly up until the time of his arrest in 1534.

To “the mitred Abbots of Winchcombe and Tewkesbury” he had said:

“I defy the pope and all his laws. If God spare my life, ere many years I will cause a boy that driveth the plough to know more of the Scriptures than thou doest” [*Translators Revived* Alexander McClure, reprinted by Maranatha Bible Society, p 39].

5. He was betrayed, strangled and burnt at the stake at Vilvorde on October 6<sup>th</sup> 1536. His last words were: “Lord, open the King of England’s eyes.”

In 1538 King Henry VIII decreed that the Great Bible be set up in every Parish church, in answer to Tyndale’s prayer.

6. The AV1611 New Testament is 90% that of Tyndale.

“I perceived by experience how that it was impossible to establish the lay people in any truth, except the Scripture were plainly laid before their eyes in their mother-tongue, that they might see the process, order, and meaning of the text” Tyndale’s Preface to the Pentateuch [*The Newe Testament by William Tyndale (1526)* John Wesley Sawyer, The Martyrs Bible Series Volume 1, 1989] p 4.

### 3.3 Miles Coverdale, 1488-1569

1. He graduated as a Bachelor in Canon Law at Cambridge in 1531 and later received a Doctorate from Tübingen and Cambridge.
2. He was an Augustinian friar but when drawn to the Protestant faith, he had to flee to the Continent, where, with John Rogers, he became a disciple of Tyndale’s.
3. He published the first complete printed English Bible in 1535, mainly from Luther’s German [*A Brief History of English Bible Translations* Dr Laurence M. Vance, Vance Publications, 1993] pp 15-16 and dedicated it to King Henry VIII and Queen Anne Boleyn. See also *Translators Revived* by Alexander McClure, reprinted by Maranatha Bible Society, p 35.
4. Coverdale’s dedicatory epistle “denounces the errors of “the blind bishop of Rome.””

### 3.4 John Rogers, 1500-1555

1. He was educated at Cambridge and converted by the scriptures and the witness of Tyndale, 1534 [*Pioneers of the Reformation in England* Marcus Loane, Church Book Room Press, Ltd., 1964] p 94.
2. He was responsible for the printing of the Matthew's Bible, in which Tyndale's work is reproduced as far as possible, supplemented where necessary by that of Miles Coverdale, taken largely from Luther's German [*Pioneers of the Reformation in England*] pp 99-101, [*The Newe Testament of Matthew's Bible 1537 AD* John Wesley Sawyer, The Martyrs Bible Series Volume 2, 1989] p ix.
3. Matthew's Bible is the English foundation of the Great Bible 1539, the Geneva Bible 1560, the Bishop's Bible 1568 and the Authorised King James Bible of 1611, the AV1611.
4. John Rogers was burnt at the stake, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 1555, the first to suffer thus during the short and tyrannical reign of Mary Tudor.

### 3.5 God's Englishmen

The men who produced the early English Bibles had these things in common:

1. They were genuine scholars who approached the scriptures believing them to be the true words of God.
2. They had a God-given desire to impart the pure words of God to the ordinary people, NOT keep it locked up in the original languages.
3. They rejected the RC church and suffered as a result. It follows that Bible believers are anti-Catholic and Bible-reading countries are NOT Catholic countries.

## 4

**The Company Of 1611**

**“The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it”**

Psalm 68:11.

To complete the work of Tyndale and the other pioneers of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the Lord raised up **“a band of men, whose hearts God had touched”** 1 Samuel 10:26, **“valiant for the truth upon the earth”** Jeremiah 9:3\*<sup>2012</sup>.

\*<sup>2012</sup>See the following detailed works:

*In Awe of Thy Word Part 5* by Gail Riplinger, A.V. Publications Corp., 2003

*King James And His Translators* by Gail Riplinger, A.V. Publications Corp., 2011

*The Hidden History Of The English Scriptures* by Gail Riplinger, A.V. Publications Corp., 2011

*King James, His Bible And Its Translators* by Dr Laurence M. Vance, Vance Publications, 2006

#### **4.1 King James 1, The British Solomon**

The following statements are extracts from *Battle Cry* September/October 1985:

1. James was the first man to unite the feuding tribes of Scotland into one nation.
2. James united Scotland and England, laying the groundwork for the British Empire, birthplace of the greatest missionary movement of the modern age.
3. James founded of the Province of Ulster, by far the most Bible believing, prosperous and Christian sector of Ireland.
4. James was the first earthly monarch on record to encourage the propagation of God’s word in the language of the people [[www.kjv1611.org/index.html](http://www.kjv1611.org/index.html) *The Christian’s Handbook of Biblical Scholarship* Dr Peter S. Ruckman, Bible Baptist Bookstore, P.O. Box 7135, Pensacola FL. 32504, 1988,] p 164.
5. James believed in salvation by grace and in the word of God, never wavering from his personal adherence to Protestant belief.
6. James broke the back of witchcraft in Scotland.
7. James was an accomplished scholar. He knew Latin, Greek and French perfectly, Italian and Spanish adequately and wrote poetry, theology and a tract against the use of tobacco!
8. He has been called *“The most hated character in English history for Greek and Hebrew scholars in the Protestant church, especially the modern fundamentalist branch”* [*The History of the New Testament Church Vol. 1* Dr Peter S. Ruckman, Bible Baptist Bookstore, 1982] p 412. This distinction appears to have been bestowed by fundamental scholars for the reason given in point 4 above.
9. James gave Royal Assent to the Puritan proposal for a new Bible translation, 1604.

*“To fulfil Acts 1:8...All the Lord needed was a Bible in line with what He had already written and preserved; since He had already decreed (in 1000 BC) that there had to be present “the word of a King” Ecclesiastes 8:4 before there could be any spiritual “power” in that word (Romans 13:1-4), and since His king was a JEW (John 18:34)...God needed a king with a Jewish name; He got one...this time it was JAMES. James is the English word for JACOB”* [*The History of the New Testament Church Vol. 1*] p 374.

## 4.2 Scholars of 1611

[*Which Bible?*] pp 13-24, [*An Understandable History Of The Bible* Samuel C. Gipp Th.D., Samuel C. Gipp, 1987] pp 183-195

See the accompanying study *The KJB Story – 1611 to 2011 The Learned Men* for details.

## 4.3 Materials used for the AV1611

[*Famine In The Land* Norman Ward, Which Bible? Society Inc.] p 42

The following list shows that the translators of 1611 had more than sufficient material for their vital task.

1. All preceding printed English and foreign language Bibles. These included the Jesuit Rheims Version.
2. The printed Greek texts of Erasmus, Stephanus and Beza.
3. The Complutensian Polyglot with the Masoretic Text of the Hebrew Old Testament. The translators also had the Antwerp Polyglot of 1569-1572, [*A Brief History of English Bible Translations*] p 12.
4. Several important uncial manuscripts and a great mass of cursive manuscripts.
5. The Old Latin.
6. The Italic, Gallic and Celtic versions and the Syrian New Testament and the Gothic Bible of Bishop Ulfilas, according to *The Translators To The Readers* by Dr Miles Smith [www.jesus-is-lord.com/pref1611.htm](http://www.jesus-is-lord.com/pref1611.htm).
7. Jerome's Vulgate.
8. Variant readings from Codices A and B [*Which Bible?*] pp 250-254.
9. Many quotations from the early church 'Fathers,' according to *The Translators To The Readers*, including Eusebius, Augustine, Jerome, Cyril of Jerusalem, Justin Martyr, Basil, Theodotian, Theodorit, Tertullian, Origen etc. One of the King's men, Dr John Overall, "was celebrated for the appropriateness of his quotations from the Fathers." See *Translators Revived* p 89.

As Norman Ward [*Famine In The Land*] p 42 states "The translators of 1611 had substantially the same selection of readings from which to choose as did the revisers of 1881, 1952, 1973 and 1979."

## 4.4 The Original Title Page for the AV1611

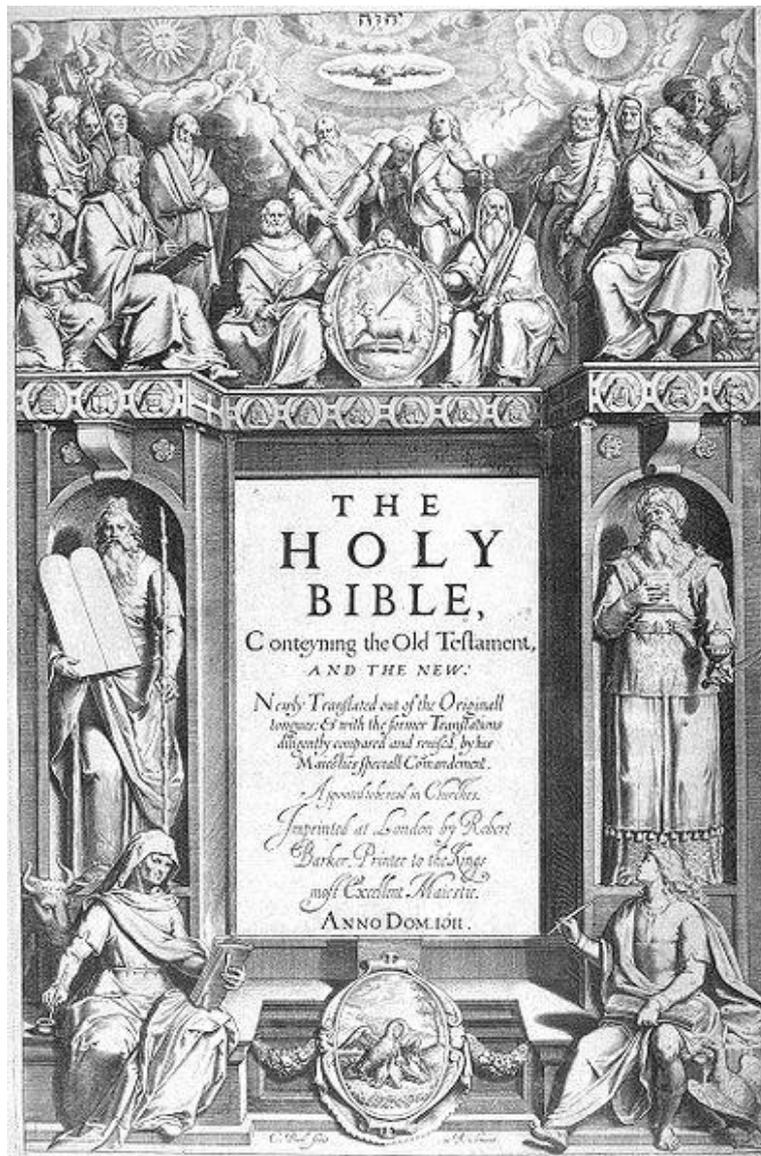
An exact reprint of the 1611 Authorized Version<sup>\*2012</sup> is available from the Oxford University Press. Inspection of the title page tends to dispel some of the myths about the AV1611, which have often been propagated by apostate fundamentalists.

<sup>\*2012</sup>Except that for ease of reading, the text is in Roman, not Black Letter Gothic like the first printings of the 1611 Holy Bible, [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Authorized\\_King\\_James\\_Version](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Authorized_King_James_Version).

1. The title is THE HOLY BIBLE.
2. The title is NOT 'The Authorised Version.' Its 'authorisation' came from its AUTHOR [*The Bible Babel* Dr Peter S. Ruckman, The Bible Baptist Bookstore, 1981] pp 21-23.
3. The title is NOT 'The King James Version', although this term is commonly used even by Bible believers. The term was first applied long after the publication of the AV1611, originally to avoid the word 'authority'<sup>\*2012</sup> [*The Bible Babel*] pp 21-23.

<sup>\*2012</sup>Nevertheless "**Where the word of a king is, there is power: and who may say unto him, What doest thou?**" Ecclesiastes 8:4.

4. The title does NOT include the Apocrypha as part of the scriptures. Note the following description from the above site.



## Summary

<p><b>Description</b></p>	<p><b>English:</b> Frontispiece to the King James' Bible, 1611, shows the Twelve Apostles at the top. Moses and Aaron flank the central text. In the four corners sit Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, authors of the four gospels, with their symbolic animals. At the top, over the Holy Spirit in a form of a <a href="#">dove</a>, is the <a href="#">Tetragrammaton</a> "יהוה" ("YHWH") [2017 Update: The actual term is JHVH. See <a href="#">The You-Who Yahweh Scam</a> by Dr Peter S. Ruckman, Article reprint from the July, 2004 <a href="#">Bible Believers' Bulletin</a>, <a href="http://www.kjv1611.org/index.html">www.kjv1611.org/index.html</a>].</p> <p>The title page text reads:          THE HOLY BIBLE,          Conteyning the Old Testament,          AND THE NEW:  <i>Newly Tranllated out of the Originall tongues: &amp; with the former Tranflations diligently compared and reuifed, by his Maiesties speciall Comandement. Appointed to be read in Churches. Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, Printer to the Kings moft Excellent Maiestie. ANNO DOM. 1611.</i></p> <p>At bottom is "C. Boel fecit in Richmont."</p>
<p><b>Date</b></p>	<p>1611</p>
<p><b>Source</b></p>	<p><a href="http://dewey.library.upenn.edu/sceti/printedbooksNew/index.cfm?TextID=kjbible&amp;PagePosition=1">dewey.library.upenn.edu/sceti/printedbooksNew/index.cfm?TextID=kjbible&amp;PagePosition=1</a></p>
<p><b>Author</b></p>	<p>Church of England</p>

## ***The KJB Story – 1611 to 2011***

### ***Overview:***

#### **Introduction**

#### ***Why this Message – on a 400 year-old Book?***

To inform, edify and provide for possible witness opportunities

#### ***Why this Story – about a 400 year-old Book?***

Because of the effect on the nation's leaders, life, enemies

#### **The Learned Men**

***The Hampton Harrier*** - The King that played the Puritan

***High Church, Low Church*** - White male C of E Protestants

***“Hebrew at his fingers’ ends”***- Unparalleled Scholars

**The Critics’ Den** (Outline Only, Details in **Appendix**)

***The Huffing King*** - Tyrant, Freemason, scoundrel, intriguer and worse?

***The Awful Apocrypha*** – in the 1611 1611 Holy Bible (repetition is deliberate)

***The PC C of E?*** - The Anglican compromise – or the Baptist builder?

***The KJB or not the KJB?*** - That is the question – on different KJB Editions

***“Understandest...what thou readest?”*** - Acts 8:30 (No ☹)

#### **The Word of a King, Ecclesiastes 8:4**

***“Give me that Book”*** - Bunyan, Wesley, Spurgeon, Ryle, Shaw

***“God save the king!”*** - The national anthem

#### ***Gone into all the world***

- English time, English longitude, English empire, English text
- The Book That Changed The World – on DVD
- The Queen that Challenged the World – a magnificent painting

***“That Book accounts for the supremacy of England”*** – Queen Victoria



*"That Book accounts for the supremacy of England"* – Queen Victoria

[www.arthermitage.org/Thomas-Jones-Barker/Queen-Victoria-Giving-the-Bible-to-an-African-Chief.html](http://www.arthermitage.org/Thomas-Jones-Barker/Queen-Victoria-Giving-the-Bible-to-an-African-Chief.html)



The 1611 KJB New Testament Title Page<sup>9</sup>

## Introduction

### ***Why this Message – on a 400 year-old Book?***

*A simple answer: To inform, edify and provide for possible witness opportunities*

A Christian friend emailed me an article by Peter Hitchens<sup>10</sup> of *The Daily Mail* about The Authorized Version. This article is a comment on the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1611 Holy Bible. Hitchens says this:

*“The Authorised Version tends, in fact, to use good hard, earthy English words: [2 Samuel 18:33] ‘And the king was much moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!’ [That verse] doesn’t seem to me to be in any way hard for a 21<sup>st</sup> century person to understand. Indeed, you can hear and feel the woe and regret in it across the centuries, an old man weeping and alone...”*

It may well be that items like this in the media from time to time will draw the attention of unsaved acquaintances to **“the scripture of truth”** Daniel 10:21 so that they can then be acquainted with **“the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation”** Ephesians 1:13.

It is also to be hoped that for Christians receiving this message that the “good hard, earthy English words” of the 1611 Holy Bible will **“build you up”** according to **“the word of his grace”** Acts 20:32.

### ***Why this Story – about a 400 year-old Book?***

*A simple answer: Because of its effect on:*

- *the nation’s leaders*
- *the nation’s life*
- *the nation’s enemies.*

***The nation’s leaders***, e.g. HRH Charles, the Prince of Wales<sup>11</sup>

This is an American Independent KJB Baptist pastor quoting *The Daily Telegraph*, Dec. 20, 1989, no. 41,832, his emphases.

*“According to the Prince of Wales...the English language “has become impoverished, sloppy, and limited, a dismal wasteland” ...The Prince accused the editors of the [new bibles] of “making changes in the **Authorized Version**, just to lower the tone, and believing that the rest of us wouldn’t get the point if the word of God was a bit over our heads.” The Prince went on, “the word of God is **sup-***

*posed to be a bit over our heads, elevated as God is.” Never heard it put better anywhere. It will never be said to anybody over here any better...This is the King with the King’s English, and “where the word of a King is, there is power” [Ecclesiastes 8:4a].”*

That’s a remarkable effect of a 400 year-old Book on the future king, especially insofar as he appears to think the same about that Book over 20 years later.

### ***The nation’s life***

Here are two statements about the effect of the 1611 Holy Bible on the nation’s life.

The first is from the Roman Catholic writer F. W. Faber<sup>12</sup>, speaking in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

*“Who will not say that the uncommon beauty and marvellous English of the Protestant Bible is not one of the great strongholds of heresy [Protestant Bible belief] in this country? It lives on the ear like music that can never be forgotten, like the sound of church bells. Its felicities often seem to be things rather than words. It is part of the national mind, and the anchor of national seriousness.”*

The second is from the noted historian, Dr David Starkey from his series *Monarchy* and the episode on King James 1<sup>st</sup>.

*“The King James Version of the Bible, more than any other book, formed the English language and shaped the English mind.”*

According to these men, the 1611 Holy Bible principally “*shaped the English mind*” and was “*part of the national mind.*” That is a significant effect of a 400 year-old Book during those 4 centuries on the nation’s life.

### ***The nation’s enemies***

Charles Chiniquy was a 19<sup>th</sup> century French-Canadian Catholic priest. He was a Catholic for 50 years and a priest for 25 of those years. After he got saved, Chiniquy<sup>13</sup> issued this solemn warning.

*“It is a fact that to-day, almost all over the world, the Church of Rome grants permission to read the Bible...But I will here ask the Roman Catholics, “To whom do you owe that privilege and honour of a Bible in your house? Is it to your Church?” Oh! no, for if your Church could be free to fulfil her own laws you would be sent to gaol; nay you would be burnt on a scaffold for that Bible. But you owe that privilege to the glorious British Protestant flag which protects you – wherever it floats on the breeze, no Pope, no priest will dare to trouble you for that Bible – they let you possess and read that holy book because they cannot help it.”*

Chiniquy’s statement indicates that “*the glorious British Protestant flag*” enabled even Catholics to read what many at the time perceived as the glorious British Protestant *Bible*. That’s quite an effect of a now 400 year-old Book on the nation’s enemies.

How did that glorious British Protestant Bible come into being? For answer, we turn to the King James translators themselves, according to the preface to the 1611 Holy Bible, entitled *The Translators To The Reader*<sup>14</sup>:



King, Bishops and Puritans at Hampton Court, January 1604<sup>15</sup>

### **The Learned Men**

*“Truly (good Christian Reader) we never thought from the beginning, that we should need to make a new Translation, nor yet to make of a bad one a good one...but to make a good one better, or out of many good ones, one principal good one, not justly to be excepted against; that hath been our endeavor, that our mark” – Dr Miles Smith, The Translators To The Reader*

How did the learned men achieve their mark, who were they and how well fitted were they for their task?

First, we must know what happened at Hampton Court in January 1604.

#### ***The Hampton Harrier - The King that played the Puritan***

The Puritans<sup>16</sup> were Church of England clergymen who held strongly to the English Protestant Reformation of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The English Reformation followed the break with Rome by Henry VIII<sup>17</sup>. After the break, the Church in England gradually became the Church of England.

The Puritans wanted all traces of Catholicism removed from the English Church so when King James 1<sup>st</sup> came to the throne in 1603, the Puritans presented him with the so-called Millenary Petition<sup>18</sup>, because it had 1,000 signatures, although one source says that only 750 were actually collected<sup>19</sup>.

The king convened a conference at Hampton Court in January 1604 for the church leaders to hear the Puritans’ grievances. One of these grievances was the perceived need for a new bible.

The Puritans’ leader was Dr John Rainolds, president of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. Rainolds said to the king *“May your Majesty be pleased to direct that the Bible be now translated, such versions as are extant not answering to the original.”*

We will see later why Rainolds used the term *“the original.”*

The king replied *“I could never yet see a Bible well translated in English, but I think that of Geneva is the worst.”*

The Geneva Bible had been translated in Geneva, Switzerland in 1560 with the help of English Puritan exiles. The historian Gustavus Paine explains that it was not the text of the Geneva Bible that James objected to. Paine states:

*“Some of the marginal notes in the Geneva version...disturbed him: they seemed to scoff at kings. If the Bible threatened him, it must be changed. Away with all marginal notes! And indeed...many [were] based on dogma now outworn. James may have had some right on his side; he was far from witless.”*

John Rainolds stood his ground and the petition for the new bible was granted.

Paine states *“So clever was [James’s] handling of the meeting that, although he...actually threatened to harry [the Puritans] out of the land, he appeared to some observers to lean towards them. Indeed, the dean of the chapel said that on that day the king played the Puritan...after all the talk ended, it seemed [the Puritans] had...only one gain: the new Bible [but William] Tyndale’s prayer was now answered in full: James I had ordered what Tyndale died to do.”*

William Tyndale was a brilliant Bible translator whom Catholics had burnt at the stake in 1536 for his work on the scriptures. Just before he died Tyndale had prayed *“Lord, open the King of England’s eyes.”* Through James 1<sup>st</sup> and John Rainolds, God had answered His martyr’s prayer.

With James having granted the Puritans’ petition, the next step was to choose the translators. The ones eventually chosen could be summed up as:

***High Church, Low Church*** - White male C of E Protestants

Two of James 1<sup>st</sup>’s most trusted advisers were Richard Bancroft<sup>20</sup>, Bishop of London and later Archbishop of Canterbury and Robert Cecil<sup>21</sup>, who became the Earl of Salisbury.

The king charged them with appointing the men to compile the new bible and by the end of summer 1604 they had selected a total of 47 scholars for the work.

As indicated, these 47 scholars were both high and low churchmen<sup>22</sup>.

The high churchmen favored a fixed and formal style of worship service and believed firmly in the overall authority of the bishop or most high-ranking clergyman of a particular area, or diocese.

The low churchmen were less formal with respect to worship services and less willing to accept the absolute authority of a diocesan bishop. The low churchmen included the Puritans like John Rainolds. They made up almost a quarter<sup>23</sup> of the scholars. Gustavus Paine states:

*“There were among [the translators] no Roman Catholics, Jews or women. They were male Protestants, roughly or smoothly within the Church of England, and as such they thought in certain grooves. The marvel is that they did so well...”*

*“But...for the new Bible the strife between [high and low] factions would be healthy. The Bible has always thrived on turmoil.”*

It can safely be said that in reality, God had chosen the right men, at the right time, as we see from their unparalleled scholarship.

***“Hebrew at his fingers’ ends”*** - Unparalleled Scholars

19<sup>th</sup> century historian Alexander McClure wrote this, his emphases:

*“As to the capability of those men, we may say again, that, by the good providence of God, their work was undertaken in a fortunate time. Not only had the English language...then ripened to its full perfection, but the study of Greek, and of the oriental tongues [including Hebrew], and of rabbinical [Jewish] lore, had then been carried to a greater extent in England than ever before or since...All the colleges of Great Britain and America, even in this proud day of boastings, could not bring together the same number of divines equally qualified by learning and piety for the great undertaking.”*

The situation has not changed in 150 years. Dr Donald Waite is the Director of *The Bible For Today* organization in the USA. In 1992, he had been a teacher of Greek, Hebrew, Bible Speech and English for over 35 years, including teaching at seminary level.

Dr Waite<sup>24</sup> studied the scholarship of the King James translators extensively. He then stated categorically that he knew enough about the Hebrew and Greek languages to know that he could not have qualified to be one of the King James translators.

Dr Waite said that in 1992 and he still holds to that statement.

So who did qualify?<sup>25</sup> Here are some of King’s men.

*Dr John Rainolds*

The man who petitioned the king was appointed the Regius or Royal Professor of Divinity at Oxford in 1585. Rainolds was noted as a distinguished Greek and Hebrew scholar and it was said that “*his memory and reading were near to a miracle.*”

*Dr John Spencer*

Dr Spencer was elected Greek lecturer at Corpus Christi College *at the age of 19*, which speaks volumes for his scholarly ability. His wife, it should be noted, was a great-niece of Thomas Cranmer<sup>26</sup>, former Archbishop of Canterbury, whom the Catholic Queen Mary Tudor burnt at the stake in 1556 for his Protestant testimony.

Many of the King James translators were, in fact, children or youths during the reign of Catholic Mary, aka ‘Bloody’ Mary. Dr Gail Ripplinger writes:

*“The KJV translators were born and lived their adult lives with a frightfully close view of the persecuting shadow of bloody Queen Mary I...as small children, [they] could have seen their friends’ parents go to the stake. Children were sometimes forced to watch their own parents burn or to set them on fire themselves.”*

It should therefore be understood that the King James translation is in no way Papist, in spite of later criticisms to the contrary.

*Dr Miles Smith*

Dr Smith wrote the preface to the 1611 Holy Bible entitled *The Translators To The Reader*. It was said of Dr Smith that “*He had Hebrew at his fingers’ ends; and he was so conversant with Chaldee, Syriac, and Arabic, [Oriental languages related to the Old Testament] that he made them as familiar to him as his native tongue.*”

*Dr John Bois*

Dr Bois was a Fellow of St. John’s College, Cambridge, to which he was admitted *at the age of 14*. He was able to read Hebrew *at the age of 5*. He was also a distinguished Greek scholar and sometimes devoted himself to his studies in the university library from 4 o’clock in the morning to 8 o’clock at night.

Such was John Bois’s reverence for the word of God that he would *stand* while studying, reading or translating the scriptures.

*Dr Lancelot Andrewes*

Dr Andrewes was Bishop of Winchester and Chaplain to Queen Elizabeth 1<sup>st</sup>. Elizabeth was “*that bright Occidental Star*” as *The Epistle Dedicatory* in the front of the Authorized Version describes her. It was said of Dr Andrewes that “*His knowledge in Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Chaldee, Syriac and Arabic...was so advanced that he may be ranked as one of the rarest linguists in Christendom.*”

*Dr Richard Kilbye*

Dr Kilbye became Regius Professor of Hebrew at Oxford in 1610. He was an excellent Greek and Hebrew scholar. After the 1611 Bible was published, he heard a young preacher give three reasons why a particular word in the 1611 Bible should have been translated differently. Dr Kilbye afterwards explained to the young preacher how he and others had considered all three reasons “*and found thirteen more considerable reasons why it was translated as now printed.*”

Such were some of the learned men. Briefly, what did they have to work with and how did they carry out their task?

### *Materials and Methods*

The materials the King James translators had to work with included<sup>27</sup> all preceding English and foreign language Bibles. Among these sources were the Bishops' Bible, translated during the reign of Queen Elizabeth 1<sup>st</sup> and the Puritans' Geneva Bible.

The translators also had the Jesuit New Testament in English produced at Rheims in France in 1582.

In addition, they had all the printed Greek texts of the time, numbering 15, 6 Hebrew Old Testaments and "a great mass" of Greek manuscripts.

They also had the texts of ancient Bibles such as the Old Latin<sup>28</sup> that dated from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century A.D., or very close to the time when the New Testament was written. These were the Waldensian Bibles of the Vaudois, the people of the valleys in Northern Italy. The King's men had 6 of their Bibles.

That was why John Rainolds could refer to the original text of the scriptures at Hampton Court. He and his colleagues had texts that were first written at almost the same time as the original writings.

In addition, the King James translators had the 4<sup>th</sup> century Latin Vulgate Bible of Jerome, the official bible of the Catholic Church.

They also obtained selected readings from two fairly early Greek manuscripts<sup>29</sup> called Codex or Book A, of the 5<sup>th</sup> century and Codex B, of the 4<sup>th</sup> century. Codex A was at the time located in Alexandria, Egypt and Codex B is the well-known Vaticanus manuscript located in the Vatican Library. Codex B and another 4<sup>th</sup> century codex named Aleph, after the first letter of the Hebrew Alphabet, form the main Greek basis for the Latin Vulgate<sup>30</sup>.

With the Jesuit Rheims New Testament, the Latin Vulgate and readings from Codex A and Codex B, the King's men therefore had access to virtually all the variations from the 1611 Holy Bible that are now found in the new versions.

As American researcher Norman Ward has said, "*The translators of 1611 had substantially the same selection of readings from which to choose as did the revisers of 1881 [RV], 1952 [RSV], 1973 [NIV] and 1979 [NKJV].*"

Concerning the methods by which the King James translators worked, Bishop Bancroft, with the help of Lancelot Andrewes and others, set down 15 rules for the work<sup>31</sup>. Dr Benjamin Wilkinson<sup>32</sup> gives a detailed overview of how the King's men put these rules into practice and he says in conclusion.

*"It can be seen by this method that each part of the work was carefully gone over at least fourteen times. It was further understood that if there was any special difficulty or obscurity, all the learned\* men of the land could be called upon by letter for their judgment. And finally each bishop kept the clergy of his diocese notified concerning the progress of the work, so that if any one felt constrained to send any particular observations, he was notified to do so."*

\*See Gail Riplinger's note in *The Riplinger Report Issue #11* at the end of the next section. The King James translators were willing to call on any *man* in the realm for help, not just any *learned* man. The hand-written copy of the 15 rules refers simply to any *man*. Later historians added the term *learned* in their writings.

Dr Donald Waite<sup>33</sup> has said that the translators' method had never been used before in Bible translation and has never been used since.

He concludes that this method is certainly superior to any other.

We move now briefly to consider the welter of criticisms that have been leveled at the 1611 Holy Bible.

## The Critics' Den



### The Anvil of God's Word

The 1611 Holy Bible has received an avalanche of criticism in the last 400 years from a legion of critics, "***My name is legion: for we are many***" Mark 5:9.

That Book and its critics are well described in a poem entitled:

*The Anvil Of God's Word*<sup>34</sup>

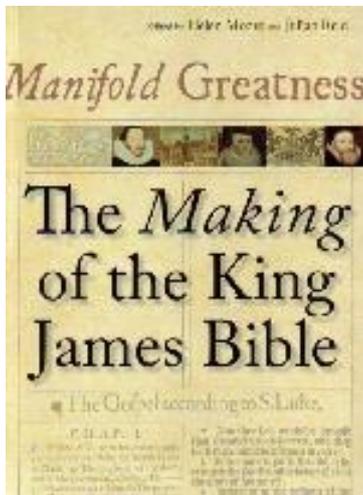
*Last eve I passed beside a blacksmith's door  
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;  
When looking in, I saw upon the floor,  
Old hammers worn with beating years of time.*

*"How many anvils have you had," said I,  
"To wear and batter these hammers so?"  
"Just one," said he; then with a twinkling eye,  
"The anvil wears the hammers out, you know."*

*And so, I thought, the anvil of God's Word,  
For ages, sceptics' blows have beat upon;  
Yet, though the noise of falling blows was heard,  
The anvil is unharmed - the hammers gone.*

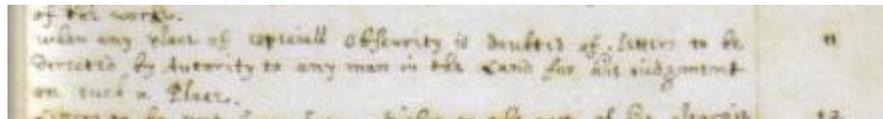
We now address the question of what happened to the 1611 Holy Bible after 1611 and on to the present?

Gail Riplinger's note in *The Riplinger Report Issue #11* is as follows:



The handwritten rules for the translation of the KJB (1604-1611) were published in a book entitled, *Manifold Greatness: The Making of the King James Bible*. It is published by the Bodleian Library of the University of Oxford in Great Britain (Helen Moore and Julian Reid, Eds., Oxford: Bodleian Library, p. 89).

Readers were in for a surprise. I had said in *In Awe of Thy Word* that Rule 11 called for the input of any man. I had read that in one of the VERY old documents I have. That rule recognizes the priesthood of all believers and in effect denounces any separate 'superior' class of 'scholars' or 'linguists'...



However, as the years rolled on, the liberal 'scholars' of England had changed Rule 11, when they wrote their books on the history of the KJB. They pretended that the translators invited only "any learned man." They added the word "learned" to rule 11!!!!

Lo and behold, when the ORIGINAL handwritten notes were resurrected for this 400th anniversary, and a photocopy printed in *Manifold Greatness*, they said, "any man", just as I had said in *In Awe of Thy Word*. The scholars did not like the idea that just ANY believer could give his insights to the committee, so they changed it.

The priesthood of believers, following the Spirit of God, not the puffed up views of scholars, is the means by which God preserves his word. King James and the KJB translators knew this.

Don't believe everything you read that was written by scholars. They uniformly copy each other, never bothering to look at the 'original.' Don't believe everything you read criticizing KJB believers and their facts either.



Alexander McClure states that *“It (the AV1611) speedily came into general use as the standard version, by the common consent of the English people; and required no act of parliament nor royal proclamation to establish its authority. Some of the older versions continued to be reprinted for forty years; but no long time elapsed ere the common version quietly and exclusively occupied the field.”*

It is further interesting to look at the comments of men who were both for and against the 1611 Holy Bible<sup>39</sup>.

**“Give me that Book”** - Bunyan, Wesley, Spurgeon, Ryle, Shaw

This is from *John Bunyan, The Immortal Dreamer*, by W. Burgess McCreary: *“A university man met Bunyan on the road near Cambridge. Said he to Bunyan, ‘How dare you preach, not having the original Scriptures?’ ‘Do you have them - the copies written by the apostles and prophets?’ asked Bunyan. ‘No,’ replied the scholar. ‘But I have what I believe to be a true copy of the original.’ ‘And I,’ said Bunyan, ‘believe the English Bible to be a true copy too.’”*

John Charles Ryle<sup>40</sup> was the first Church of England Bishop of Liverpool. In the 1870s, he wrote a book entitled *The Christian Leaders of the Last* (i.e. 18<sup>th</sup>) *Century*, about the great revival preachers like Whitefield and Wesley. He said this about these preachers and the 1611 Holy Bible, his emphases.

*“The spiritual reformers of the last century taught constantly **the sufficiency and supremacy of Holy Scripture**. The Bible, whole and unmutated, was their sole rule of faith and practice. They accepted all its statements without question or dispute. They knew nothing of any part of Scripture being uninspired...In all their preaching they were eminently men of one book. To that book they were content to pin their faith, and by it to stand or fall. This was one grand characteristic of their preaching. They honoured, they loved, they revered the Bible.”*

One of those men was John Wesley. He said this about the 1611 Holy Bible.

*“‘I want to know one thing – the way to heaven – how to land safe on that happy shore. God Himself has condescended to teach the way; for this very end He came from heaven. He hath written it down in a book. Oh, give me that book! At any price give me the book of God! I have it: here is knowledge enough for me. Let me be a man of one book.’”*

Consider what Charles Haddon Spurgeon had to say about the 1611 Holy Bible.

*“The Bible is God’s word, and when I see it, I seem to hear a voice saying, ‘I am the Book of God, man, read me; I am God’s writing: open my leaves, for I was penned by God’...I plead with you, I beg of you, respect your Bibles, and search them out. Go home and read your Bibles...O Book of books! And wast thou written by my God? Then I will bow before thee, thou Book of vast authority! For He has written this Book Himself...let us love it, let us count it more precious than fine gold!”*

In the English-speaking world, even up until World War 2, the attitudes toward the 1611 Holy Bible expressed by those men; Bunyan, Wesley, Ryle and Spurgeon, were not as exceptional as we might think, as this statement shows:

*“In all these instances the Bible means the translation authorised by King James the First...to this day the common human Britisher or citizen of the United States of North America accepts and worships it as a single book by a single author, the book being the Book of Books and the author being God.”*

Who could say that about the Britain and the United States of a mere 60 to 70 years ago?

Answer: George Bernard Shaw, who was a lifelong atheist<sup>41</sup>.

However, Shaw was of course an accomplished and well-known writer, so he was in a position to know what Britons and Americans of his time thought about literature.

We'll now look briefly again at how closely the 1611 Holy Bible is part of our national life and how you can't get away from that Book, no matter what you do.

***“God save the king!” - The national anthem and a paratrooper's farewell***

The expression ***“God save the king!”*** is of course part of England's national anthem and well-known as such. However, that expression turned up in an unusual place in World War 2. On September 17<sup>th</sup> 1944, British Army paratroopers captured the north end of the road bridge across the Nederrijn or Lower Rhine in the Dutch town of Arnhem<sup>42</sup>. This action was commemorated in the 1977 film *A Bridge Too Far*.



*A Bridge Too Far – Battle of the Arnhem Road Bridge*<sup>43</sup>

After four days of heavy fighting, the paratroopers were finally overwhelmed by superior German forces but on the morning of Thursday September 21<sup>st</sup>, a paratroop signaler ***“known unto God”*** Acts 15:18, Philippians 4:6 radioed a final message from somewhere near the Arnhem Road Bridge.

The last bit of the message said<sup>44</sup> ***“Out of ammunition. God Save the King.”***

The expression ***“God save the king!”*** comes straight from a 1611 Authorized King James Holy Bible. The words occur 5 times. They are found in 1 Samuel 10:24, 2 Samuel 16:16 twice, 2 Kings 11:12, 2 Chronicles 23:11 and they have stood there undimmed and unblemished for 400 years. They will stand there forever.

That reading illustrates something about the 1611 English Bible for English-speaking folk who believe the Book. The Author of the Book said in Hebrews 13:5, ***“I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.”***

And the Book is like its Author.

As well as being part of our national life, the Book would become part of ***“the life of the world”*** John 6:51, as we will now see.

***Gone into all the world***

*English time, English longitude, English empire, English text*

Remember what the ex-priest of Rome, Charles Chiniquy said about ***“the glorious British Protestant flag [that] floats on the breeze.”*** By the 19<sup>th</sup> century, that flag floated on the breeze the world over and with it went the British Protestant Bible. Dr Peter S. Ruckman of Pensacola Bible Institute has summed up what happened in history<sup>45</sup>, his emphases.

***“To fulfill Acts 1:8 [for the Lord's witnesses to go to “the uttermost part of the earth”]...All the Lord needed was a Bible in line with what He had already written and preserved; since He had already decreed (in 1000 BC) that there had to be present “the word of a King” Ecclesiastes 8:4 before there could be any spiritual “power” in that word (Romans 13:1-4), and since His king was a***

*JEW (John 18:34)...God needed a king with a Jewish name; He got one...this time it was JAMES. James is the English word for JACOB”...*

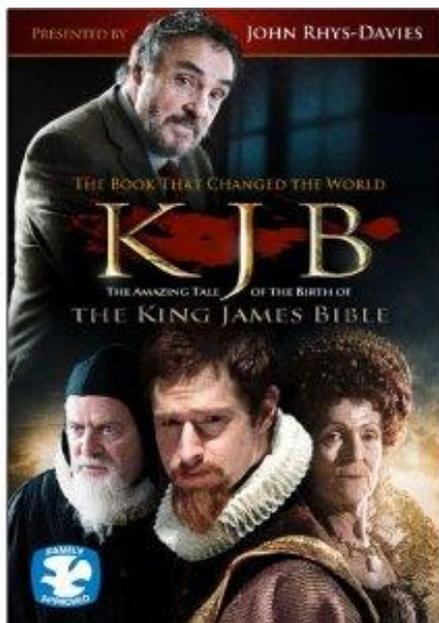
*“After 1588, “Britannica ruled the waves,” and...with **absolute time** determined by **England** (Greenwich Observatory), with **absolute location** on the earth’s surface located from Greenwich, England (longitude)...by 1850 the sun “never set on the British Empire.””*

Britain was a seafaring nation and wherever Britain’s seafarers went, British missionaries went with the 1611 Holy Bible and to **“the regions beyond”** 2 Corinthians 10:16, as Dr Ruckman explains, his emphases.

*“The eighteenth and nineteenth centuries sport the greatest host of Bible-believing witnesses the world has ever seen...These battle-scarred storm troopers crossed mountains, prairies, deserts, lands and seas and cast themselves into martyrs’ graves...They counted their life-styles in terms of the chains they loosed, the souls they liberated, the hungry they fed, and the heathen they transformed. They lived and felt Jesus Christ in every fiber of their being... They believed one Book and they preached and memorized **that Book**, taught **that Book**, and lived and died by **that Book**...”*

So with the English Protestant Bible spreading throughout the British Empire and therefore the world, it is no wonder that today, the DVD that has been released in observance of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the King James Bible has a simple but compelling title.

*The Book That Changed The World – on DVD*



The Book That Changed The World – on DVD

King James 1<sup>st</sup> of England<sup>46</sup>

You can get it from Amazon:

[www.amazon.co.uk/KJB-Book-That-Changed-World/dp/B004BLTAT6](http://www.amazon.co.uk/KJB-Book-That-Changed-World/dp/B004BLTAT6)

The Product Description states that *“The greatest translation of Holy Scripture emerged into a world and culture that would never be quite the same again.”*

Queen Victoria reigned over the British Empire for more than 60 years. Her Majesty understood the pre-eminence of **“that Book.”** She was the queen that challenged the world with **“that Book.”**

*The Queen that Challenged the World – a magnificent painting*

Queen Victoria<sup>47</sup> actually said on one occasion, to an African chieftain to whom she presented a copy of the 1611 Holy Bible:

*“That Book accounts for the supremacy of England.”*

The vivid painting by Thomas Armitage commemorates the occasion<sup>48</sup>. See graphic earlier.

Of course, it was not for the purpose of empire that God made England supreme and Britain Great. God made Britain great so that ***“all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of God”*** according to Isaiah 52:10.

We close with a compelling illustration of how this worked out in the days of the British Empire, from the lives of some of those *“battle-scarred storm troopers”* that Dr Ruckman described.

Dr William Grady<sup>49</sup> relates how Charles Darwin visited the islands of Tierra del Fuego at the southern end of South America in 1833. The natives were so savage that Darwin was convinced that he had found his so-called ‘missing link’ between animals and humans.

In about 1870, Darwin visited Tierra del Fuego again.

This time, he was astounded to discover that many natives had become Christians through the work of the South American Missionary Society, or SAMS<sup>50</sup>.

The society was founded in 1844 by Captain Allen Gardiner of the Royal Navy. Gardiner and six of his missionary companions died in the society’s service in 1851 in Patagonia. They had endured several months of sickness, starvation and extreme cold, reaching 20 degrees below zero.

Captain Gardiner wrote the last lines in his diary on September 6<sup>th</sup> 1851<sup>51</sup>. He said this: *“By God’s Grace this blessed group was able to sing praises to Christ for eternity. I am not hungry or thirsty in spite of 5 days without eating; Wonderful Grace and Love to me, a sinner...”*

As Paul said in Philippians 4:4 ***“Rejoice in the Lord always [all the way]: and again I say, Rejoice.”*** Captain Gardiner and his companions set the standard for that verse.



Captain Gardiner died near the upturned boat in September 1851

Thanks to his 1870 visit to Tierra del Fuego, Charles Darwin was so impressed by the work of SAMS that he became an Honorary Member and gave an annual subscription to the society for the rest of his life.

It needs only to be added that the missionary workers of SAMS ministered to the tribes of Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego through one Book, the Book that John Wesley and Charles Haddon Spurgeon called *“the Book of God.”*

That Book didn’t stop at the ends of the earth. We must extend this illustration.

Apollo 8<sup>52</sup> was the first manned spacecraft to leave earth’s orbit. That was in 1968 and on Christmas Eve, the crew of Apollo 8 read from Genesis 1:1-13 in a 1611 Authorized King James Holy Bible.

## Conclusion

400 years on, we find that the Book that had its precarious beginnings at Hampton Court in 1604 went from there to the imperial throne of Queen Victoria, to **“the regions beyond”** 2 Corinthians 10:16 in darkest Africa, **“unto the uttermost part of the earth”** Acts 1:8, literally, to Tierra del Fuego at the southernmost end of South America, to the road bridge at Arnhem during the **“perilous times”** 2 Timothy 3:1 of World War 2 and even into outer space, with the Apollo 8 mission.

400 years on, the Book is still going strong, with over six billion copies published<sup>53</sup>, evidently the only Book to achieve that distinction<sup>54</sup>.

That Book changed the world for the better. The testimony of the last 400 years is that it can change you for the better according to 1 Peter 2:2.

**“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:”**

The last word should go to Dr Miles Smith, from *The Translators To The Reader*.

*“Ye are brought unto fountains of living water which ye digged not; do not cast earth into them with the Philistines [Genesis 26:15], neither prefer broken pits before them with the wicked Jews [Jeremiah 2:13]. Others have laboured, and you may enter into their labours; O receive not so great things in vain, O despise not so great salvation!...a blessed thing it is, and will bring us to everlasting blessedness in the end, when God speaketh unto us, to hearken; when he setteth his word before us, to read it; when he stretcheth out his hand and calleth, to answer, Here am I, here we are to do thy will, O God. The Lord work a care and conscience in us to know him and serve him, that we may be acknowledged of him at the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with the holy Ghost, be all praise and thanksgiving. Amen.”*



*Earthrise* - from Apollo 8, "*And God made the firmament*" Genesis 1:7

Alan O'Reilly  
March 2015

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- <sup>49</sup> *Final Authority*, p 182. Note that in an otherwise excellent account of the post-1611 history of the KJB, Dr Grady refers incorrectly to missionary John Paton with respect to the mission work on Tierra del Fuego, which was begun by Captain Allen Gardiner RN
- <sup>50</sup> [www.cms-uk.org/Whoweare/History/SAMStimeline/tabid/511/language/en-GB/Default.aspx](http://www.cms-uk.org/Whoweare/History/SAMStimeline/tabid/511/language/en-GB/Default.aspx)  
[www.archive.org/details/romance\\_missionaryheroism\\_0910\\_librivox](http://www.archive.org/details/romance_missionaryheroism_0910_librivox), 17 – *The Sailor Missionary of Tierra del Fuego*  
[www.victory-cruises.com/allen\\_gardiner2.html](http://www.victory-cruises.com/allen_gardiner2.html)
- <sup>51</sup> [www.victory-cruises.com/allen\\_gardiner2.html](http://www.victory-cruises.com/allen_gardiner2.html)
- <sup>52</sup> [www.classicalastronomy.com/news/anmviewer.asp?a=310&z=21](http://www.classicalastronomy.com/news/anmviewer.asp?a=310&z=21)
- <sup>53</sup> [realtruth.org/articles/111114-006.html](http://realtruth.org/articles/111114-006.html). This site wrongly charges the 1611 Holy Bible with error in Acts 12:4, 1 John 5:7-8 and in using the term “**Holy Ghost**.” For summary answers to those falsehoods see [www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/why-the-av-only-7434.php](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/why-the-av-only-7434.php) *Twist and Curl, Your Fiendly\* Neighbourhood Bible Correctors – \*Not a Misspelling!* pp 12-13, 30-32, 73-74
- <sup>54</sup> [www.greatsite.com/facsimile-reproductions/kingjames-1611.html](http://www.greatsite.com/facsimile-reproductions/kingjames-1611.html)