



# Bible Student's Notebook™

*The Herald of His Grace*

Issue 127

## *The Plowboys's Bible*

The Story of God's Amazing Book

Part VI

by – Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr.

### **HOW THE BIBLE TRANSLATES ITSELF**

To learn something from God Himself regarding Bible translations, we only need to read the Bible itself. The standard of translation has been clearly demonstrated to us by Him. Over and over again the New Testament quotes the Old Testament. To manage this, the Hebrew words of the Old Testament are *translated* into the Greek words of the New Testament. Because of the inspiration of the New Testament books, this translation process is all a Divine activity.

We will now see some example of this translation work of God. What we will notice in these passages is variations of the Greek translation from the Hebrew text. These divinely generated translations are not word-for-word matches. At times the passage will be quoted more than once, with *each* of the occurrences slightly different. All have the same identical meaning, all being the Word of God.

This section below is not intended to be a quick-read. We are providing this for a serious, thoughtful consideration of the very nature of translation work, especially as it relates to the Word of God. Remember that these original texts and their various translations are *all* the work of God, and thus *all* the word of God.

All verses are taken from the *King James Version*.

### **Old Testament Text**

#### **New Testament Translation**

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. (Genesis 2:24)

For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh (Matthew 19:5)

For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. (Ephesians 5:31)

In thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. (Genesis 12:3)

In thee shall all nations be blessed (Galatians 3:8)

And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness. (Genesis 15:6)

Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. (Romans 4:3)

Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness. (James 2:23)

*(continued on page 1339)*

## Our Latest Publications

We are pleased to announce the publication of four *outstanding* titles.

### ***The Church which Is His Body and The Bride the Lamb's Wife*** (#1348), by J.H. Kessler, \$10.<sup>25</sup>

An excellent work, originally published in 1938, makes the Scriptural distinction between the church, which is His Body, and the Bride, the Lamb's Wife. 'In Scripture the church of this dispensation is symbolized as *'the Body of Christ,'* never as *'the Bride.'*" – Sir Robert Anderson, *The Coming Prince*.

### ***Short Papers*** (Volume 1) (#1680), by E.W. Bullinger, \$11.<sup>25</sup>

Chapter 1: Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

Chapter 2: The Christian's Greatest Need

Chapter 3: Stablished-Strengthened-Settled

Chapter 4: The Loss and Recovery of Truth

Chapter 5: Abraham Believed God

Chapter 6: Crucified with Christ

Chapter 7: A New Creation

Chapter 8: The Christian's Standing, Object and Hope

### ***Be Likeminded*** (#1046), by Daniel Andersen, \$11.<sup>25</sup>

Christ is the basis of Christian unity, and when Paul exhorts believers to be 'likeminded' he is not entreating them to comply with the same code or creed, or to conform to the same confession or catechism. Rather he is appealing to them to accept others as Christ, Himself, accepts them.

### ***The Outcome of Infinite Grace*** (#6388), by Loyal F. Hurley, \$11.<sup>25</sup>

*'The last enemy to be destroyed is death!'* It was this verse which caused the author, a pastor, to study afresh the subject of the fate of the wicked. The three choices apparent from a surface reading of various biblical texts were eternal torment, extermination or ultimate reconciliation. The author studied to find which one was true.

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## **Bible Student's Notebook**

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This weekly publication (52 times a year) is dedicated to:

- the proclamation of the riches of God's abundant, exceeding grace (Romans 5:20; 11:6; Ephesians 1:7)
- the affirmation of God's purpose to save all mankind through the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (I Timothy 2:3, 4; 4:10; Titus 2:11)
- the "preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began" (Romans 16:25)
- true freedom and liberty apart from the law (Galatians 5:1)
- the organic nature of the church, the body of Christ (I Corinthians 12)
- the distinct ministry of Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles (Romans 11:13)
- the importance of receiving all whom Christ has received (Romans 14-15)
- the recovery of rich Biblical truth that has too long remained hidden under the veils of traditionalism, prejudice, misunderstanding, and fear (Mark 7:7, 13).
- the completeness of the believer in Christ (Colossians 2:10), with ...
  - total forgiveness of sins (Colossians 1:14)
  - identity in His death, burial, and resurrection (Romans 6)
  - adult sonship position (Galatians 4)

This publication is a joint effort of a few members of the body of Christ. It is a product of our individual lives and ministries together. We do not claim infallibility for its contents. Our readers are asked to be as the Bereans and search the Scriptures (Acts 17:10-11; I Thessalonians 5:21).

This publication is not connected with any "church," "denomination," "movement," "organization" or "mission."

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Remember that it is our responsibility as husbands and fathers to take the truths we learn from God's Word, the truths that we hold dear, and impart them to our families.

The Bible Student's Notebook  
PO Box 265, Windber, PA 15963  
Office: (800) 784-6010

bsn@studyshef.com  
www.BibleStudentsNotebook.com

Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr. – Editor  
Andre Sneidar – Managing Editor  
Rick Lemons – Associate Editor

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A father of many nations have I made thee.  
(Genesis 17:5)

I have made thee a father of many nations.  
(Romans 4:17)

And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth. (Exodus 9:16)

Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. (Romans 9:17)

Thou shalt not kill. Thou shalt not commit adultery. Thou shalt not steal. (Exodus 20:13-15)

Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal  
(Matthew 19:18)

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity (Psalms 32:1-2)

Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin. Romans 4:7-8)

Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me. (Psalms 41:9)

He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me. (John 13:18)

For thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are counted as sheep for the slaughter. (Psalms 44:22)

For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. (Romans 8:36)

That thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.  
(Psalms 51:4)

That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged. (Romans 3:4)

To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work. Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways: Unto whom I swear in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest (Psalms 95:7-11)

To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. So I swear in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest (Hebrews 3:7-11)

The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.  
(Psalms 118:22-23)

The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? (Matthew 21:42)

The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner: This was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? (Mark 12:10-11)

Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah. (Isaiah 1:9)

Except the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we had been as Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorrha. (Romans 9:29)

Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed. (Isaiah 6:9-10)

By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. (Matthew 13:14-15)

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)

Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel (Matthew 1:23)

For that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider. (Isaiah 52:15)

To whom he was not spoken of, they shall see: and they that have not heard shall understand. (Romans 15:21)

Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed? (Isaiah 53:1)

Who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed? (John 12:38)

He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. He was taken from

prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living (Isaiah 53:7-8)

He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth: In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth. (Acts 8:32-33)

Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife (Isaiah 54:1)

Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband. (Galatians 4:27)

And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob (Isaiah 59:20)

There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob (Romans 11:26)

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)

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)

For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither

hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him. (Isaiah 64:4)

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. (1 Corinthians 2:9)

Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and

their iniquities will I remember no more. (Hebrews 8:8-12)

Have ye offered unto me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel? (Amos 5:25)

O ye house of Israel, have ye offered to me slain beasts and sacrifices by the space of forty years in the wilderness? (Acts 7:42)

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:2)

And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel (Matthew 2:6)

What we learn from these divine examples of translation is that the exact words used, or even the order of the words in sentence structure are not what is ultimately at issue with God. What is at issue with Him is the clear conveyance of meaning. Obviously, when it comes to translation, He places some value in variety.

As His sons, why should we have any different approach to translation work? Why should we not embrace variety? Why should this not be the standard of the care of our Father's words – words that have been committed to our trust; words for which we are responsible to generation?

As we have already learned before, even the *King James Version* translators themselves (some today believing that they were operating under divine guidance) were inclined toward variety. This is clearly demonstrated by the abundance of their variant readings in the margins. It was they themselves that provided for us alternate translations of their own *version* of the Bible; but, after all, variations in translations is a divine principle.

(to be continued ...)

*Paul's Letter to the Believers at Rome*  
 The Righteousness of God Revealed

**OUTLINE OF ROMANS**

**INTRODUCTION**

Righteousness of God – 6:1-8:39

Greetings – 1:1-7

Identification:

Reason for Writing – 1:8-17

Explained:

**First Section: Doctrinal**

With Jesus Christ – 6:1-23

SIN: The *Necessity* of the Righteousness of God  
 – 1:18-3:20

Expressed:

Not in the Old Man – 7:1-25

Condemnation of:

Experienced:

The Gentiles – 1:18-33

The Jews – 2:1-3:8

The Whole World – 3:9-20

Through the Spirit – 8:1-39

**Second Section: Dispensational**

SALVATION: The *Provision* of the Righteousness  
 of God – 3:21-5:21

The DEFENSE of the Righteousness of God – 9:1-11:36

Justification:

ISRAEL'S:

Explained:

PAST – Election – 9:1-33

Cross-Work of Christ – 3:21-31

PRESENT – Rejection – 10:1-21

FUTURE – Restoration – 11:1-36

Expressed:

Abraham and David – 4:1-25

**Third Section: Departmental**

Experienced:

The OUTWORKING of the Righteousness of God  
 – 12:1-16:27

Through Faith – 5:1-21

TRANSFORMATION – 12-13

EXHORTATION – 14-15

SANCTIFICATION: The *Impartation* of the

## Closing

PAUL'S:

FRIENDS at Rome – 16:1-16

INSTRUCTION Concerning Divisions – 16:17-20

COMPANIONS Send Greetings – 16:21-24

ENCOURAGEMENT in Closing – 16:24-27

### WHAT OTHERS HAVE SAID ABOUT THE BOOK OF ROMANS

“If we are to ask what portion of the New Testament should a Christian study most, we answer always, unhesitatingly, the Epistle to the Romans.”

A.C. Gaebelain (1861-1945)

*Concise Commentary on the Whole Bible*, page 892

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“... It [Romans] is worthy not only that every Christian should know it word for word, by heart, but occupy himself with it every day, as daily bread of the soul. It can never be read or pondered too much, and the more it is dealt with the more precious it becomes, and the better it tastes.”

Martin Luther (1483-1546)

*Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans*, page xiii

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“Romans is the most systematic of all Paul’s Epistles, and its importance cannot possibly be exaggerated.”

William Graham Scroggie (1877-1958)

*Salvation and Behavior*, page 8

+ + + + +

“[Romans is] the greatest masterpiece which

the human mind has ever conceived and realized; the first logical exposition of the work of God in Christ for the salvation of the world.”

Frederick Godet (1812-1890)

*Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans*

+ + + + +

“Every Christian man should feed upon it [Romans] as the daily bread of his soul.”

John Calvin (1509-1564)

Cited in “*Salvation and Behavior*” (W. Graham Scroggie)

+ + + + +

“[Romans] is ... a light and way unto the whole structure; I think it meet that every Christian man not only know it, by rote and without the book, but also exercise himself therein evermore continually, as with the daily bread of the soul. Truly, no man can read it too often, or study it too well; for the more it is studied, the easier it is; the more it is chewed, the pleasanter it is; the more groundly it is searched, the more precious things are found in it, so great is the treasure of spiritual things that lie hidden therein”

William Tyndale (c. 1494-1536)

*Doctrinal Treatises*, page 484

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“[Romans] is the greatest and richest of all the apostolic works.”

F.B. Meyer (1847-1929)

Cited in “*Salvation and Behavior*” (W. Graham Scroggie)

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“Romans comes first in order of the three great doctrinal epistles. And rightfully so, for it con-

tains the ABC's of the believer's edification. Until its lesson is learned, we know and can know nothing. The Holy Spirit has placed it first in the Canonical order because it lies at the threshold of all 'church' teaching, and if we are wrong here we shall be wrong altogether."

E.W. Bullinger (1837-1913)  
*The Companion Bible*, page 1661

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"Let me urge you to do something that will pay you amazing dividends: read the Book of Romans, and read it regularly ... for this book will ground the believer in the faith."

J. Vernon McGee (1904-1988)  
*Thru the Bible with J. Vernon McGee*, Vol. 4, page 641

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"There is a sense in which we can say quite truthfully that the Epistle to the Romans has, possibly, played a more important and a more

crucial part in the history of the church than any other single book in the whole of the Bible."

D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones (1899-1981)  
*Romans: Chapter 1*, page 3

+ + + + +

"The letter to the Romans is unquestionably the greatest and widest in scope of all of Paul's letters ... If you cannot think through the book of Romans without a Bible before you, then I urge you to make that your goal ... Romans is probably the most powerful human document ever written."

Ray Stedman (1917-1992)  
*From Guilt to Glory*, pages 9, 10

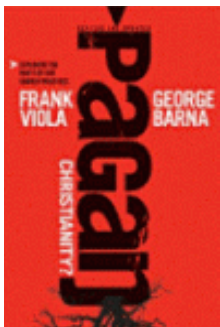
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"The Roman Epistle opens the way to the secrets of the following Epistles!"

W. Leon Tucker (1871-1934)  
*Studies in Romans*, page 29

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## BACK IN PRINT!



### *Pagan Christianity* *Exploring the Roots of Our Church Practices*

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Have you ever wondered why we Christians do what we do for church every Sunday morning? Have you ever asked yourself any of the following questions: Why do we "dress up" for church? Why does the pastor preach a sermon every Sunday? Why do we have pulpits and pews? Why do we have church buildings, steeples, choirs, and seminaries? Where did these things come from?

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