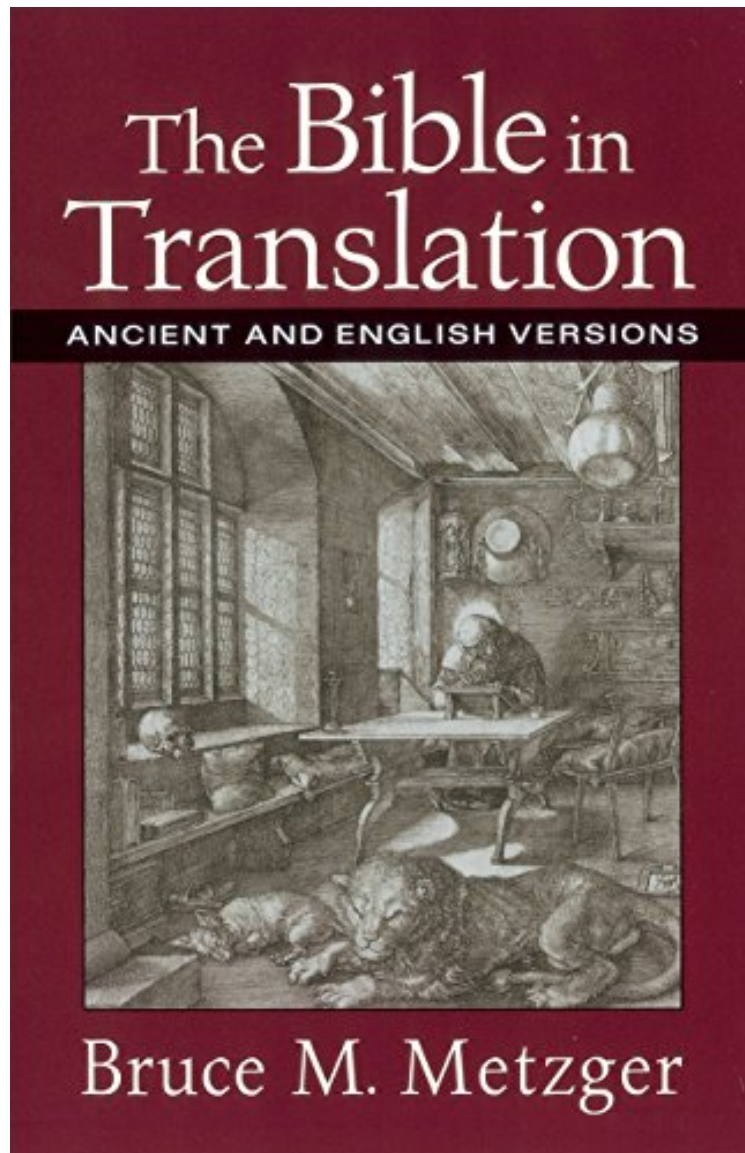


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## The Bible in Translation: Ancient and English Versions

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**Bruce M. Metzger : The Bible in Translation: Ancient and English Versions** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Bible in Translation: Ancient and English Versions:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good readingBy RioLionInteresting and from a different prospective than what I have seen in other books on the subject. Metzger states that the KJV of the Bible is really a revision of the older Bishop's bible and he is probably correct despite the fact that the translators made use of the Greek and Hebrew manuscripts available. KJV Onlyists fail to understand that and that the KJV is a product of the Anglican church;

whose doctrines and practices they detest. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Surprisingly enjoyable reading, though packed with scholarly info. By R. Gregory Capaldini I was thrilled to get such an affordable copy of this book. It's a valuable reference tool on the story of how the Hebrew and Greek originals of the Judeo-Christian scriptures went through an enormous number of translations. Some of these were necessary in the light of new sources and improved scholarship, and some were simply an effort to reach people in the language style of their own time, sometimes as a paraphrase. I rarely felt this book got too involved in obscure academic issues, and yet it provides many useful facts and some priceless quotations from lesser-known translations. For example, this "Prodigal Son" excerpt from 18th-century England made me laugh out loud: "One day the younger approached his father, and begged him in the most importunate and soothing terms to make a partition of his effects.... The indulgent father, overcome by these blandishments, immediately divided all his fortunes..." Oh, those upper-crusty parables! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Recommended book. By E J Elliston A useful text to understand Bible translation by a well known author.

The Bible has been translated more than any other piece of literature and is currently available in over two thousand languages, with several languages having numerous versions. Outlined here is the development of biblical translation, including a careful analysis of more than fifty versions of the Bible. One of the most respected living biblical scholars, Bruce Metzger begins this engaging survey with the earliest translations of the Old and New Testaments before proceeding to English versions dating from the eleventh century to the present. Metzger explores the circumstances under which each translation was produced and offers insight into its underlying objectives, characteristics, and strengths. Having served on a number of modern translation committees, his insights into the evolution of Bible translation flow not only from careful research, but also from personal experience. Students, pastors, and interested readers will discover the history of the written Word and gain useful insight into which modern translations best serve their own needs.

From Booklist This is an excellent handbook for students and others interested in biblical translation. Metzger, who himself has served on the translation committees for three versions, provides a readable account of ancient translations before turning to a selection of English translations from John Wycliffe's, near the end of the fourteenth century, to Eugene Peterson's, still in process at the beginning of the twenty-first. Metzger devotes considerable attention to the problems translators face and the strategies adopted during the courses of different translations to address them. The result of Metzger's labor is, more than a historical overview, a primer that equips readers to make critically informed judgments about available translations and achieve better understanding of the biblical text. Steven Schroeder Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved From the Back Cover The Bible has been translated more often than any other piece of literature and is currently available in over two thousand languages, with several languages having numerous versions. Outlined here is the history of Bible translation, including a careful analysis of more than fifty versions of the Bible. One of the most respected living biblical scholars, Bruce Metzger begins this engaging survey with the earliest translations of the Old and New Testaments, before proceeding to English versions dating from the eleventh century to the present. Metzger explores the circumstances under which each translation was produced and offers insights into its underlying objectives, characteristics, and strengths. Since the author has served on a number of Bible translation committees, his knowledge of the evolution of Bible translation flows not only from careful research but also from personal experience. "A highly informative and interesting account of the history of the English Bible. Professor Metzger has pointed out the qualities-good and bad-of all the versions, from that of John Wycliffe to the New Revised Standard Version of 1990. He has not neglected the Jewish translations of the twentieth century or the simplified, easy-to-read versions, and even includes the various paraphrases of the English Bible. All of this is done with clarity, humor, and sound judgment. His book will be a valuable vade mecum for all pastors, students, scholars, and general readers."-Joseph A. Fitzmyer, S.J., Catholic University of America Bruce M. Metzger (Ph.D., Princeton University) is George L. Collord Professor of New Testament Language and Literature Emeritus at Princeton Theological Seminary. An expert in ancient biblical manuscripts, he has participated in three major Bible translation projects and was chairman of the NRSV translation committee. About the Author Bruce M. Metzger (Ph.D., Princeton University) is George L. Collord Professor of New Testament Language and Literature Emeritus at Princeton Theological Seminary. An expert in ancient biblical manuscripts, he has participated in three major Bible translation projects and was chairman of the NRSV translation committee.