

# BIBLE VERSION DIFFERENCES

## PROOF THEY EXIST AND THE DOCTRINES THEY AFFECT

“ ”

~ Acts 8:37

(NIV, ESV, NLT, CSB - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> bestselling Bibles, May 2022 ECPA report)

### 1. There are differences

- a. *"All pretty much the same"* *"No major differences"* *"Any Bible will do"* ← humbug
- b. There must be significant differences, else it would not be a new Bible.
- c. There are differences (**TRUE**) – Differences only in readability/phrasing (**FALSE**)
- d. *Are the differences important?* If God's words are valued more than man's ear, yes.

### 2. Stated Differences

- a. Literal, word for word, idea for idea, paraphrase, retelling – what's the function?
- b. Eugene Nida ~ 20<sup>th</sup> c. creator of the 'translate the idea' 'easy-to-understand' priority
  - i. He "[took] over literal word for word translation... and smashed it"
- c. Equivalence (equal) = Faithfulness to the form of the words or to a reader's culture?
  - i. "sure words" "faithful word" "pure words" "words of eternal life" Jn 8:30
  - ii. 2 Tim 1:13 – "form of sound words" or "pattern of wholesome teaching" NLT

### 3. Material Differences

- a. Unstated, ignored, or unknown is the real story about NT text differences
- b. Verses removed – 16 verses – Matt 18:11, 23:14, Mark 15:28, Acts 8:37, 15:34, 28:29
  - i. ... and created – 3 John 15 ESV (#31,103), 2 Cor 13:14 CSB, Rev 12:18 NLT
- c. Passages bracketed for removal – John 7:53-8:11 removed by "persons of little faith"
  - i. Mark 16:9-20 – 99% of Greek support, 2 edited uncials and WH don't
- d. Words removed – 7% reduction in the NIV, Good Mt 19:16, word Lk 4:4, 23:42, God Acts 7:59, Jesus 1Co 5:5
- e. Popular words removed – Calvary, hell, Godhead, new testament, damnation, devil

### 4. Doctrinal Differences

- a. Removing infallible proofs weakens a doctrine (even if proofs remain) – Acts 1:3 ESV
- b. Godhead – 1 John 5:7 ← clearest proof, source of conflict, a major difference
- c. Fundamentals – Matt 1:25, Mark 9:44, 9:46, 10:24, Luke 2:33, Col 1:14, Acts 15:18
- d. Dispensational – Rom 15:16, Gal 2:7, 6:15, Eph 3:1, 3:6, 3:9, 2 Tim 1:11, 1:12, 2:15
- e. Christology – Matt 5:22 (Mk 3:5), 9:18, John 1:18, 3:13, 3:16, 3:18, 3:36, 16:10, 16:16-17, Acts 7:59, Rom 14:10, Phi 2:6-7, 1 Tim 3:16, Rev 1:11
- f. Changed words – Rom 8:1b, effeminate 1Co 6:9, peddle 2Co 2:17, competent 2Ti 3:17
- g. Negations – removing not makes it mean the opposite - Col 2:18, Heb 3:16

### 5. The Differences Matter

- a. The differences separate Bibles into the old Authorized and the newer translations
- b. *"The KJ editions are different, too!"* These differences are incomparable.
- c. God has inspired and preserved his words. Comparing 'Bibles' helps us locate it.