

## HOW WE GOT THE BIBLE, Week 4

Week 1 INSPIRATION How it was written	Week 2 TRANSMISSION How it was preserved	Week 3 CANONIZATION How it was collected	Week 4 TRANSLATION How it was translated
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TRANSLATIONS within the Bible:

Hebrews 7:1-2      John 9:7      John 20:16      Mark 5:41      Ezra 4:7

*“... The original languages of the Bible are not **understood** by all of God’s people. But all of God’s people have a right to an interest in the Bible, and God himself commands them to read it thoroughly with awe and reverence for him. Consequently the Bible should be translated into the native [“vulgar”] language of every people to whom it is introduced. Then, the word of God will live fully in everyone; everyone will be able to worship God in an acceptable way; and all believers may have hope through the endurance and the encouragement of the Bible.”*

–Westminster Confession of Faith, 1.8  
(in Modern English, emphasis added)

The question is not *whether* the Bible should be translated, but *how best* to translate the Bible in order to keep as closely to understanding the authors’ original meaning as possible.

EXPLORE EXAMPLES:

- French: “Ta moutarde lui monte au nez.” (Literally : “The mustard climbs up to his nose.”)
- 1 Samuel 25:22
- 1 Kings 2:10
- Genesis 1:26-27 “man” (אָדָם, *adam*)

TRANSLATION PHILOSOPHIES:



DISPUTES:

- “King-James Only” controversy
  - Mostly argument of the Greek sources used in translation, not of archaic language style
- The Message
  - Translation versus Interpretation (Bible or commentary on the Bible)

SUMMARY: Translation is a complex, meticulous task where teams try to render the meaning of the original Bible authors as closely as possible, while still being understandable to the reader.

## ROMANS 12:2 TRANSLATIONS

### **WOODEN / INTERLINEAR / STRICTLY LITERAL:**

“And not be conformed to the age this but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, for to prove by you what the will of God, the good and well-pleasing and perfect.”

### **NASB** (*New American Standard Bible, orig. 1963*)

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

### **AMPLIFIED** (*Amplified Bible, orig. 1965*)

“And do not be conformed to this world [any longer with its superficial values and customs], but be transformed *and* progressively changed [as you mature spiritually] by the renewing of your mind [focusing on godly values and ethical attitudes], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His plan and purpose for you].”

### **ESV** (*English Standard Version, orig. 2001*)

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

### **RSV** (*Revised Standard Version, orig. 1952*)

“Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

### **KJV** (*King James Version, orig. 1611*)

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

### **NKJV** (*New King James Version, orig. 1982*)

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

### **NIV** (*New International Version, orig. 1978*)

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

### **NLT** (*New Living Translation, orig. 1996*)

“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.”

### **THE MESSAGE** (*The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language, orig. 2002*)

“Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.”

More  
word-for-  
word

More  
thought-for-  
thought