



Session 2

Of the Holy Scripture

Session 2 Overview

- Westminster Confession of Faith
 - Chapter 1 Of the Holy Scripture
- Catechism
 - **Q. 1. What is the chief and highest end of man? (WSC Q.1)**
 - Q. 2. How doth it appear that there is a God?
 - **Q. 3. What is the Word of God? (WSC Q.2)**
 - Q. 4. How doth it appear that the Scriptures are the Word of God?
 - **Q. 5. What do the Scriptures principally teach? (WSC Q.3)**
 - Q. 6. What do the Scriptures make known of God?

What is the chief and highest end of man? (Q1)

To glorify God

- **All nations whom Thou hast made** shall come and worship before Thee, O Lord; And they **shall glorify Thy name**. For Thou art great and doest wondrous deeds; Thou alone art God. Teach me Thy way, O LORD; I will walk in Thy truth; Unite my heart to fear Thy name. **I will give thanks** to Thee, O Lord my God, **with all my heart, And will glorify Thy name forever.** (Psa 86:9-12 NAS)
- For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. **To Him be the glory forever.** Amen. (Rom 11:36 NAS)
- Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, **do all to the glory of God.** (1Co 10:31 NAS)

To enjoy him forever.

- Here is what I have seen to be good and fitting: **to eat, to drink and enjoy oneself in all one's labor** in which he toils under the sun *during* the few years of his life **which God has given him**; for this is his reward. (Ecc 15:18 NAS)
- **Enjoy life with the woman whom you love** all the days of your fleeting life **which He has given to you** under the sun; for this is your reward in life, and in your toil in which you have labored under the sun. (Ecc 9:9 NAS)
- **Instruct those** who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or **to fix their hope** on the uncertainty of riches, but **on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.** (1Ti 6:17 NAS)

How doth it appear that there is a God? (Q2)

Through creation

- **The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.** (Psa 19:1 NAS)
- Because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world **His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made**, so that they are without excuse. (Rom 1:19-20 NAS)
- For **every house is built by someone**, but the builder of all things is God. (Heb 3:4 NAS)

By the Holy Spirit

- **For to us God revealed them through the Spirit**; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. (1Co 2:10 NAS)
- But the Helper, **the Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in My name, He **will teach you all things**, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you. (Joh 14:26 NAS)
- ...which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual *thoughts* with spiritual words. **But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God**; for they are foolishness to him, (1Co 2:13-14 NAS)

What is the Word of God? (Q3)

The only rule of faith and obedience

- For **the word of God is living** and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. (Heb 4:12 NAS)
- And take the helmet of salvation, and **the sword of the Spirit**, which is the word of God. (Eph 6:17 NAS)
- For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us who are being saved **it is the power of God.** (1Co 1:18 NAS)
- And *He is* clothed with a robe dipped in blood; and **His name is called The Word of God.** (Rev 19:13 NAS)
- “But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by **the Holy Spirit spoke from God.**” (2Pe 1:20-21 NAS)

The Bible

Of the Old Testament

Of the New Testament

Genesis	2 Kings	Isaiah	Nahum	Matthew	Philippians	1 Peter
Exodus	1 Chronicles	Jeremiah	Habakkuk	Mark	Colossians	2 Peter
Leviticus	2 Chronicles	Lamentations	Zephaniah	Luke	1 Thessalonians	1 John
Numbers	Ezra	Ezekiel	Haggai	John	2 Thessalonians	2 John
Deuteronomy	Nehemiah	Daniel	Zechariah	Acts (of the Apostles)	1 Timothy	3 John
Joshua	Esther	Hosea	Malachi	Romans	2 Timothy	Jude
Judges	Job	Joel		1 Corinthians	Titus	Revelation
Ruth	Psalms	Amos		2 Corinthians	Philemon	
1 Samuel	Proverbs	Obadiah		Galatians	Hebrews	
2 Samuel	Ecclesiastes	Jonah		Ephesians	James	
1 Kings	Song of Solomon	Micah				

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT - 39 Books

LAW - 5

GENESIS
EXODUS
LEVITICUS
NUMBERS
DEUTERONOMY

POETRY - 5

JOB
PSALMS
PROVERBS
ECCLESIASTES
SONG OF SOLOMON

MAJOR PROPHETS - 5

ISAIAH
JEREMIAH
LAMENTATIONS
EZEKIEL
DANIEL

HISTORY - 12

JOSHUA
JUDGES
RUTH
1 SAMUEL
2 SAMUEL
1 KINGS
2 KINGS
1 CHRONICLES
2 CHRONICLES
EZRA
NEHEMIAH
ESTHER

MINOR PROPHETS - 12

HOSEA
JOEL
AMOS
OBADIAH
JONAH
MICAH
NAHUM
HABAKKUK
ZEPHANIAH
HAGGAI
ZECHARIAH
MALACHI

NEW TESTAMENT - 27 Books

GOSPELS - 4

MATTHEW
MARK
LUKE
JOHN

PAUL'S LETTERS TO FRIENDS - 4

1 TIMOTHY
2 TIMOTHY
TITUS
PHILEMON

HISTORY - 1

ACTS

PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES - 9

ROMANS
1 CORINTHIANS
2 CORINTHIANS
GALATIANS
EPHESIANS
PHILIPPIANS
COLOSSIANS
1 THESSALONIANS
2 THESSALONIANS

GENERAL LETTERS - 9

HEBREWS
JAMES
1 PETER
2 PETER
1 JOHN
2 JOHN
3 JOHN
JUDE
REVELATION

The Bible Structure

Old Testament

- Pentateuch (Law)
- Historical Timeline
- Poetry
- Major Prophets
- Minor prophets

New Testament

- The Gospels
- Acts
- Pauline Epistles
- General Letters

Canonicity: Book of Mormon vs. Bible

Book of Mormon

- **Origin:** Joseph Smith & Angel Moroni
- **Manuscripts:** "Golden Plates" found in a hill in New York. No copies exist.
- **Witness:** Joseph Smith sole witness.
- **Historical (claims):**
 - "Native Americans" Lamanites and the Nephites (600 BC)
 - Elephants, Horses, Sheep, Goats, Wheat in America in 600 BC
- **Archaeology:** No physical proof of their existence. Geography does not match.
- **Language:** KJV English in 1827. Is no Native American language like Hebrew.
- **Theology:** Jesus born in Jerusalem; 1 Nephi 1:4 , At Babel all language confounded except the language of Jared; Ether 1:35-37

Bible

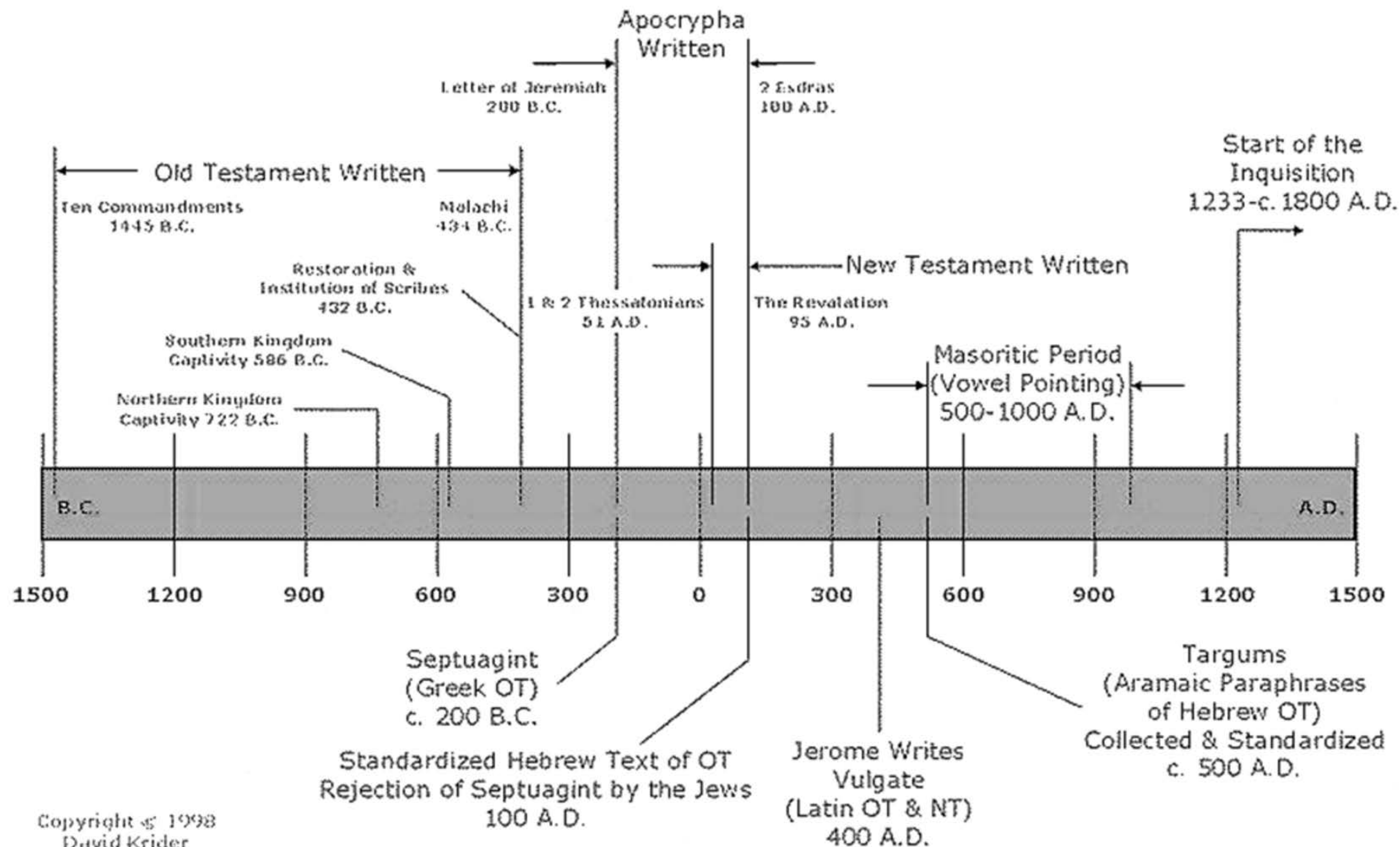
- **Origin:** Prophets inspired by God.
- **Manuscripts:** Many ancient Papyrus copies from many regions in libraries.
- **Witness:** Apostles, Prophets, and Secular.
- **Historicity:**
 - Israel, Rome, Egypt, Babylon, Assyria, Persia, Greece, etc.
 - The dates match the physical evidence
- **Archaeology:** The Bible places and people have verifiable physical evidence.
- **Language:** Hebrew, Greek, Aramaic between c. 1500 BC to c. 95 AD.
- **Theology:** The doctrines of each book in the Bible match to each other.

X=Citation or allusion to O=Named as authoritative ?=Named as disputed																								
Pseub-Barabas (c. 70-130) Clement of Rome (c. 95-97) Ignatius (c. 110) Polycarp (c. 110-150) Hermas (c. 115-140) Didache (c. 120-140) Papias (c. 120-150) Irenaeus (c. 130-140) Diognetus (c. 150) Justin Martyr (c. 150) Clement of Alexandria (c. 150-155) Tertullian (c. 150-220) Origen (c. 185-254) Gyrus of Jerusalem (c. 315-386) Athanasius (c. 325-340) Augusth (A.D. 367) Marion (c. 400) Muratorian (c. 140) Apostolic (c. 170) Cheltenham (c. 300) Council of Rome (A.D. 382)																								
	Individuals																	Canons						
Matthew	X	X		X	X	X		O		X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O		
Mark	X			X	X			O		X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O		
Luke	X			X		X		O		X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		
John		X		X			X	O		O	X	X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O		
Acts				X	X			O		X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O		
Romans		X		X		X		O		X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		
1Corinthians		O		X	X	X		O		X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		
2Corinthians				X	X			O	X	X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		
Galatians				X				O	X	X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		
Ephesians	X	X	X	X				O		X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		
Philippians				X	X	X		O			O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		
Colossians				X	X			O	X	X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		
1Thess.				X	X	X	X	O		X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		
2Thess.				X	X			O		X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		
1Timothy		X		X	X	X		X			O	X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O		
2Timothy	X				X			X				X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O		
Titus	X	X						X	X		O	X	X	O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O		
Philemon				X										O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O		
Hebrews	X	X			X			X			O	X	?	O	O	O	O			O		O		
James		X			X									O	?	O	O			O		O		
1Peter	X			X	X			O		X	O	X	O	O	O	O	O			O	O	O		
2Peter	X	X											?	O	?	O	O			O	?	O		
1John				X	X			O			O	X		O	O	O	O		O	O	O	O		
2John				X				X					?	O	?	O	O		O	O	?	O		
3John													?	O	?	O	O		O	O	?	O		
Jude								X			O	X		O	?	O	O		O	O		O		
Revelation					X	X	O	O		X	O	X	O		O	O	O		O		O	O		

The Apocrypha

The books commonly called Apocrypha, not being of divine inspiration, are no part of the canon of the Scripture, and therefore are of no authority in the church of God, nor to be any otherwise approved, or made use of, than other human writings. (WCF 1:3)

320-306	<i>Letter of Jeremiah</i>
300-200	<i>Baruch</i>
3rd Century B.C.	<i>Tobit</i>
350-200	
220-200	<i>Wisdom of Solomon</i>
196-185	<i>Sirach</i>
165-150	<i>Judith</i>
114- 100-B.C. After 100 B.C.	Final form of Greek <i>Esther</i> <i>1 Maccabees</i> <i>2 Maccabees</i> <i>3 and 4 Maccabees</i>
33-A.D.	
70-	
95-	<i>2 Esdras</i>



The Language of Scripture

Inspiration of the original “autographa”

The Old Testament in Hebrew (which was the native language of the people of God of old), and the New Testament in Greek (which, at the time of the writing of it, was most generally known to the nations), being immediately inspired by God. (WCF 1:8)

B.B. Warfield’s example of inspiration

“As light that passes through the colored glass of a cathedral window, we are told, is light from heaven, but is stained by the tints of the glass through which it passes; so any word of God which is passed through the mind and soul of a man must come out discolored by the personality through which it is given, and just to that degree ceases to be the pure word of God. But what if this personality has itself been formed by God into precisely the personality it is, for the express purpose of communicating to the word given through it just the coloring which it gives it? What if the colors of the stained-glass window have been designed by the architect for the express purpose of giving to the light that floods the cathedral precisely the tone and quality it receives from them?” (The Inspiration and Authority of the Bible, B.B. Warfield)

<http://bbwarfield.com/works/inspiration/>

FORMAL EQUIVALENCE WORD FOR WORD

- **theory:** 'literal' or *word-for-word*
- **aim:** to retain the *form*, i.e. the words and structure, of the original text as much as possible
- **result:** an English translation that is primarily accurate, yet also comprehensible

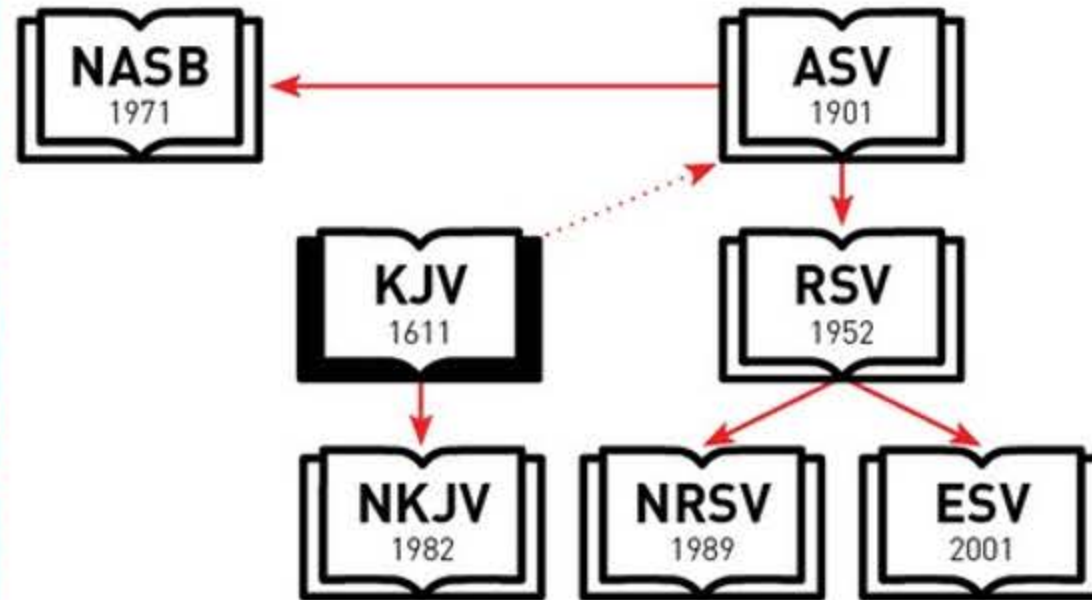
INTERMEDIATE

- **theory:** mediating between 'literal' and 'idiomatic'
- **aim:** to retain the *form* of the original text where possible, without compromising its *function*, i.e. to convey meaning
- **result:** an English translation that is both accurate and clear.

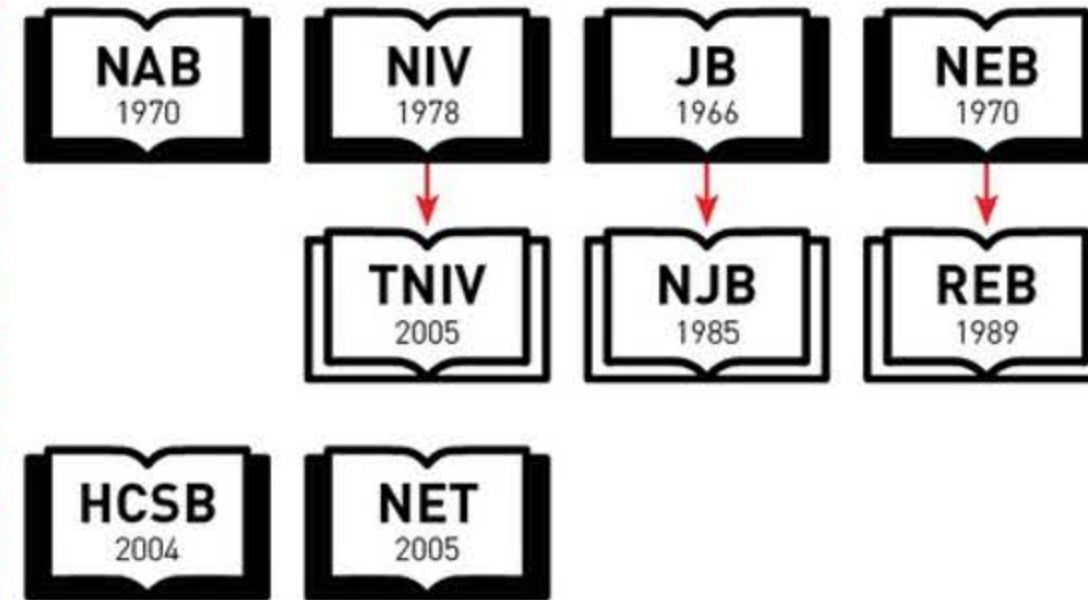
FUNCTIONAL EQUIVALENCE MEANING FOR MEANING

- **theory:** 'idiomatic' or *meaning-for-meaning*
- **aim:** to retain the *function* of the original text, i.e. to convey meaning, as much as possible
- **result:** to produce an English translation that is primarily natural and easy to understand

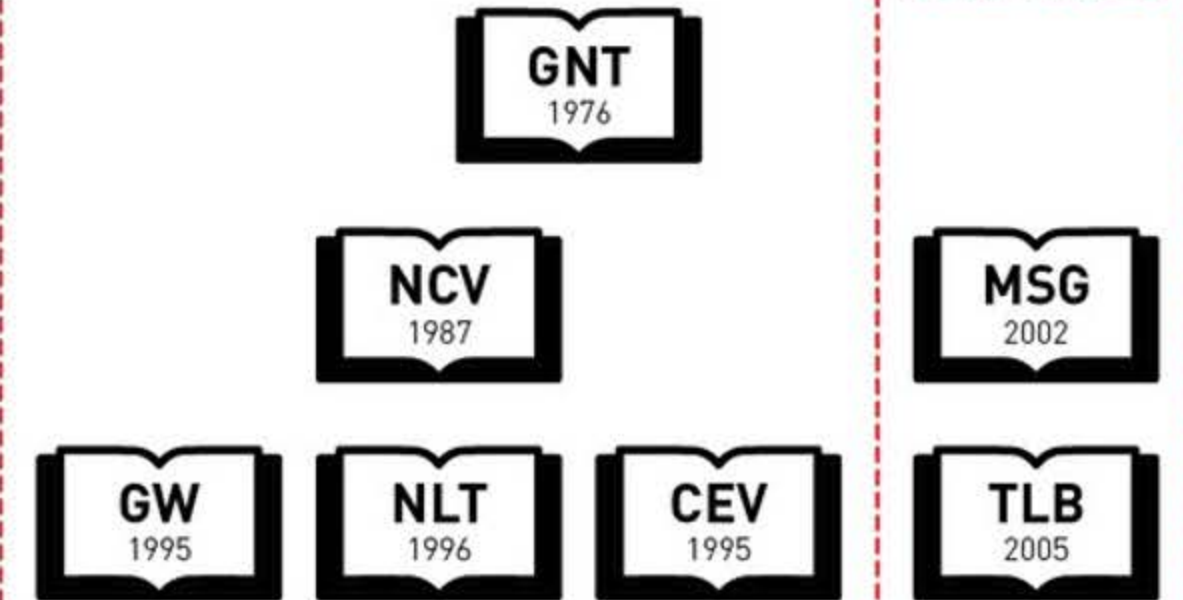
Paraphrase = re-wording a text in the *same* language, rather than translating it from one language to *another*.



ASV	= American Standard Version
ESV	= English Standard Version
KJV	= King James Version
NASB	= New American Standard Bible
NKJV	= New King James Version
NRSV	= New Revised Standard Version
RSV	= Revised Standard Version



HCSB	= Holman Christian Standard Bible
JB	= Jerusalem Bible (Roman Catholic)
NAB	= New American Bible (Roman Catholic)
NEB	= New English Bible
NET	= New English Translation (online translation)
NIV	= New International Version
NJB	= New Jerusalem Bible (Roman Catholic)
TNIV	= Today's New International Version
REB	= Revised English Bible



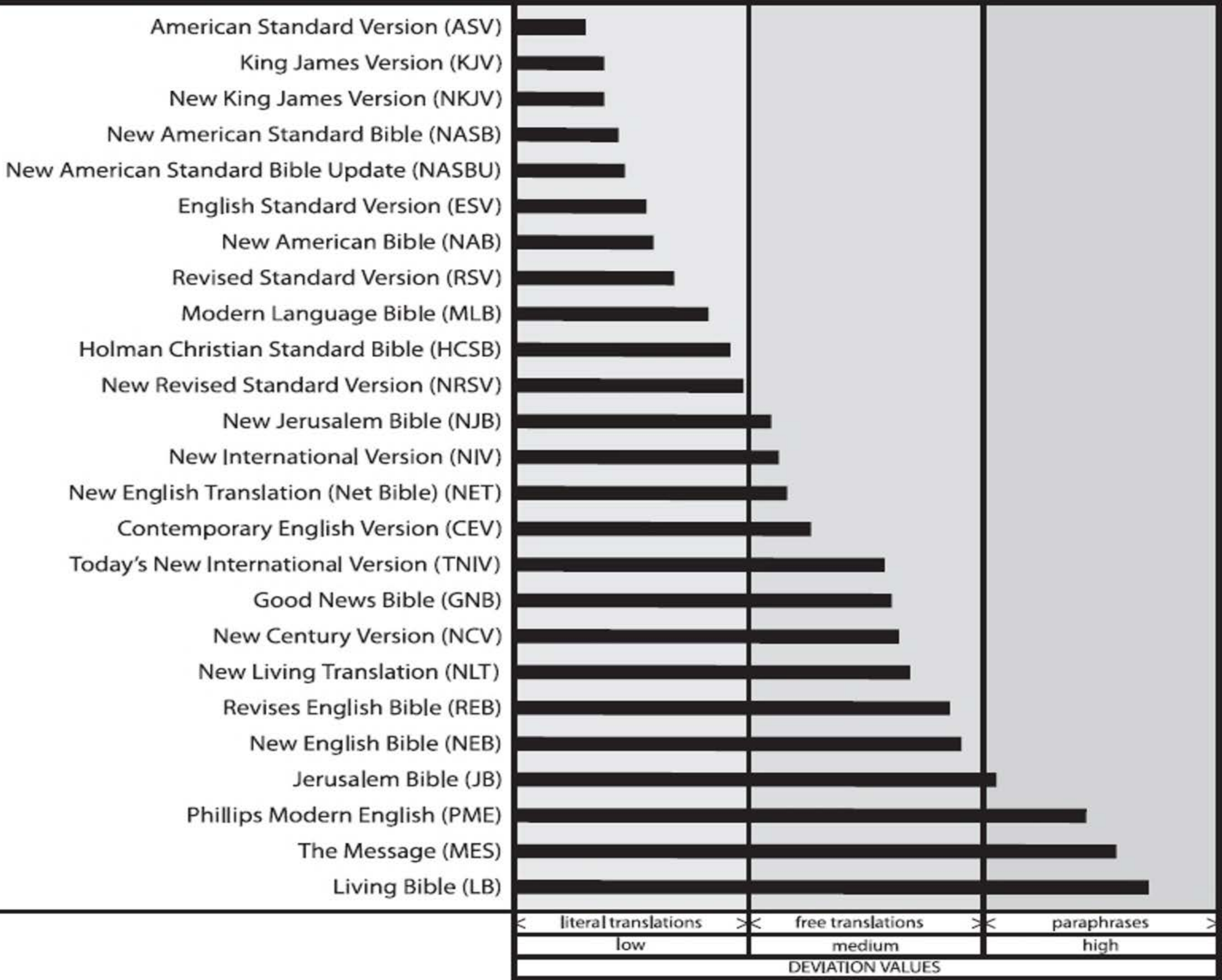
CEV	= Contemporary English Version
GNT	= Good News Translation (Good News Bible)
GW	= God's Word
MSG	= The Message
NCV	= New Century Version
NLT	= New Living Translation
TLB	= The Living Bible

PARAPHRASE

Version Accuracy

Why a literal Translation?

- 1. Words can be looked up in the Greek and Hebrew Concordance
- 2. Less chance of theological bias
- 3. Less chance of idiomatic twists
- 4. Maintains closer to original sentence structure
- 5. Can derive original meaning easier during Bible study



Scientific Method and the Bible

- The Bible is the Christian Scientific test environment.
- It's a controlled environment over the span over 1500 years
 1. **Observe** some aspect of the universe. (The events of the Jews with God)
 2. Invent a tentative description, called a **hypothesis**, that is consistent with what you have observed. (God is redeeming fallen man)
 3. Use the hypothesis to make **predictions**. (Bible events repeat)
 4. **Test** those predictions by experiments or further observations and modify the hypothesis in the light of your results. (Apply Bible to modern events)
 5. **Repeat** steps 3 and 4 until there are no discrepancies between theory and experiment and/or observation. (Bible application will be found consistent)
- The Bible is **not outdated** because the data will be the same at any time.
- The fact is that **history repeats itself**.
- **"There is nothing new under the sun"** (Ecc 1:9 NAS)

How doth it appear that the Scriptures are the Word of God? (Q4)

The Bible is different than any other historical account in that:

1. **Pure in ethics and morality.** "The words of the LORD are pure words; As silver tried in a furnace on the earth, refined seven times." (Psa 12:6 NAS)
2. **Complete agreement in theology.** "And so, having obtained help from God, I stand to this day testifying both to small and great, stating nothing but what the Prophets and Moses said was going to take place;" (Act 26:22 NAS)
3. **Gives all glory to God:** "the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith; to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be the glory forever." (Rom 16:26-27 NAS)
4. **It is truth:** "Then the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth." (1Ki 17:24 NAS)
5. **It leads to salvation:** The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. (Psa 19:7 KJV)

What do the Scriptures principally teach? (Q5)

What we are to believe and follow about God.

- The Scriptures principally teach, what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.
- But **these have been written that you may believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that **believing you may have life** in His name. (Joh 20:31 NAS)
- All Scripture is inspired by God and **profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness**; (2Ti 3:16 NAS)
- And now, Israel, **what does the LORD your God require from you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the LORD's commandments and His statutes** which I am commanding you today for your good? (Deu 10:12-13 NAS)
- Be diligent to **present yourself** approved to God **as a workman** who does not need to be ashamed, **handling accurately the word of truth.** (2Ti 2:15 NAS)

What do the Scriptures make known of God? (Q6)

The Scriptures teach us:

- Who and what God is (Discussed in Session 3)
 - **God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent;** Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good? (Num 23:19 NAS)
- What His decrees are (Discussed in Session 4)
 - Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, **Declaring the end from the beginning** And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, '**My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure**'; (Isa 46:9-10 NAS)
- The execution of his decrees (Discussed in Session 4)
 - The LORD has established His throne in the heavens; And **His sovereignty rules over all.** (Psa 103:19 NAS)

Next Lesson - Session 3

❖ Westminster Confession of Faith

- Chapter 2 Of God, and of the Holy Trinity
- * Chapter (9) Of the Holy Spirit

❖ Catechism

- **Q. 7. What is God? (WSC Q.4)**
- **Q. 8. Are there more Gods than one? (WSC Q.5)**
- **Q. 9. How many persons are there in the Godhead? (WSC Q.6)**
- Q. 10. What are the personal properties of the three persons in the Godhead?
- Q. 11. How doth it appear that the Son and the Holy Ghost are God equal with the Father?