

NEW

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for a New Today!



*life*

APPLICATION  
Study Bible

— THIRD EDITION —

#1-Selling

NLT

ESV

STUDY BIBLE

ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION

K.

ULTR

REFERE

FEATURES

Easy-to-Read Type  
Words of Christ in Red  
Full-Color Maps

HOLMAN

STUDY BIBLE

IKJV

EDITION

ZONDE  
NA  
STU  
BIB

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE

WHY ARE THERE SO  
MANY BIBLE  
TRANSLATIONS?

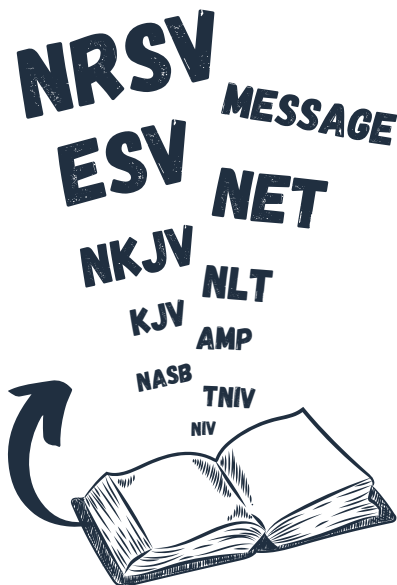


## QUESTION

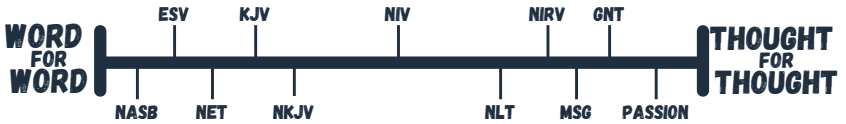
# WHY ARE THERE SO MANY BIBLE TRANSLATIONS?

Many skeptics ask that given the myriad of Bible translations we have today, how can we be confident of what the original said or what the original meaning was? Let's take a closer look at the trustworthiness of the various English translations.

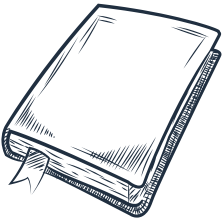
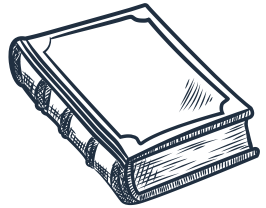
Translations are essential. Firstly, because language changes, words and their meanings evolve over time. Translations are necessary to ensure each generation has an accurate understanding of the Bible. Secondly, the Bible was originally written in three different languages: Hebrew, a little bit of Aramaic, and Greek. Unless you're fluent in all three of these ancient languages you're going to need a modern translation to even read the Bible...



**THERE ARE ESSENTIALLY TWO APPROACHES TO TRANSLATING THE BIBLE INTO ENGLISH. IT'S HELPFUL TO VISUALISE THEM FORMING TWO ENDS OF A SPECTRUM.**



At one end, you have word for word translations. They'll take a word in Hebrew or a word in Greek and they'll match it with the English equivalent, where possible. These translations are word for word accurate but can become very technical, difficult to read and challenging to understand.

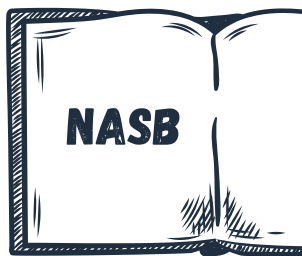


At the other end of the spectrum are thought for thought translations. They won't take the identical words but they'll attempt to translate and communicate the underlying message or thought. Often these translations are easier to read and understand but the question is, are they really capturing and communicating the underlying thought.

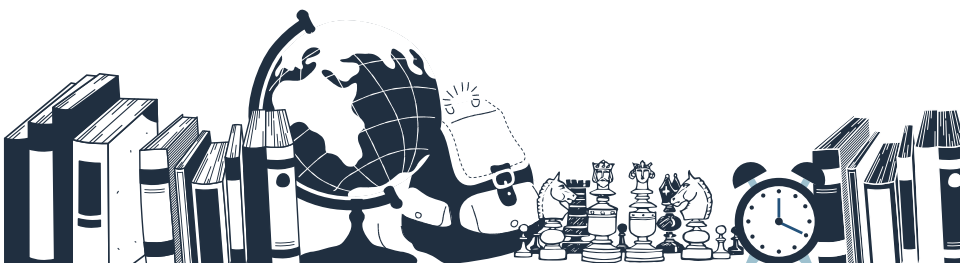


**BOTH APPROACHES AIM TO GET AS CLOSE TO THE ORIGINAL LANGUAGE AS POSSIBLE, WHILE FAITHFULLY CONVEYING THE MEANING OF THE TEXT TO THE READER.**

It's important to understand that the Biblical languages are far more nuanced than our modern languages, so sometimes there are meanings that aren't perfectly caught by English. It is therefore necessary and a great advantage to have a number of translations that employ one of these two approaches, or a mixture of both to more accurately and completely capture the meanings of the original Hebrew or Greek. When studying the Bible it's helpful to read the same section in a number of different translations, in order to build a more complete, accurate, nuanced, and robust understanding of what the Bible says.



**GIVEN THE NECESSITY AND BENEFIT OF MANY BIBLE TRANSLATIONS, IT'S CLEAR THAT RATHER THAN UNDERMINE THE ACCURACY AND RELIABILITY OF THE BIBLE, THE VARIOUS TRANSLATIONS WORK TOGETHER TO PROVIDE US WITH A CLEARER AND MORE COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF GOD'S WORD.**



# QUESTIONS:



**WHY ARE BIBLE TRANSLATIONS ESSENTIAL?**

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**WHAT ARE THE THREE ORIGINAL LANGUAGES OF THE BIBLE?**

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**WHAT ARE THE MAIN TWO APPROACHES USED WHEN TRANSLATING THE BIBLE?**

**1.**

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**2.**

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**WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF HAVING MANY TRANSLATIONS?**

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# NOTES:

A series of horizontal lines for writing, starting from the top of the page and extending downwards. A vertical line is positioned on the left side, creating a margin for the notes.



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