

Believing Bibliology: Session Five

Bible Translation

“They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.”

—Nehemiah 8:8—

- I. Review of Textual Criticism

- II. The Necessity of Bible Translation
 - a. Historical Warrant

 - b. Biblical Warrant: 1 Cor. 14:13-19

 - c. Confessional Warrant: Westminster Confession of Faith 1.8

- III. Philosophies of Bible Translation
 - a. What is translation?

 - b. Formal Equivalence
 - i. Does NOT mean (1) literal, (2) word-for-word, (3) accurate

 - ii. Definition: Translation philosophy which seeks, as much as possible, to follow the word order, verbal consistency, and syntax of the source language
 - iii. Examples: KJV, NKJV, NASB, ESV, CSB
 - iv. Benefits, Drawbacks, Best Uses

c. Dynamic Equivalence

- i. Does NOT mean (1) non-literal, (2) paraphrase, (3) inaccurate

- ii. Definition: Translation philosophy which seeks, as much as possible, to reproduce the meaning and/or effect of the source language into the receptor language
- iii. Examples: NIV, GWT, NLT
- iv. Benefits, Drawbacks, Best Uses

d. Paraphrase

- i. Definition: A restatement of any piece of literature—translated or otherwise—according to the editor's own words, without particular concern for exact translational accuracy
- ii. Example: The Message, The Living Bible
- iii. Benefits, Drawbacks, Best Uses

IV. Concluding Remarks

- a. We have an absolute *wealth* of information when it comes to Bible translation.

- b. Don't get caught up in translation wars.

- c. It isn't wrong to use various kinds of Bible translations. Use them, and thank God for them.

- d. No translation is perfect; God inspired the Greek and the Hebrew.