

Manuscript Evidence – Week 9

The Scholarship of the Authorized Version

(Notes taken from: *Understandable History of the Bible*, Chapter 9 – The Authorized Version, Dr. Sam Gipp, Fourth Edition, 2019)

- 1) The Critics of the Authorized Version
 - a) Those Who Know the Truth
 - i) This group is the college professor or similar
 - ii) They have a job to hold and need to be held in high esteem
 - iii) Their pride allows them to be put on equal plane with the Bible
 - iv) They could also be agents of the Roman Catholic Church
 - b) Those Who are Misguided by the Teacher
 - i) They are the college students
 - ii) They are the lay folk of the church and others
 - iii) Their pride can draw them into criticism of the Word of God
- 2) Many Rather than One
 - a) Not Just One
 - i) Rome figured out that not just one, but many translations would be required to replace the Authorized Version
 - ii) Any translation, other the AV would work
 - iii) It did not matter how it was accomplished as long as the AV could be replaced
 - b) The Sales Approach
 - i) To accomplish the goal of replacing the AV, they would need a sales approach
 - ii) They needed a sales approach because no one would naturally accept these new Bibles
 - iii) People needed to be convinced that their Bible was old and archaic and needed replaced
- 3) The Model T Analogy
 - a) False Prophets and False Bibles
 - i) A false prophet can always be recognized because he attacks the true prophet
 - ii) A false bible can be recognized because it attacks the true Bible
 - b) The Model T Analogy
 - i) The 1922 Model T vs 2022 Chevrolet Corvette
 - (1) The advertising would say “The Corvette’s 495 horsepower, mid-level engine with an 8-speed, dual-clutch transmission is much better than the Model T’s 20 hp, two-speed planetary gear transmission.”
 - (2) No one would ever make such an analogy in modern advertising. They would compare the car to the 2021 Corvette or the 2022 Dodge Challenger Hellcat.
 - (3) There is over a 100-year difference in technology between these two cars. The improvements are not comparable
 - c) The AV1611 vs The Modern Versions
 - i) The modern versions always compare themselves to the AV1611
 - ii) If they were really an improvement on the last version, they would say how they improved over the latest version
 - iii) In reality, they are not improving over one another

- iv) They are false prophets and false bibles, so they need to compare back to the true prophet and true Bible
 - v) If the AV1611 was truly irrelevant, they would not keep going back and comparing themselves to it
 - vi) In reality, the AV1611 is the gold standard and will always be the gold standard because it is the true Word of God
- 4) Bible Advertising
- a) The Sales Pitch
 - i) The new version claims to correct the mistakes of the AV1611
 - ii) We are made to feel insecure about the KJV
 - iii) It is no longer relevant in our society
 - iv) The new version is unveiled and claims to be “thoroughly reliable”, “true to the Original Greek”, and “starting a new tradition”
 - v) The KJV is old and archaic
 - vi) The new translation is more accurate, more reliable, easier to read and contains all of the major doctrines
 - vii) The person is then talked out of their KJV and has it replaced by a new, more modern translation
 - b) The Let Down
 - i) Once we get home and are confronted by false doctrine, we find out that many of the verses we have grown to depend on are no longer in the Bible or are watered down to the point they don’t teach the doctrines we have come to believe
 - ii) I John 5:7 – The Trinity
 - (1) KJV – “For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. “
 - (2) NIV – “For there are three that testify:”
 - iii) John 1:18 – Divinity of Christ
 - (1) KJV – “No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.”
 - (2) NIV – “No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.”
 - (3) NIRV – “No one has ever seen God. But the One and Only is God and is at the Father’s side. The one at the Father’s side has shown us what God is like.”
- 5) The Fundamentals
- a) The common defense of the new versions is that you can “find the fundamentals” in all of the modern versions
 - b) The problem is that in the Authorized Version, a given doctrine may be taught in 30 verses, whereas in a modern bible, the same doctrine can only be found in 15-20 verses.
 - c) The problem comes when you have some doctrines that are only taught in a handful of verses.
 - d) Bodily Resurrection of Christ
 - i) This doctrine is taught in Acts 1:9, Luke 24:51 and Mark 16:19 in the AV1611
 - ii) In the NASV, this doctrine is only clear in Act 1:9.
 - iii) You now have to base a major doctrine of the Bible on one verse with this corrupt bible.
 - iv) You should not base a major doctrine on one verse

- 6) The Scholarship Comparison
 - a) Modern Scholarship
 - i) The modern scholar claims they have authority to change the AV1611 because scholarship is so much better today than it was in 1604
 - ii) In reality, the entire world system, especially education, has went downhill since 1604
 - iii) The anonymous Lockman Foundation that translated the NASV believed they did a great service by trying to pump energy into a new translation because interest in the ASV was waning
 - iv) They were looking at their scholarship and need for a translation as an advertising campaign
 - b) Authorized Version Scholarship
 - i) These were far greater men of God than Wescott, Hort and any other modern translator
 - ii) They stated in their Dedicatory to the King James:
 - (1) “So that if, on the one side, we shall be traduced by Popish persons at home or abroad, who therefore will malign us, because we are poor in instruments to make God’s holy Truth to be yet more and more known unto the people, whom they desire still to keep in ignorance and darkness; or if, on the other side, we shall be maligned by self-conceited brethren, who run their own ways, and give liking unto nothing, but what is framed by themselves, and hammered on their anvil...”
 - iii) These men were almost prophetic about two groups who criticized them
 - (1) Popish Persons
 - (a) The Roman Catholic Church has a long hatred for the KJB
 - (b) There supreme goal is to eliminate it and replace it with her bible
 - (2) Self-Conceited Brethren
 - (a) These are scholars like Wescott and Hort who believe their opinion is more important than the Word of God
 - (b) They will never submit to a Book
 - iv) Parenthesis in Purity
 - (1) When the AV1611 was translated, it was a unique period in history
 - (2) It was a parenthesis in purity between the overthrow of Roman authority and before the Church of England went into apostasy
 - v) There is no way that all of the great colleges, churches, denominations, of Great Britain and America could possibly bring together the same number and quality of great men with equal qualifications in learning and purity
- 7) The Establishment of the Translation Committee
 - a) The Process
 - i) The men chosen to translate the King James Bible were selected and organized into three “Companies”, with a first and second division of each Company
 - ii) A total of 50 men were assigned to these six Companies
 - iii) Several of the translators died before the translation was completed with some of them being replaced
 - iv) Each Company/Committee was responsible for working together to translate a section of the Bible.
 - v) The divines were selected for the Companies at the Conference at the Hampton Court by King James

- b) Committee Rules
 - i) Start from the Bishop's Bible and alter as little as possible
 - ii) Names of prophets are to be retained as they are commonly used
 - iii) Old ecclesiastical words to be kept (church rather than congregation)
 - iv) Words need to line up with church father teachings
 - v) Don't change division of chapters if at all possible
 - vi) No marginal notes
 - vii) Marginal notes for cross reference are okay
 - viii) Chapters that are translated individually need to come before the committee and discussed and conferred upon
 - ix) They need to send the translations from one company to another to have the work cross checked. This was required of King James in particular
 - x) They needed to work out any differences among the committees and fix problems
 - xi) If there were things that were too difficult for the committee to come to a conclusion, they were to send letters to those throughout the land
 - xii) Letters were sent to every Bishop in England and the rest of their Clergy so they could enlist anyone who was skillful in translation to the work
 - xiii) The directors that were selected for each of the three companies were to be the Deans of Westminster and Chester for Westminster, and the King's Professors in Hebrew and Greek in the two Universities
- c) Review Rules
 - i) When each company finished its work, the work was reviewed within that companies and then sent to the other five companies.
 - ii) After that the work was reviewed by those outside the original six companies by men across the empire
 - iii) After this review, it was reviewed by a final board of six men of the original translators and then send to the printers
- d) The Materials
 - i) Wealth of materials were gathered from all over England for the translation
 - ii) They had both Hebrew and Greek witnesses
 - iii) Erasmus, Beza and Stephanus
 - iv) Latin, Syrian, Chaldean, Spanish, French, Dutch and Italian
 - v) Douy-Rheims English for sake of comparison
- e) Physical Layout
 - i) Apocrypha was included as history between the Testaments, rather than scattered throughout as the Catholic Translation
 - ii) Words added by the translators were placed in italics
 - iii) The chapter and verse divisions followed the system of the Geneva Bible
 - iv) Gothic type was used to its detriment
 - v) When it was completed, copies were sent to the Royal presses at Oxford and Cambridge in 1611
- 8) The Men of the Committee
 - a) The First Westminster Company

- i) The First Westminster Company consisted of ten people and was responsible for translating Genesis to II Kings
- ii) Dr. Lancelot Andrews (1555-1626)
 - (1) Master of Pembroke, 1589
 - (2) Dean of Westminster, 1601
 - (3) Bishop of Chichester, 1605
 - (4) Bishop of Ely, 1609
 - (5) Bishop of Winchester, 1618
 - (6) First person named in the "Order agreed upon for this Translation"
 - (7) He would learn a new language once a year during a month-long vacation at his parents in the spring
 - (8) He was a man of great practical preaching ability and hated Rome
 - (9) He was called the "star of preachers"
 - (10) He was a man of great prayer
 - (11) He was given to hospitality
 - (12) At the time of his death, he knew 15 languages
 - (13) This was a godly man that probably did not have a match in modern times
- iii) Dr. John Overall (1558-1619)
 - (1) Regius Professor of Divinity at Cambridge University, 1596
 - (2) Dean of St. Paul's 1601
 - (3) Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, 1614
 - (4) Bishop of Norwich, 1618
 - (5) Member of the Court of High Commission
 - (6) Opposed to scriptural perversions of Rome
 - (7) Had a vast knowledge of the early church fathers and their quotations
 - (8) This helped with translation of passages such as I John 5:7 which maybe had limited manuscript evidence and helped solved the problem of the Johannine Comma.
 - (9) None of the modern translations have so exhaustively investigated the evidence of the church fathers like Dr. Overall could have
- iv) Dr. Hadrian Saravia (1521-1613)
 - (1) Professor of Divinity at Leyden, 1582
 - (2) Prebendary of Gloucester, 1595
 - (3) Prebendary of Westminster, 1601
 - (4) Evangelistic as scholarly
 - (5) Sent by Queen Elizabeth as sort of a missionary to islands of Guernsey and Jersey as one of the first protestant ministers and helped the new Elizabeth College get started
- v) Dr. Richard Clarke (15??-1634)
 - (1) Fellow of Christ College, Cambridge
 - (2) Vicar of Minister and Monkton, in the Isle of Thanet
 - (3) A volume of his sermons was published after his death in 1637
- vi) Dr. John Laifield (15??-1617)
 - (1) Fellow of Trinity
 - (2) Chaplin to Earl of Cumberland
 - (3) Skilled architect that helped with the translation of the tabernacle and temple

- vii) Dr. Robert Tighe (15??-1620)
 - (1) “an excellent textuary and profound linguist; and there employed in the Translation of the Bible”, McClure, Alexander, Translators Revived, (Maranatha Publications, Worthington, p. 98)
- viii) Francis Burleigh (15??-16??)
 - (1) Vicar of Bishop’s Stortford
- ix) Dr. Geoffry King (16??-16??)
 - (1) Fellow of King’s College, Cambridge
 - (2) Regius Professor of Hebrew at Cambridge
- x) Richard Thompson (15??-1613)
 - (1) Clare Hall, Cambridge
- xi) Dr. William Bedwell (1561-1632)
 - (1) Rector of St. Ethelburgh’s, Bishopgate
 - (2) Vicar of Tottenham High Cross, London
 - (3) He was an eminent Oriental scholar
 - (4) He was considered the principal Arabic scholar of his time.
 - (5) His understanding Arabic and oriental languages is critical to translation of the Old Testament and he was likely well beyond any modern day scholars in this area
- b) The First Cambridge Company
 - i) The First Cambridge Company consisted of eight people and was responsible for translating I Chronicles through Ecclesiastes
 - ii) Dr. Edward Lively (1545-1605)
 - (1) Regius Professor of Hebrew at Cambridge, 1575
 - (2) Prebendary at Peterborough, 1602
 - (3) It is said that no man living exceeded him in knowledge of the oriental languages
 - (4) He did in 1605 and it is said the great effort he was putting into the translation of Bible hastened his death
 - iii) Dr. John Richardson (15??-1625)
 - (1) Fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, 1585
 - (2) Master of Peterhouse, 1609
 - (3) Master of Trinity College
 - iv) Dr. Lawrence Chaderton (1537-1640)
 - (1) Fellow of Christ’s College, 1568
 - (2) Master of Emmanuel College, 1584-1622
 - (3) Raised Roman Catholic but was converted to Christ and joined a Puritan Congregation in London
 - (4) He learned Latin, Greek and Hebrew and was thoroughly skilled in them
 - (5) Was a powerful preacher who lived to 103 where congregations never tired of his preaching
 - (6) He was able to maintain intense scholarship without letting it deaden and dry his preaching
 - v) Dr. Francis Dillingham (15??-16??)
 - (1) Fellow of Christ College
 - (2) Author of several theological treatises

- (3) He was so studied in the original languages that he was able to participate in public debate about Greek
- (4) He was an ardent opponent of Rome and would write treatises against Rome's doctrine in favor of Protestantism
- vi) Dr. Thomas Harrison (1555-1631)
 - (1) Vice-Master of Trinity College
 - (2) Fervent Puritan
 - (3) Chosen to assist with the translation because of his knowledge of Greek and Hebrew
 - (4) He was the chief examiner for Greek and Hebrew Professors at Trinity
- vii) Dr. Roger Andrews (15??-16??)
 - (1) Brother of Bishop Lancelot Andrews
 - (2) Fellow of Pembroke Hall
 - (3) Doctor of Divinity, and then Master of Jesus College, 1681
- viii) Dr. Robert Spalding (15??-16??)
 - (1) Fellow of St. John's College
 - (2) Regus Professor of Hebrew, Cambridge, 1605
- ix) Dr. Andrew Byng (1574-1652)
 - (1) Fellow of Peterhouse
 - (2) Regius Professor of Hebrew, Cambridge, 1608 after Dr. Spalding
 - (3) Archdeacon of Norwich
- c) The First Oxford Company
 - i) This group was composed of seven people who translated Isaiah through Malachi
 - ii) John Harding (15??-16??)
 - (1) Regus Professor of Hebrew, 1591
 - (2) President of Magdalen College
 - (3) Royal Professor of Hebrew at Magdalen for 13 years
 - (4) The fact that he occupied this chair for 13 years says a lot when thousands of people were studying sacred literature in England
 - iii) Dr. John Reynolds (1549-1607)
 - (1) Fellow of Corpus Christi College, 1566
 - (2) President of Corpus Christi College, 1598
 - (3) Primarily responsible in the Conference of Hampton Court, for moving King James to do a translation of the Bible
 - (4) He died in 1607 before the translation was complete
 - (5) He was a converted Roman Catholic who became a Puritan
 - (6) Ardent and active anti-Papist
 - (7) Studied the Scriptures in the original languages and read all the Greek and Latin fathers of the church
 - (8) He was subjected to a fake death bed recantation of his faith by Rome, but was able to refute it by signing a statement saying he was still trusting Christ alone for salvation
 - iv) Dr. Thomas Holland (1539-1612)
 - (1) Fellow at Balliol College, Oxford
 - (2) Chaplain to the Earl of Leichester in the Netherland, 1585
 - (3) He was called an Apollos, mighty in the Scriptures

- (4) A fiery Puritan and dedicated anti-Catholic
- v) Dr. Richard Kilby (1560-1620)
 - (1) Rector of Lincoln College, 1590
 - (2) Regius Professor of Divinity, 1610
 - (3) Published commentaries on Exodus
 - (4) After the translation of the Bible, Dr. Kilby attend church where a young preacher was preaching and found exception to one word and gave three reasons for why it was wrong
 - (5) Later that evening, Dr. Kilby told the man the committee had considered all three reasons when translating that word, but found 13 more considerable reasons why it was translated as printed
 - (6) This shows the depth that the translators went to and often how shallow people who correct the Bible really are
- vi) Miles Smith (1554-1624)
 - (1) Cannon of Hereford
 - (2) Bishop of Gloucester, 1612
 - (3) Great wealth of knowledge concerning the Greek and Latin fathers
 - (4) He could carry on conversation in Chaldean, Syriac and Arabic
 - (5) He had Hebrew so well it was said to be at his fingers end
 - (6) He read every book he had in his own library
 - (7) He was one of the committee who reviewed the entire translation before it was sent to the printer
 - (8) He wrote the preface for the King James Bible
- vii) Dr. Richard Brett (1567-1645)
 - (1) Fellow of Lincoln College
 - (2) Rector of Quainton, in Buckinghamshire, 1595
 - (3) He was a noted scholar of Greek, Hebrew, Latin, Aramaic, Chaldean, Arabic and Ethiopian
- viii) Richard Fairclough (1578-1645)
 - (1) New College
 - (2) Fellow of Corpus Christi, 1602
 - (3) Vicar of Lambeth
- d) The Second Westminster Company
 - i) This group contained seven men and translated Romans to Jude
 - ii) Dr. William Barlow (15??-1613)
 - (1) Prebendary of Westminster, 1603
 - (2) Dean of Chester
 - (3) Bishop of Rochester, 1605
 - (4) One of the divines selected at the Hampton Court
 - iii) Dr. Ralph Hutchinson (1553-1606)
 - (1) President of St. John's College, Oxford
 - iv) Dr. John Spenser (1559-1614)
 - (1) Vicar of Alveley, 1589
 - (2) Vicar of Broxborn, 1592

- v) Dr. Roger Fenton (1567-1617)
 - (1) Fellow of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge
 - (2) Vicar of Chigwell
- vi) Dr. Michael Rabbett (15??-16??)
 - (1) Rector of St. Vedast, Forest Lane, London
- vii) Thomas Sanderson (15??-16??)
 - (1) Archdeacon of Rochester, 1606
- viii) William Dakins (1567-1606)
 - (1) Vicar of Trumpington, 1603
 - (2) Professor of Divinity in Gresham College, 1604
 - (3) Had great knowledge of the original languages
- e) The Second Oxford Company
 - i) This Company consisted of eleven men and they translated the four Gospels, Acts, and Revelation
 - ii) Dr. Thomas Ravis (1560-1609)
 - (1) Rector of All Hallows, Barking, 1591
 - (2) Cannon of Westminster, 1592
 - (3) He was famous for his “eminent learning, gravity, and prudence”
 - iii) Dr. George Abbot (1562-1633)
 - (1) Master of University College, Oxford, 1597
 - (2) Dean of Winchester, 1600
 - iv) Dr. Richard Eedes (1555-1604)
 - (1) Prebendary of Salisbury, 1584
 - (2) Dean of Worcester, 1596
 - (3) Greatly admired for his preaching and ability to discourse
 - (4) He died shortly after the translation was begun
 - v) Dr. Giles Tomson (1553-1612)
 - (1) Fellow of All Souls
 - (2) Dean of Windsor, 1602
 - (3) Bishop of Gloucester, 1611
 - (4) Died in 1612 “to the great grief of all that knew the piety and learning of the man; after he had taken a great deal of pains, at the command of King James, in translating the four Gospels, Acts of the Apostles, and Apocalypse.”
 - vi) Dr. Henry Saville (1549-1622)
 - (1) Fellow of Merton, 1565
 - (2) Knighted in 1604
 - (3) Founded the Saville professorships of geometry and astronomy at Oxford University
 - (4) Know for his Greek and mathematical learning
 - (5) Greek and mathematical tutor to Queen Elizabeth during the reign of her father Henry VIII
 - vii) John Perin (15??-1615)
 - (1) Fellow at St John’s College, 1575
 - (2) Regius Professor of Greek
 - (3) Resigned his post to work on the Bible translation

- viii) Dr. Ralph Ravens (15??-1615)
 - (1) Vicar of Easton Magna in Essex
 - (2) Person of this name at Queen's College, M.A. in 1595
- ix) Dr. John Harmar (15??-1613)
 - (1) Fellow of New College, 1574
 - (2) Regius Professor of Greek, 1585
 - (3) Warden of Winchester College, 1596
 - (4) Translated Beza's sermons into English
- x) Dr. Leonard Hutten (1557-1632)
 - (1) Vicar of Floore, 1601
 - (2) Prebendary of St. Paul's, 1609
- xi) John Aglionby (1566-1609)
 - (1) Royal Chaplin, Principal of St. Edmund Hall, Oxford
 - (2) Appointed to replace Dr. Eedes who died in 1604
- xii) Dr. James Mountague (1568-1618)
 - (1) First Master of Puritan Sydney Sussex College, Cambridge, 1595
 - (2) Dean of Lichfield, 1603
 - (3) Edited and translated the works of King James I, 1616
 - (4) There is some question as to Mountague's participation on the Committee
- f) The Second Cambridge Company
 - i) This group consisted of seven men who translated the Apocrypha
 - ii) John Duport (15??-1617)
 - (1) Rector of Fulham, 1583
 - (2) Precentor of St. Paul's, 1585
 - iii) Dr. William Branthwaite (15??-1620)
 - (1) Founding Fellow of Emmanuel College, 1584
 - (2) An anti-papist
 - (3) Was added to the Translation Committee to replace a suspected Roman Catholic spy who was dismissed
 - iv) Jeremiah Radcliffe (15??-1612)
 - (1) Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge
 - (2) Vicar of Evesham, 1588
 - (3) Vice-Master of Trinity College, 1597
 - v) Samuel Ward (15??-1643)
 - (1) A Puritan
 - (2) A friend and correspondent of Archbishop User
 - (3) Fellow of Emmanuel, 1595
 - (4) Master of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, 1610
 - (5) King's Chaplin, 1611
 - (6) Famous for his diversified learning, especially biblical and oriental criticism
 - vi) Dr. Andrew Downes (1549-1628)
 - (1) Regius Professor of Greek, Cambridge, 1585
 - (2) Him and Bois were involved with the selection of revisors from the various Translators
 - vii) Dr. John Bois (1561-1644)

- (1) Greek lecturer at Cambridge, 1584
 - (2) Prebendary of Ely, 1615
 - (3) Considered one of the finest Greek scholars in the kingdom
 - (4) Extremely acquainted with Hebrew
 - (5) At age 5 or 6, John had read his Bible through and was freely writing in Hebrew
 - (6) He wrote a book of Latin notes on the four Gospels and Acts that was published after his death
 - (7) He wrote notes on Chrysostom with Sir Henry Saville and John Bois
- viii) Robert Ward (15??-16??)
- (1) Fellow of King's College, Cambridge
 - (2) Rector of Bishop's Waltham in Hampshire

9) Conclusion

- a) The men who translated the King James Bible were assembled in a manner that has never been undertaken since on a national level
- b) There will never be another undertaking of this magnitude to translate a Bible
- c) The Translators and this Effort was a national effort in England that called on all far and near to undertake this effort
- d) The level of scholarship, piety and godliness of a group men to translate the Bible has never been replicated in any language or at any time compared to this group of men