

How did languages influence the writing of the Bible?

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## Influential Faculties of the Developmental Stages of The Holy Bible

The Bible is the most talk about book ever written. Majority of the conversation are either negative or positive discussions upon the authenticity of the Bible. Throughout history people have sought to interpret The Holy Bible, in order to make the bible available for ordinary people. This plays a major role in the effects languages had upon the influence of writing the Bible. The Holy Bible has been translated into several different languages and people.

Language is a key method for communities and countries to communicate with one another; however after a period of time, language has a tendency of changing.<sup>1</sup> Sometime this system of communication regress or progress. This is why we may see some grammatical errors or misspelled words within the biblical text. These changes may cause some people to believe that the Bible, may have been tainted by men, but contrary to popular belief the issue is not with the spelling.

First the Bible was written in Biblical Hebrew and some parts in Biblical Aramaic. Later around the 1408 John Wycliffe and the Lollards (John Wycliffe's followers), translation was proscribed by the Archbishop of Canterbury.<sup>2</sup> These men produced the first translation, which is called the Wycliffe Bible. Furthermore, they interpreted the Hebrew language into Latin, which was a difficult language to translate, since they wrote from right to left; Hebrews only have five or six vowel sounds and more than twenty consonant sounds; their sentences normally begins with a verb; and they did not use certain letters like the Latin Language.

After John Wycliffe's Bible the Martin Luther bible was published in 1522, the Tyndale's Bible translation was published in 1526. He developed his translation from Martin Luther rather

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1 [ CITATION Web99 \l 1033 ]

2 [ CITATION Num09 \l 1033 ]

than Wycliffe, for he believed his version was old fashion and preferred a translation to be expressed within his era. This signifies, there has been some changes within the modern English translation. In addition, Tyndale revised his English version twice, in 1544 and 1536 working from the Greek.<sup>3</sup> As the English language changed, so did the revising of the Bible. Even today the bible is constantly being revised. There are some words spelled differently within the Bible than how we spell them today. For as the language changed so did the translation of the Bible. We have so many different Bibles today and many of them has been revised, so either our youth can understand or give translation protestant will desire to have. Each Bible was written to give the audience an understanding in their vernacular.

After reading some of William Shakespeare's plays (1594-1596), I notice that the King James Bible was written during this era because of the dialect of their writing's. For instance,

O Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo? Deny thy Farther and refuse thy name; or if thou wilt not, be but sworn my love and I'll no longer be a Capulet. Shall I hear more, or shall I speak at this? Tis but thy name that is my enemy: thou art thyself, though not a Montague.<sup>4</sup>

Thy, Tis, thou, shall, wilt not, just to name a few. These was words used within The Holy Bible (King James Versions) as well. Therefore, throughout the history of the Bible, it appears as if the new versions was developed during each era, in which the bible has been redeveloped the Bible was manufactured in 1408 into English by Wycliffe. There are several Bibles published; however, there are some difficulties trying to establish the accurate amount of Bible or Testament

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3 [ CITATION Num09 \l 1033 ]

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translated, incomplete and correction or revision of the current translation. Nevertheless the amount of translated and paraphrased Bibles printed are about 900.

Although the Bible has been written in English from Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek, the Bible is constantly being translated into several different languages.

As of October 2017 the full Bible has been translated into 670 languages, the new Testament alone into 1,521 languages and Bible portions or stories into 1,121 other languages yet some portions of the Bible has been translated into 3,312 languages and still counting.<sup>5</sup>

Majority of these translation are developed based upon the English diction. Not only did the Europeans language influence the writing of the Bible, through their interpretations; howbeit, other nations as well. Therefore, the Bible has been written with the intent that readers will be able to interpret exactly what God originally intended for them to understand in their own language.

Language played a tremendous role upon the developmental stages of the Holy Bible. For in order to give people the wisdom, knowledge and teach them how to access the kingdom of God, we needed inspired men of God to write in a way we could and can understand for every generations as well as nationality. This is why so many versions are being published. Their aim is not to taint the word of God, but to give people an understanding upon the word of God using their diction. Whether it is by changing the spelling according to the readers spelling, or changing certain words into words the readers are familiar with etc. For language is the key influencer of the writing of the Bible. The revisionary had to choose the right method, to

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communicate Gods' word, within a structured and conventional way, in order to deliver the adequate amount of knowledge. For this was the way to resolve the misunderstanding within the context of scripture. Furthermore, disciples of God have to research more when reading from certain versions, since the frame of reference may be difficult to perceive within the literary work because of the dated material. Therefore, the revised versions helps us understand the text, subject, theme and topic better, when written in our vernacular.

The Semitic language was the beginning of the much needed translation for people to receive the inspired word of God. Majority of the teachings of Jesus was passed on by word of mouth through oral traditions, because purchasing the writing utensils was expensive. God inspired mankind to make those much needed sacrifices, so that all nations could receive the word of God. Furthermore, God continues to inspire mankind to revitalize the word of God for the world.