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Introduction to Biblical Studies

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### **Reading the Intro to your Favorite Translations**

My preferred English Bible translation is the New American Standard Bible (NASB). It was published by The Lockman Foundation, a non-profit Christian ministry dedicated to the translation, publication, and distribution of Bibles. The production of the NASB is based on the principles of translation of the American Standard Version (ASV) and the King James Version (KJV). The ASV, a product of both British and American scholarship, has been highly considered for its scholarship and accuracy. It is for these lasting values of the ASV that the Lockman Foundation decided to follow its principles of translation.

The translation process for the NASB started in 1959. Its publisher consulted various other Bible translations as well as linguistic tools and literature of biblical scholarship. Regarding English renderings, it was a decision made by the agreement of a team of both educators and pastors. Both Hebrew and Greek scholars outside of the Editorial Board reviewed and evaluated the biblical work.

As learned in previous classes, different principles of translations are taken into consideration when translating the original languages of Scripture; translation word-for-word, thought-for-thought, and a paraphrase. The New American Standard Bible follows the word-for-word principle of translations, which means that it is a literal translation from the original Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. Although the NASB is a literal translation, the working team of

the Bible took into consideration the modern use of the English language; thus, a change was made “in the direction of a more current English idiom.” These considerations mentioned above make the New American Standard Bible both a reliable and practical Bible translation, which has become the favorite translation of many scholars and believers in general worldwide.