

## “WHICH TRANSLATION SHOULD I READ?”

### The Languages of the Bible

- Old Testament Hebrew 1445-425 BC
- Portions of Daniel and Ezra Aramaic
- New Testament Koine Greek AD 44-95

### The Translations of the Bible

- The Septuagint 250-100 BC (LXX)  
The translation of the Old Testament from Hebrew into Greek
- The Jewish Targums  
Any one of several paraphrases of the Old Testament into Aramaic
- The Vulgate AD 390-405  
A translation of the entire Bible into Latin. This became the standard Bible for use in the Western church for 1000 years.
- John Wycliffe’s Translation AD 1380  
A translation of the Latin Vulgate into English.
- The Geneva Bible AD 1560  
The first English Bible to incorporate chapter and verse divisions.
- William Tyndale’s Translation AD 1535  
Translation from the Hebrew Old Testament and the Greek New Testament into English
- The King James Version AD 1611  
There are many revisions. The 1769 revision is the King James Version used today.
- Twentieth Century translations

## Two Issues Involved in Translations

1. Which texts are used by the translators?
  - King James Version - The Textus Receptus
  - Twentieth Century Translations - the critical text
  
2. Which theory of translation is used by the translators?
  - Formal Equivalence – the attempt to keep as close to the form of the Hebrew or Greek, both words and grammar, as can be conveniently put into understandable English  

NASV I Thes. 1:3 “your steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ”
  - Dynamic Equivalence – the attempt to keep the meaning of the Hebrew or Greek but to put their words and idioms into what would be the normal way of saying the same thing in English  

NIV I Thes. 1:3 “your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ”

## A Few Warnings