

God Wrote a Book: Me, Thee, and the KJV

Opening Discussion

1. When you were a kid, how popular were versions other than the King James Version?
2. Have you ever encountered someone who believes the King James Version is the only true Bible?
3. What arguments have you heard for only using the King James Version?
4. How do you feel about these ideas from the King James Only world?

Thoughts from the King James Only world:

“We believe that the King James Version of the bible is the only and complete Word of God.” KJV Only Ministries (<https://usekjvonly.com/>)

“If you brought anything other than the King James Version of the Bible with you tonight, just throw it on the floor, and we will sweep it up with the rest of the trash.” Pastor Phil Kidd

“If it ain’t King James, it ain’t Bible.” Local bumper sticker

“If the king ain’t on it, the King ain’t in it.” Common saying in North Alabama

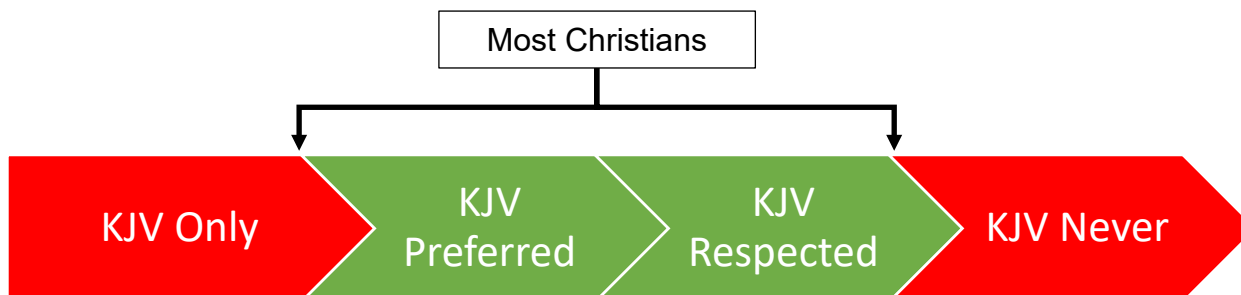
“Since God wrote the Bible, Jesus is the Word and never changes, the Bible never changes, and God promises to preserve his words (even jots and tittles) . . .

. . . Then only ONE version is correct. This is the King James Version. If a person uses the other versions they are calling the King James Version false. God was able to write the Bible perfectly in the first place (and did) and is able to preserve it perfectly (and did). Man can’t do this, but God can by his Holy Spirit working through man.” From the booklet *Why the King James Version Bible is the Only Word of God*

“When you walk down the aisle (at a church that uses the NASB, NIV, or NKJV, or any version other than the KJV) . . . you’re born into the devil’s family because you’ve been born of corruptible seed.” Pastor Jack Hyles

Truth: The King James Version of the Bible is an accurate and faithful translation of the Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek Scriptures that compose the Bible, but it is not the only accurate and faithful translation of the Bible.

1. Four types of Christians



2. The King James Only Logic:

- The Textual Argument:

“God’s promise to preserve His Word is more sure than our ability to reconstruct it. The reconstructionist presuppositions behind the modern critical text are incompatible with God’s promise of preservation. Therefore, the modern critical text must be rejected in favor of the text that the Church has organically received.” Andrew Warrick, theparticularbaptist.net (note: Andrew fits better into the KJV Preferred category and the KJV Only category)

- The Inspired Argument:

“Observe how accurately and beautifully the infallible English text straightens out Erasmus, Griesbach, Beza, Nestle, Aland, Metzger, Trench, Vincent, Davis, Wuest, Zodhiates, Elzevir, and Stephanus . . . If the mood or tense isn’t right in any Greek text, the King James Bible will straighten it out in a hurry.” Peter Ruckman, The “Errors” in the King James Bible, p. 353

To blazes with “THE GREEK TEXT.” It is so inferior to the English text they are not worthy of standing on the same shelf. Peter Ruckman, The Christian’s Handbook of Biblical Scholarship, p. 338

“We have a standard of final authority by which we judge Greek manuscripts. It’s a King James 1611 Authorized Version. That is our final authority. That is final.” Peter Ruckman, Bible Believers' Bulletin. Feb. 2008, p. 1

“Ruckman is correct regarding the superiority of the AV over any Greek and Hebrew texts. There is no perfect Greek or Hebrew text. There is a perfect KJB. The KJB is now the Received Text in English. There is no need for Greek or Hebrew.” From the comments section of *Ruckman Teaching that the KJV can Correct the Greek*

3. Why do these arguments trap so many Christians?

- Nostalgic arguments are powerful arguments.
- Loud arguments are powerful arguments.
- Visual arguments are powerful arguments.

Colossians 1:14
Where is the BLOOD of Christ?

KJB In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:
NAS in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
NCV The Son paid for our sins, and in him we have forgiveness.
NIV in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Mark 11:26

KJV: But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

NIV: OMITTED

They told me all bibles were the same.

NIV	KJV
Why did Jesus come to earth? Luke 9:56 and they went to another village.	Why did Jesus come to earth? Luke 9:56 For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them: And they went to another village.
Matthew 18:11 (MISSING)	Matthew 18:11 For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.

Verse No.	Version of the Bible				
	KJV	NIV	NASV	NCV	NRSV RSV
Matthew 17:21	YES	REMOVED			
Matthew 18:11	YES	REMOVED			
Matthew 23:14	YES	REMOVED			
Mark 7:16	YES	REMOVED			
Mark 9:44	YES	REMOVED			
Mark 9:46	YES	REMOVED			
Mark 11:26	YES	REMOVED			
Mark 15:28	YES	REMOVED			
Luke 17:36	YES	REMOVED			
Luke 23:17	YES	REMOVED			
John 8:4	YES	REMOVED			
Acts 8:37	YES	REMOVED			
Acts 15:34	YES	REMOVED			
Acts 24:7	YES	REMOVED			
Acts 28:29	YES	REMOVED			
Romans 16:24	YES	REMOVED			

- One site catalogues 300 differences between the KJV and modern translations: https://www.jesus-is-savior.com/Bible/NIV/300_changes.htm

For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. **Matthew 6:14-15 NIV**

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins. **Ephesian 1:7 NIV**

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost. **Luke 19:10 NIV**

4. Questions the KJV Only movement can't answer:

- Which version of the Textus Receptus was received from God?
- If the Textus Receptus is inspired and infallible, why are there multiple versions with changes from one to another?
- Why didn't God preserve His Word before 1516 or 1611?
- Why the King James Version and not the Geneva Bible? Their only answer is, "It's not the KJV":

"It's really close. It has a lot of really good points to it. It's based on pretty much the right text. But there are some compromises in it. And there are some changes in it . . . You could look them up . . . You wouldn't even have to have to hold the Hebrew or the Greek. You have the King James Bible, now, here, and you can look through it and see the language right there, because it's the same meaning. God transferred it." From a transcript of a Q&A titled, *What's Wrong with the Geneva Bible* at chick.com

- If the King James Version is the inspired, infallible Word of God, why have there been changes to it? Their only answer is when modern versions make changes, they are changing the Word of God, but when KJV editors make changes, they are purifying the Word of God.

"The King James Version we have today has not been revised but purified." David Reagan in the booklet, *The King James Version of 1611—the Myth of Early Revisions*

5. How should we respond to those who hold a KJV only stance?

One—encourage them to keep reading the KJV.

Two—be gracious and listen.

Three—be clear that you do not believe this is a first level doctrinal issue.

Level one doctrinal issues determine who we go to heaven with.

Level two doctrinal issues determine who we go to church with.

Level three doctrinal issues determine who we go to coffee with.

Four—provide resources.

Five—expose them to good, solid, conservative preachers who are not KJV only.

Sources:

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Full Jack Hyles quote:

"The Bible says we're not born of corruptible seed. What does that mean? We're not born of the NIV. We're not born of the New King James. We are born of incorruptible seed (holds up KJV Bible) . . . On any given Sunday morning in America . . . there walks down the aisle someone to say yes to Jesus Christ. He's heard the message of this incorruptible seed. He gets saved—born again. That same moment, someone goes down the aisle of a so called church that uses the corruptible seed—the American Standard or the NIV or the Revised Version—and they too get born again. Can you get born again of corruptible seed? Oh yes, but not in the same family. Jesus said in John 8:44, "Ye are of your father the devil" talking to religious people. Matthew 13:38 says the tares are the children of the wicked one. That means when you walk down the aisle and get religion you're born again, but you're born into the devil's family because you've been born of corruptible seed, but hallelujah, I've been born of incorruptible seed (holds up KJV Bible)." Pastor Jack Hyles