

Understanding Our Bible Better - in the Septuagint Translation vs the Masoretic Translation

Val Brinkerhoff, 11/12/2023, 7 pages

Sacred texts were and are venerated in the Middle East and thus sincere attempts have been made to transmit them accurately from generation to generation without alteration. This is exactly what why the Dead Sea Scrolls are so important! They were preserved in jars to be unearthed in our day to serve as a second witness for the most ancient texts and their ideas in books like Genesis, Deuteronomy, and Isaiah, which were part of the Old Testament. Various books of the Old Testament were used by Jesus and the early Apostles. Quotes by Jesus of these are found in the record we now call the New Testament (Jesus quoted Deuteronomy the most, followed by the Psalms and then Isaiah). Human error and agendas have crept in to all later “Bibles” used today. We have over 3,000 Bibles available on line today, and some 900 printed versions in English alone. Every “Bible” version or translation has a purpose or **agenda**, a reason for the existence of each of them. All went through human hands, meaning they have errors, and with editing tied to their agenda. Where did we get the King James Version of the Bible, the version so popular today? And what was its original agenda or purpose?

Ancient Hebrew, Chaldean and Aramaic texts were used to bring us the KJV and all versions of the Bible. But how did the KJV come about, and by who, when, and why? Knowledge of the 2 oldest translations of the Old Testament that led up to the 1611 King James Translation of the Bible (its Old and New Testaments) provides key understanding to what we have in the KJV. The 2 most important versions of the Hebrew Bible (and specifically the Old Testament portion of its texts) are; (1) The 250 BC Greek Septuagint version of the Hebrew Bible; And (2) The 900 AD Masoretic Hebrew Bible. The first preceded the later by nearly 10 centuries or 1,000 years. Both were created by Jews or Hebrews, but with very different agendas, *and* within 3 different languages (Greek, Hebrew and a little Aramaic). Here is the story, one very much centered on **who God is** in the translations, a very basic and important doctrine guiding us all!

Who Compiled our KJV Bible?

History shows that as time passed, the Jews who kept the ancient Hebrew texts were scattered to other nations, some were taken captive to them, while others traveled to them freely. As a result, these Jews began speaking other languages over time, like the Jews taken into captivity in Babylon. When they returned to Jerusalem 70 years later, the average Jew spoke Aramaic, not Hebrew. Some of their priests, however spoke and wrote in both languages. To help the people, these priests translated their Hebrew Old Testament texts into Aramaic for the average Jew during Jesus’ day. Jesus’ ministry was among these Jews who had returned from Babylonian captivity. His native language *was* Aramaic (the native language of Babylon and thus Israel), but it is believed that He also spoke Hebrew and Greek, like Paul and others.

When the Jews were scattered to various nations, a large community of them had settled and prospered in the city of Alexandria, Egypt. They were free people, not captives, and they were united by their Greek language. Like the Jews in Babylon, the Jews in Alexandria had replaced their various tribal languages with mostly Greek in Egypt by the 3rd century BC (Jesus had not yet been born). They had a sincere desire to create an accurate translation of their venerated documents in the Greek language. So it came to pass that around 250 B.C., 70 (or 72) rabbis translated their sacred texts into Greek. This translation was not a bootleg or “non-approved” edition. It was officially sanctioned by both *the* Jewish High Priest later in Jerusalem *and* by the 70 (or 72) members of the Jewish *Sanhedrin* there. Five separate sources confirm this story! We call this Greek translation of the ancient Hebrew Old Testament texts, the “Septuagint” translation today, as it was translated from various languages (but mostly Hebrew) into Greek by these 70 (or 72) Sanhedrin leaders. The earliest Greek “Septuagint” translation had only Old Testament texts in it, those gathered and put together in 250 BC in Egypt. After Jesus’ ministry (about 30 to 33 AD), the New Testament texts were being compiled documenting His teachings. And by 70 AD, the time when many Jews went into captivity in Babylon, some of these Jesus-oriented texts were circulating among the Jews, those converted to Christianity, like the 12 Apostles and others. This is 320 years after the *first* Septuagint “Bible” had been created in Alexandria Egypt. Thus, later “Bibles” *among the believing Christians* began containing both witnesses of Israel’s God and His word to them (He was Jehovah of the Old Testament *and* Jesus of the New Testament – the same God, Son of the Father, who had come among them).

Today’s modern “Septuagint” version of the Jewish or Hebrew Bible contains both of these witnesses or “testaments” - in one “Bible.” It contains the oldest known version of the both the Old and New Testament texts! We should remember that the Jewish people were charged with keeping the written record of their God, His law, and words,

through Abraham. God told Abraham “in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed” (see Gen. 12:3). Their greatest blessing for humanity is God’s word in the Bible which they have shared with us! The problem is, which Jews. Jesus said some of them are fake Jews (see Rev. 2:9 & 3:9). Some Jews accepted Jesus as their Old Testament God and some did not. This is a huge thing, as we have “Bibles” which are different and claim different “truths.” Who God is, is the most important truth of all!

The word “Septuagint” is Latin for *Vetus Testamentum ex versione Septuaginta Interpretum*, meaning, “The Old Testament from the version of the Seventy Translators.” Jewish tradition, however, says there were 72 translators for it. Ptolemy II Philadelphus (the Greek Pharaoh of Egypt) is the one who brought in 72 Hebrew translators (6 from each Tribe) from Jerusalem to Alexandria to translate the *Tanakh* from Biblical Hebrew into Koine Greek. He did so that he might include it in his personal library. This narrative is supported to by 5 corroborating sources! It first originates in (1) the pseudepigraphic Letter of Aristeas to his brother Philocrates, which is repeated by (2) Philo of Alexandria and (3) Josephus in *Antiquities of the Jews*, and by later sources including (4) Augustine of Hippo. A 5th witness is that of (5) the Tractate Megillah of the Babylonian Talmud. It reads, “King Ptolemy once gathered 72 Elders. He placed them in 72 chambers, each of them in a separate one, without revealing to them why they were summoned. He entered each one's room and said: “Write for me the Torah of Moshe your teacher.”

The Masoretic Hebrew Bible (of the Old Testament texts) was created by *supposed* Jews who do not accept Jesus being the God of the Old Testament, nor the King Israel, nor their Messiah! They strongly rejected Him and any version of the “Bible” that promoted Him along with any related Christian belief! The Masoretic Bible origin is based on rejection of the Christian God Jesus or Yeshua, and any narrative tied Him. Besides being 1,000 years newer (finalized by 900 AD), the Jewish rabbis compiling and editing the Masoretic Bible were not accountable to the High Priest in Jerusalem, as there was no longer a High Priest at that time, nor was there any approval by a San Hedrin, as it too no longer existed. The Rabbi’s had taken control of a different religion after many scattered Jews and gathered back to Jerusalem. The Kingdom gospel administered by David and later Solomon (the 1st Temple period) *and* the Prophets and Priests working with them, had disappeared, along with many other doctrines, beliefs, etc. These later Rabbis put together their official “Masoretic” version of the Hebrew texts in their possession, editing them (upon agreement with each other) to portray their narrative, in their “Bible” of Jewish history and texts. It did not include the Christian beliefs or their God, Jesus in any clear way, yet He remained.

By the time Jesus came among the Jewish people, there was no official King of Israel (except Jesus), but they have a High Priest and a San Hedrin (this time frame is known as the 2nd Temple period, Herod’s Temple). The Greek version of the Old Testament texts thus predates the first appearance of the Masoretic text by nearly 10 centuries or 1,000 years! It is based upon the older Hebrew and Aramaic Old Testament texts – *and beliefs* – than those edited texts used for the Masoretic compilation some 10 to 12 centuries later. Sadly, most modern Christian translations of the Old Testament portion of the Bible now originate from “the Masoretic Hebrew Bible,” like the popular KJV, not the Septuagint translation! This has been purposeful and it can result in inaccuracies in some passages, as the clear agenda of the Masoretic text is very much anti-Jesus and anti-Christian!

Fortunately, the quotations of New Testament texts in most modern Bibles, including the KJV, *are* from the Septuagint translation. These originated in mostly the Greek language with some Hebrew and Aramaic in places. The integrity and truthfulness of the Septuagint translation is completely dependent on it being a truthful, dependable OT translation. If one can discredit it, then there is no New Testament to place with it! It is significant that there was **no controversy** about the integrity of the Septuagint from 250 B.C. until 135 AD. This includes the time Jesus was on earth in his mortal ministry here! The later New Testament documents, written by contemporaries of Jesus were circulating among the Jews by A.D. 70. The unbelieving Jews quit using the Septuagint because it was too closely allied to the Christian God Jesus Christ, the Son of Man, the man crucified and resurrected. In Old Testament books like Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53, Jesus fulfills prophecies made in them tied to **Messiah ben Joseph** – “the suffering servant” (like Joseph of Egypt, who saved *his brothers* who sold him into Egypt). Many Old Testament scriptures address His return in our day as “Messiah ben David,” **the conquering King** (like King David of old). Both Messiah’s are Jesus, in 2 missions.

Annas and Caiaphas (appointed High Priests at the time of Jesus) and the Jewish Sanhedrin rejected the messianic claims of Jesus, and especially those He made tied to His preferred title as “the Son of Man” (see Dan. 7:13-14)! New Testament documents testifying of Jesus as “the Son of Man” were circulating among them by A.D. 70. Jewish leaders knew that

the credibility of the Christian Gospels depended on the credibility of the Septuagint, so around 95 A.D. Rabbi Akiva (who later proclaimed Bar Kochba as the messiah) hired a man named Aquila to translate a Hebrew to Greek version of the Old Testament that would **undermine** the messianic claims of Jesus found in the Septuagint. Bible scholars generally believe that the Masoretic text was based in part on this early, agenda driven translation by Aquila. This is a very critical point, one hidden among most Christians.

Psalm 22 – “they pierced” (Septuagint 250 BC) versus “like a Lion” (Masoretic 900 AD)

Here is one (of many) examples of the differences between the Septuagint and Masoretic translations of just one Old Testament verse. King David prophetically addressed our LORD’s suffering in the crucifixion in Psalm 22. In verse 16 (NIV, 1978) we read, “Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce my hands and my feet.” In the pre-Christian Greek Septuagint (250 BC with its 70 or 72 Jewish translators) this verse reads, “*For many dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked doers has beset me round: they **pierced** my hands and my feet.*” The (Lxx or Septuagint) translators read the Hebrew word כָּאֲרִי, *ka’ari*, כְּאֲרוּי *ka’aru* and translated it “they dug” or “they **pierced.**” A thousand years later (900 AD) the Masoretic translators took the same verse and translated it, “For dogs have encircled me, an evil congregation surrounded me; like a **lion** my hands and my feet.”

The difference in the 2 translations is tied whether the original word for “**pierced**” or “**lion**” ended with a vav or a yod. A second witness for the correctness of the Septuagint translation is given us in scraps from an ancient scroll containing some of the Psalms discovered at Nachal Hever. One scrap contained the line from Psalm 22:16 with the word in question well in view. Though the writing on the scrap was faint, under magnification it was easy to see and decipher. The word clearly ended in a *vav* not a *yod*, and was therefore a 3rd person plural verb: “they dug” or “they **pierced.**” According to Dr. Peter Flint, “This scrap is dated (in accordance with the style of letters used) to 50-68 CE and is almost 1,000 years earlier than the Aleppo Codex, the earliest extant manuscript of the Masoretic text, and shows that in at least one of the earliest Hebrew traditions of Psalm 22, the word is not “like a lion” but “they dug” or “**pierced.**” Dr. Peter Flint, who published the principle edition of the scrap, notes that in the Herodian script, ‘*vav* and *yod* are usually distinguished, with *vav* generally longer than *yod*.’ Indeed, in this instance, we have a perfect example for comparison, since the very next letter following the word in question is a yod: ‘my hands’ (יָדַי). The last letter of *ka’aru* is without doubt a *vav* when compared with the beginning letter of the next word which is clearly a *yod*. Here, then, is a Hebrew manuscript, pre-Christian, with ‘they dug’ or ‘they **pierced.**” See Torah Resource at: <https://torahresource.com/psalm-2216>

In Isaiah chapter 53 (another Jesus-centered text) there are 17 differences between the 2 translations. I provide 3 good examples differing verse translation **on p. 117** (see also endnote 58). This chapter is excluded from most Synagogue readings today.

Bibles Available Today

As of September of 2023 there are some 3,030 versions of the Bible available digitally in 2,011 languages on bible.com. Currently about 3,283 languages in 167 countries have active Bible translation projects going on (with or without some portion already published). According to the American Bible Society, there are some 900 versions of the Bible available in English alone. The oldest known “Bibles” (collections of texts that became “the Bible”) are the early Greek Septuagint (250 BC, early Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek texts), the Codex Sinaiticus (450 AD), and the Codex Vaticanus (1209 AD).

About 55% of Americans use the KJV, or King James Version, translated in 1611 by those who were mostly members of the Church of England. The top 3 men overseeing this “new” non-Catholic translation were all Freemasons (King James, Francis Bacon & Robert Fludd, see **endnote 19**). About 19% of Bible-using Americans use the NIV (New International Version, 1978). Catholics typically use the RSV (the “Revised Standard Version,” 1946). Many Bible scholars use the NRSV (the “New Revised Standard Version,” 1989). The Septuagint *and* the early 1611 KJV generally had 14 additional apocryphal books in them; 80 total books; 39 OT, 27 NT and 14 Apocrypha, which included 1 Esdras, 2 Esdras, Tobit, Judith, Additions to Esther, Wisdom of Solomon, Ecclesiasticus, Baruch, Letter of Jeremiah, Susanna, Bel and the Dragon, Prayer of Manasseh, 1 Maccabees, and 2 Maccabees.

What Agenda Lies Behind the 1611 KJV Translation?

The introduction to the King James Bible answers much of this question. It is normally called “*The Epistle Dedicatory*” and reveals that this is a *Protestant, anti-Catholic* Bible, supported by King James in his new 1611 translation of ancient

Jewish texts. The Old English of this dedication is difficult to read, but some of the key phrases in *italics* hereafter - in it - are revealing. Note in its 3rd paragraph that the translators believed they were “*writing in defence of the Truth, (which hath given such a blow unto that man of sin, as will not be healed)*”. The translators, all members of *the Church of England* believed their new 1611 *Protestant* translation of Jewish texts would **not** allow Satan, the lead rebel “son of God” to raise up “***the man of sin***” among the people in the last days. John and Paul says otherwise. It will happen. Note also the word “*truth*” according to the agenda of the “*the Church of England*” and its *Protestant* leader in King James. He was a *Freemason* and the “*principal author of the work.*” In the last paragraph of *The Epistle Dedicatory* (to the all-powerful King James), we read that the translators didn’t want to be influenced in their work by “*Popish persons [the Pope of the Catholic Church and those he influenced] . . . whom they desire still to keep in ignorance and darkness.*” Their mostly sincere desire was to bring light to the people, from their perspective *and* that of their King.

Masonic Editing of the 1611 King James Bible

Freemasonry calls itself “The Craft.” God uses this term to describe the “craftiness” or *deception* among those using mankind for “gain” typically in secret societies. Freemasonry is one of most widespread and successful secret societies worldwide, clearly tied to “the Brotherhood of the Snake” at its top. Its leaders hold back the most secret “mysteries” from those at the lower levels of the Masonic order. The highest-level secret of “the Craft” is its purposeful diminishment of Jesus Christ or “Adonai” in favor of Lucifer, their “light bearer.” The words of U.S. Freemasonry leader Albert Pike are especially incriminating in this regard (see farther below).

The 1611 *King James Bible* (KJV) is an English translation of the Christian Bible, the 3rd officially approved by the Church of England. The 1st was the *Great Bible* under King Henry VIII, published in 1537. The 2nd was the *Bishop’s Bible* in 1568. Both were heavily influenced by the work of William Tyndale. Because changes were made to many passages that did not conform to the doctrine of the Church of England. King James convened the Hampton Court Conference in 1604 where a new English Bible was conceived in supposed response to a strong Puritan faction in the Church who took issue with earlier translations. This new translation has become *the* standard for much of the English-speaking world.

King James of England and Scotland, *Sir Francis Bacon*, and *Robert Fludd* (all Freemasons) led the 60 or so KJV translators (all men) for the new anti-Catholic, Pretestant translation completed in 1611. These men oversaw the editing, which may have represented a Masonic agenda. Every translation of the Bible represents some purpose or agenda. One more obvious edit is described well by authors Leonard Horowitz and Joseph Puleo. They suggest that 6 specific Solfeggio frequencies in the Book of Numbers were later encoded into the text through new verse numbers in chapter 7, verses 12-83. In the Torah, the Book of Numbers was originally called, “In the Wilderness.” Horowitz and Puleo believe the name change “Numbers” points to the 6 Solfeggio frequencies now encoded in these verse numbers. They then list 3 potential reasons why they were purposely hidden in the verse numbers of the Book of Numbers, along with other esoteric information in the King’s “new translation.” They are:

1. The encoding of these numbers (and other edits) kept the masses ignorant, a useful control tool for those in power
2. The encoding hid this and other powerful knowledge to protect it from the Catholic Church
3. The encoding allowed King James to work as a double agent, sharing secrets with both Catholic and Protestant leaders

This is just one of many edits in the KJV. See Horowitz and Puleo, *Healing Codes for the Biological Apocalypse*, Tetrahedron publishing, p. 80. For more on King James background, see M. Baigent, R. Leigh and H. Lincoln, *Holy Blood Holy Grail*, Dell, pps. 79-80; 1983. See also David Icke, *The Biggest Secret*, David Icke Books, pps. 79, 160-67, 241-43; 1999.

Albert Pike & Masonry Early American Masonic leader Albert Pike spoke of the three necessary wars that would finally lead to the elite taking world power, all part of a war of worship between Adonai - Jesus or Lucifer - Satan.

- World War I The creation of **the League of Nations** (with wisdom, U.S. leaders would not participate at this time)
- World War II The creation of **the United Nations** (the U.S. houses this world government in NYC, paying for it)
- World War III The anticipated creation of **the New World Order** (with Lucifer at the top of it all)

“Masonry, like all the Religions, all the Mysteries, Hermeticism, and Alchemy, conceals its secrets from all except the Adepts and Sages, or the Elect, and uses false explanations and misinterpretations of its symbols to mislead those who

deserve only to be *mislead*; to conceal the Truth, which it calls light, and draw them away from it” (Albert Pike, *Morals and Dogma*, pps. 104-5). He added, “What we must say to the crowd is—We worship a God...To you, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, we say, so that you can repeat it to the Brethren of the 32nd, 31st and 30th degrees:—The Masonic religion must be, by all of us initiates *of the high grades*, maintained in the purity of **the Luciferian doctrine**. If Lucifer were not God, Adonai (the God of the Christians) whose deeds [Old Testament stories] prove his cruelty, perfidy and hatred of man, his barbarism and repulsion of science—if Lucifer were not God, would Adonai and His priests slander him? Yes, **Lucifer is God**, and unfortunately so is Adonai. For the eternal law is that there is no splendor without shadow, no beauty without ugliness, no white without black, because the absolute can only exist as two, because darkness is necessary to light to serve as its compliment . . . The true and pure philosophical religion is the belief in Lucifer, equal to Adonai, but Lucifer, God of Light and God of Good, is fighting for humanity against Adonai, God of Darkness and God of Evil” (Albert Pike, *address to the 23 Confederated Supreme Councils of the World*, 14 July 1889).

According to Manly P. Hall, the uninformed public and the lower level members of Freemasonry are purposely kept in the dark to allow the goals of Freemasonry to flourish. “Freemasonry is a fraternity *within* a fraternity -- an outer organization concealing an *inner brotherhood* of the elect . . . it is necessary to establish the existence of these *two separate* and yet interdependent *orders*, the one visible the other invisible. The visible society is a splendid camaraderie of 'free and accepted' men enjoined to devote themselves to ethical, educational, fraternal, patriotic, and humanitarian concerns. The invisible society is a secret and most August [defined as 'of majestic dignity, grandeur'] fraternity whose members are dedicated to the service of a *mysterious* arcannumarcandrum [defined as 'a secret, a mystery' or the secret of secrets]” (Manly P. Hall, *Lectures on Ancient Philosophy*, p. 433).

Secret Signs & Oaths “And it came to pass that they did have their **signs**, yea, their **secret signs**, and their **secret words**; and this that they might distinguish a brother who had entered into the covenant, that whatsoever wickedness his brother should do he should not be injured by his brother, nor by those who did belong to his band, who had taken this covenant. And thus they might murder, and plunder, and steal, and commit whoredoms and all manner of wickedness, contrary to the laws of their country and also the laws of their God...Now behold, it is these **secret oaths** and covenants which Alma commanded his son should not go forth unto the world, lest they should be a means of bringing down the people unto destruction” (Helaman 6:22-23, 25)

Joseph Smith's Words About Freemasonry The Prophet Joseph Smith (1st Pres. Of the LDS Church), was a Freemason, but not especially committed to the brotherhood, especially in comparison to Brigham Young and Heber C. Kimball who were. He said, “And again, I would further suggest the impropriety of the organization of bands or companies, by *covenant* or **oaths**, by **penalties** or **secrecies** . . . Pure friendship always becomes *weakened* the very moment you undertake to make it stronger be **penal oaths** and **secrecy**” (HC, vol. 3, p. 303). In 1838 God warned Joseph Smith about the rising up of “*the secret chamber*” in Nauvoo (see D&C 38). It is mentioned 2 times in this section. Joseph, Hyrum, and Samuel Smith were murdered within a month of each other that Brigham Young and other Freemasons might take over the church. There were over 1,400 Masons in Nauvoo at the time of their deaths (see *The Secret Chamber: Spiritual Wifery & the Doctrine of Christ*, Amazon).

Freemasonry's Goal is to Corrupt & Destroy Christianity In a 1987 Jeffrey Hadden survey, questions were sent to some 10,000 Protestant clergymen in America, 7,441 replied. Their answers were shocking. A huge percentage of the Christian Pastors did not believe that (1) Christ was resurrected, that (2) he was born of a virgin birth, that (3) demons exist in the world today, and (4) that scripture was and is the inspired Word of God in faith, history, and secular matters. Another survey published in August 1988 by *the Association of North American Missions* revealed that selfishness and indifference was flourishing among many leaders and their churches because most Christian denominations had been penetrated at the top by the materialism of gain-centered Masonry. Tom C. McKenney, coauthor of *The Deadly Deception*, revealed that of the two largest Protestant denominations in the United States, “90 percent of one and 70 percent of the other have pastors who are members of the Masonic Lodge.”

According to Lorainne Day, Masonic penetration of Christian churches began at the turn of the 20th century. This is exactly what happened within early Mormonism, as Master Masons Brigham Young and Heber C. Kimball took over Mormonism. Joseph, Hyrum and Samuel were murdered that polygamy might become the law of the new church, allowing leaders to practice it and be supported in their “gain” (see, *The Secret Chamber: Spiritual Wifery & the Doctrine of Christ*, Amazon). Myron Fagan, a well-known Jewish-American playwright on Broadway and Hollywood (who became

a Christian) published a series of audiotapes released in 1967 entitled, *The Illuminati*. In them, Fagan revealed how the takeover of Christianity was to be accomplished. Jacob Schiff (son of a Jewish Reform Rabbi born in Frankfurt, Germany) was sent to the United States to carry out four specific assignments in connection with Freemasonry, and the pollution of Christianity.

(1) The first was to control America's money system via the Federal Reserve System. Fagan detailed how Masonic money and power backed Jacob Schiff and his establishment of the German House of Warburg a banking system in America, with J.P. Morgan and John D. Rockefeller as front men.

(2) The second was to find men who, for a price, who would willingly serve as stooges for a great conspiracy. They were then promoted to various Federal positions in Congress, the U.S. Supreme Court, and many Federal agencies. The same men were groomed for the Council on Foreign Relations, part of the New World Order.

(3) The third was to create minority group strife across the nation, particularly between races. The NAACP was created for this purpose (the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People).

(4) The fourth was to destroy religion in the United States, Christianity (and Adonai) being the chief target. This goal became the task of the National Council of Churches, along with the Rothschilds.

Day points out that Adam Weishaupt, a cultural Jew who was raised a Catholic, started the Lucifer-worshipping occult organization known as the *Illuminati*. He was also a Freemason and used it to further the Illuminati's goal of world control via a One World Government. See Lorraine Day, *How the New World Order is Using the Christian Churches and their Pastors to Destroy Christianity*.

Latter-day Saint Usage of the KJV

Mormons, those mostly led by the modern Utah Church utilize the 1611 KJV (updated by them and Christian churches) rather than the 1867 JST (Joseph Smith's Inspired Translation of the KJV Bible). The KJV Bible was available to Joseph Smith within his father's family (it also had the older Apocrypha in it, typical of more Catholic influenced Bibles then). Utah Mormons utilize an LDS version (changes) of the KJV Bible (with footnotes connecting passages to other LDS scripture, an extensive Topical Guide and Dictionary, 17 pages of select, copyrighted scriptures from the JST, and some Church history, etc.). The 1867 JST is owned and copyrighted by the Community of Christ Church in Missouri (the leaders of this Church were *first* members of the Smith family, as opposed to Young's Mormon Church out west. Control of both Churches was usurped by men, the 12 Apostles, who were to be traveling missionaries like Paul the Apostle, not administrators sitting in the "Chief seats"). This early Christian Church, now known as *The Community of Christ*, was founded by Joseph Smith's firstborn son, Joseph Smith III, the first president of what was originally called, *The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*.

President Brigham Young (2nd Pres. of the Utah based version of this church, living polygamy at this time) went west without the 500-page JST Bible transcript, then in possession of Emma Smith, the Prophet Joseph Smith's wife. The Smith family (east in Missouri) and the Brighamites of Utah west, were at doctrinal war with one another at the time the Joseph Smith III published the JST in 1876. Joseph Smith senior (his father and his two brothers Hyrum and Samuel Smith, uncles of Joseph Smith III) were murdered by a group calling themselves "the Secret Chamber" in Nauvoo. The Smith family believed the 3 murdered Smith brothers were killed by "the Secret Chamber," a secretive group led by Brigham Young (they were practicing polygamy secretly behind Joseph Smith's back). Brigham Young took power in the murders, leading the half of the church west to Utah Territory, starting his own "kingdom" of polygamy beyond the borders and control of the U.S. The Smith family stayed in Missouri, rejecting Polygamy and other doctrines introduced by Brigham Young into his version of the early Church, started in 1830 by Joseph Smith the Prophet.

In order to preach the gospel of Christ officially, as he saw it, a license had to be obtained from the State of New York where he then lived. Hence Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery and small group of some 6 people met to official start a new Church, recognized by the State of New York for licensing of his ministers or missionaries. Joseph and Oliver had baptized each other, receiving priesthood authority to do so, along with the gift of the Holy Ghost in a "born again" experience (see JSH 73-74). This was a year earlier in 1829, before any official Church had been created.

Concluding, again there are some 900 English translations of the Bible alone. I include only 12 of these below, arranged by date. For more on the split in early Mormonism, between the Smithites east and the Brighamites west (much like believing and unbelieving Jews in Jesus), and their versions of things, see my book, *The Secret Chamber: Spiritual Wifery and the Doctrine of Christ*, Amazon

KJV King James Version (1611)
JST Joseph Smith Translation (1867)
RSV Revised Standard Version (1946)
NAS New American Standard (1960)
NIV New International Version (1978)
KJV New King James Version (1982)

ERV English Revised Version (1986)
NRSV New Revised Standard Version (1989)
NLT New Living Translation (1996)
ESV English Standard Version (2008)
ISV International Standard Version (2011)
BSB Berean Study Bible (2016)