

WHY THE KING JAMES BIBLE

THE DOCTRINE OF BIBLE PRESERVATION

*"It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word of God."*

~ Luke 4:4

1. Why the King James Bible

- a. The teaching of Bible versions is one of the most misunderstood doctrines
- b. Mentioning "King James" triggers knee-jerk reactions, cultural baggage, memories
- c. A battle for the Bible has long since been going on, there is no time for apathy
- d. This is not an issue for people who do not know, or do not care about the words
- e. Don't confuse this topic with evangelism, salvation, 'ease of reading'
- f. Not the topic today: textual criticism, translators, translation techniques
- g. The topic: what is the Bible verse/doctrine that requires the King James Version?
- h. The issue: Bible preservation, the word of God through history today in our hands

2. How We Got the Bible

- a. Revelation – God has spoken – Heb 1:1, Eze 1:3, 2 Cor 12:1, Acts 1:16
- b. Inspiration – God's words in writing – Exo 17:14, Jer 36:2, 2 Pet 1:21, 2 Tim 3:16
- c. Illumination – God's word understood – 2 Tim 2:7, 3:15; Eph 1:18, Luke 24:45
- d. Utilization – God's word must be used – Lk 4:4, Rom 10:17, 2 Tim 2:15, Rom 15:4
 - i. Judgment will be by the words of God – John 12:47-48, Rev 22:19
- e. Preservation – God's word through history - 1 Pet 1:25, Ps 12:6-7, Mat 24:35
 - i. *"what saith the scriptures"* – Rom 1:2, 4:3, Lk 24:27, John 5:39, 2 Pet 1:19
 - ii. God promised to perfectly preserve his words – Matt 5:18, Heb 8:8
- f. Identification – God's word in your hand: requires you believe God's preservation
 - i. The real Bible version issue is no basis upon which to choose w/o preservation
 - ii. Many people have not identified it, but are trusting nonexistent "originals"
 - iii. Reading the Bible doubting is like reading through a veil - 1Cor 2:14
 - iv. There is a point when you trust God and believe what you have is God's words

3. Wrong Ideas About Preservation

- a. *"The Bible cannot be preserved through translation"*
 - i. BUT translation is not a problem for preservation - Act 22:1-2, Exo 5:1, Mt1:23
 - ii. The form of the words are the issue, words can be translated - 2 Ti 1:13
- b. *"All Bibles and versions are good enough; the doctrines matter, not the precise words"*
 - i. BUT having preserved doctrines requires having specific words
 - ii. Doctrinal changes by words 1Cor 1:18, 1Tim 3:16, Rom 1:16, Gal 2:7, 2Cor 2:17, 2Tim 2:15; Mark 1:1-2, Luke 23:33,22:43-44,23:34, 24:51, Mk 16, John 8
- c. *"Preservation is in the existing manuscripts, somewhere"* – providential reconstruction
 - i. BUT this is not really divine preservation, it is a broken puzzle w/o a cover
 - ii. Not all manuscripts have been dug up, how do we decide which is right?
- d. *"Preservation has occurred in the oldest, best, newest, <insert favorite here>"*
 - i. Novelty and favoritism are unacceptable. Cherry picking is not preservation.
 - ii. If it's not preserved publicly through history, then it is not preserved
- e. We identify the right Bible by trusting God's promise to preserve his words through history in the Bible believing, Bible using, Bible propagating church
- f. The doctrine of preservation leads us in English to the King James Bible