



# GROWTH POINT

MIDWEEK SERVICE

## A Trusted Translation Three Necessary Ingredients

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### Introduction

Concerning **inspiration**, we would all agree with the testimony of the Bible that “all Scripture (which can refer to both OT and NT; originals and copies) is given by inspiration of God...”

There is a **process** and a **product**: The Holy Spirit used Holy Men (process) to give us the verbal, plenary, inerrant, and infallible Holy Scriptures (product).

The **practicality** from this truth was that the Bible is an authoritative book that is credible and has been validated time and time again as being true.

Concerning **preservation**, we note that preservation is more than an academic discussion—it is based upon a divine promise. Biblically, we see how God accomplished this task of preservation:

- The Old Testament was copied by priests, kings, and fathers
- The New Testament was entrusted to the Church, and an explicit part of fulfilling the Great Commission was preservation.

The great question today surrounds **translation**. Can we find God’s words available to those who read no Hebrew or Greek? Can the common man find God’s word in English?

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## Some Preliminary Considerations

1. The Old and New Testament were not designed to be read only by society's elite
  - a. The common people heard Jesus gladly... (Mark 12:37)
  - b. Peter and John were considered "ignorant" men (Acts 4:13)
2. In the Bible, preservation extends through translation.
  - a. Paul speaks in Hebrew; Luke records it in Greek. (Acts 22:2)
  - b. Jesus quotes Hebrew verses in Aramaic; Matthew records in Greek (Matt. 4)
3. There are some practical reasons for using one translation in a ministry:
  - a. Corporate reading
  - b. Corporate Bible memory
  - c. Corporate worship
  - d. Connection to our heritage

## Necessary Ingredients for a Trusted Translation

### 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ That Were Translated

- a. Define Manuscript: *a hand-written* (manually scripted) *copy of Scripture*
- b. Manuscripts, grouped together by similarities, form TEXTS
- c. TEXTS become the basis for TRANSLATIONS
- d. There are primarily two different texts used today for translations
  - i. One in substantial agreement with the majority of manuscripts
    1. Byzantine Text
    2. Antiochian Text
    3. Traditional Text
    4. Received Text (*Textus Receptus*)
  - ii. One in substantial agreement with a minority of manuscripts
    1. Critical Text
    2. Nestle-Aland Text
    3. United Bible Society Text (UBS)
    4. Alexandrian Text

Majority	Minority
Closer to <i>location</i> where NT was written	Closer to <i>date</i> when NT was written
Distributed Widely	Distributed primarily in Egypt
Used and Recognized by Churches	Hidden for Centuries
Longer Text	Shorter Text
Newer Manuscripts	Older Manuscripts
Long history of use	150 years of use
Assumption: Preserved	Assumption: Restored

## 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ That Is Conveyed

- a. What do the texts say about Jesus? About God? About the Trinity? About accuracy?
- b. Sometimes, the question may be phrased: What do they not say about these doctrines?

Reference	King James Version	English Standard Version
1 John 5.7	For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.	For there are three that testify.
John 7.8	Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up <b>yet</b> unto this feast; for my time is not yet full come.	You go up to the feast. I am not going up to this feast, for my time has not yet fully come.
Matthew 1.7, 10	And Solomon begat Roboam; and Roboam begat Abia; and Abia begat <b>Asa</b> ...And Ezekias began Manasses; and Manasses begat <b>Amon</b> ...	And Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of <b>Asaph</b> ...And Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of <b>Amos</b> ...
Revelation 8.13	And I beheld, and heard an <b>angel</b> flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe...	Then I looked, and I heard an <b>eagle</b> crying with a loud voice as it flew directly overhead, "Woe, woe, woe..."

### 3. The \_\_\_\_\_ That Was Used

- a. How do the different translators do their work?
- b. What is their philosophy of translation?
- c. There are two technical terms:
  - i. Formal Equivalency: an attempt to translate each *word* from one language to another
  - ii. Dynamic Equivalency: an attempt to translate each *thought* from one language to another

EXAMPLE: ***Dios odia el pecado.***

Formal—God hates sin.

Dynamic—God hates marijuana, Facebook, abortion, gossip, smoking, and drinking!

The statements in the second example *may* be true—but it is a translator’s interpretation (not translation) of what was said. Dynamic Equivalency enables the translator to become the Interpreter of the text—that is dangerous!

Reference	King James Version	The Message
Romans 12.1	I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.	So here’s what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life – your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life – and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him.
Zechariah 13.6	And one shall say unto him, What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.	And if someone says, ‘And so where did you get that black eye?’ they’ll say, ‘I ran into a door at a friend’s house.’

### Conclusion

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