



The Origin of the Bible
Part 9a ~ Translation of Scripture



Series Outline

Canon of the Old Testament

Transmission of the Old Testament

Transmission of the New Testament

Canon of the New Testament

Inspiration of Scripture

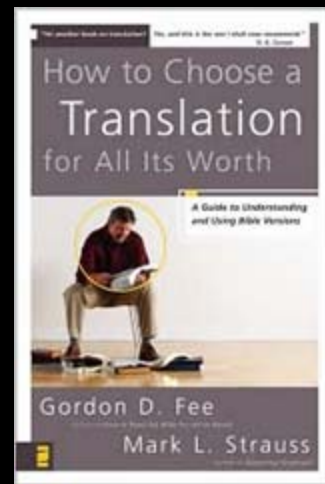
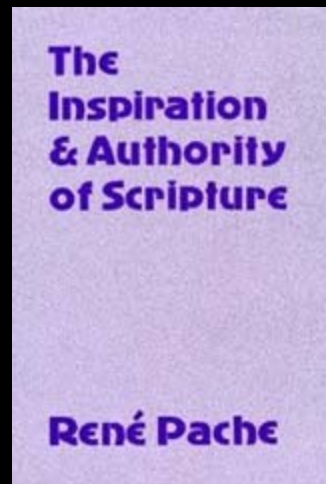
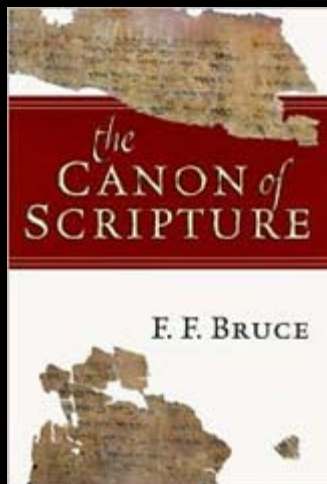
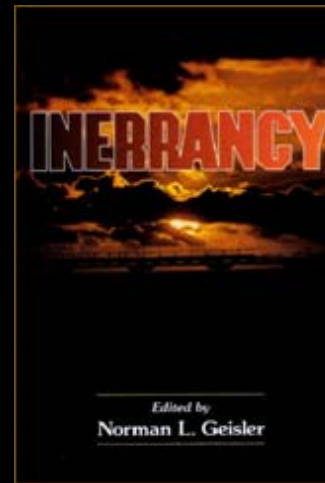
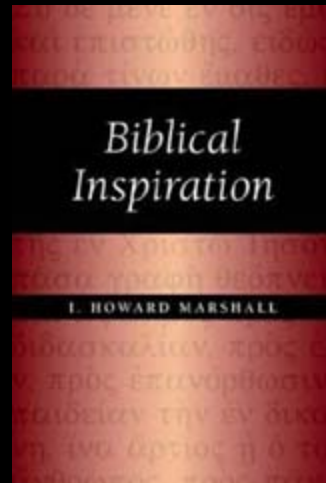
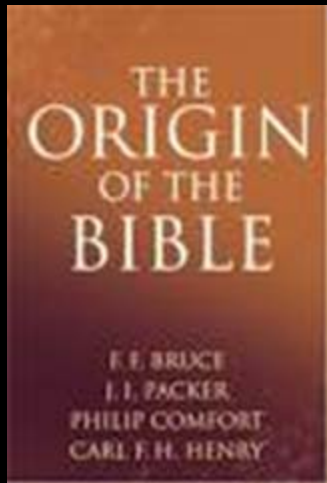
Inerrancy and Infallibility

Translation of Scripture





Recommended Reading





Translation Methods

Formal Equivalence: “literal” or “word for word” translation, including the preservation of the original syntax

Functional Equivalence: seeks to reproduce the most accurate meaning, in readable English

Mediating Efforts: sometimes more literal, and sometimes more idiomatic

French: “Voulez-vous le petit déjeuner?”

Want you the little lunch?

Do you want breakfast?





Translation Methods

Formal Equivalence: “literal” or “word for word” translation, including the preservation of the original syntax

Functional Equivalence: seeks to reproduce the most accurate meaning, in readable English

Mediating Efforts: sometimes more literal, and sometimes more idiomatic

French: “Voulez-vous une pomme de terre?”

Want you an apple of earth?

Do you want a potato?





Translation Methods

Formal Equivalence: “literal” or “word for word” translation, including the preservation of the original syntax

Functional Equivalence: seeks to reproduce the most accurate meaning, in readable English

2 Samuel 18:25 ~

If he is alone, there is news in his mouth (KJV)

If he is alone, there are tidings in his mouth (NRSV)

If he is alone, he must have good news (NIV)





Translation Methods

FORMAL EQUIV.

MEDIATING

FUNCTIONAL EQUIV.

NASB KJV RSV NRSV
NKJV

NIV JB NEB

NLT LB The Message





Translation Methods

Translation Requires Interpretation

“logos” is translated as “word” (sometimes)

“But let your *statement* [logos] be, Yes, Yes.” (Matt. 5:37)

“A king who wished to settle *accounts* [logos]” (Matt. 18:23)

“I will also ask you one *thing* [logos]” (Matt. 21:24)

“Spread the *news* [logos] around” (Mark 1:45)

“He was stating the *matter* [logos] plainly” (Mark 8:32)

“This *report* [logos] concerning Him went out” (Luke 7:17)

“Give an *accounting* [logos] of your management” (Luke 16:2)

“Have a *complaint* [logos] against any man” (Acts 19:38)

“had given them much *exhortation* [logos]” (Acts 20:2)

Translation Requires Interpretation to Give Words
their Proper Meaning within their Context





Translation Methods

Translation Requires Interpretation

Greek word “poieo” – literally means “make”

Matt 5:32	make adultery	commit adultery
Matt 6:22	make alms	give to the needy
Mark 3:24	make twelve	appoint twelve
Mark 15:15	make sufficient crowd	satisfy the crowd
Luke 1:51	make power	show strength
Luke 1:72	make mercy	show mercy
Luke 12:33	make yourselves purses	provide yourself a purse
Luke 18:7	make the vengeance	give justice
John 3:21	make truth	do the truth
John 7:4	make the law	keep the law
John 17:4	make the work	accomplish the work





Translation Methods

Translation Difficulties

- Plays on words in the original language
Is. 5:7 The Lord “looked for justice, but saw bloodshed,
for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.”
- Words with double meanings
- Allusions to earlier texts implied in the language
- Theological terms in the original language
“justification” vs. “made right with God”
- Figurative Language / Metaphors / Poetry
- Idiomatic Expressions
“cover his feet” = “went to relieve himself”
- Figures of Speech / Irony / Hyperbole





Translation Methods

Translation Difficulties

- Cultural elements
 - “scribes”, “Sanhedrin”, “the Jordan”, “tore his clothes”
 - “reclining in the house”
- Weights, measures and money
- Use of Inclusive Gender
 - “Phil. 4:1, “Therefore my [adelphoi] . . . stand firm in the Lord”
 - adelphoi = “male siblings”; “siblings” or “people in close relationship”

Other examples:

- “men” rendered as “persons” or “humanity”
- “he” rendered as “they”
- “fathers” rendered as “ancestors”
- “sons” rendered as “children” or “descendants”





Translation Methods

Translation Difficulties

- Cultural elements

“scribes”, “Sanhedrin”, “the Jordan”, “tore his clothes”
“reclining in the house”

- Weights, measures and money

- Use of Inclusive Gender

“How lovely on the mountain
are the feet of him who brings
good news.” (Is. 52:7)

“Blessed is he whose trans-
gressions are forgiven, whose
sins are covered.” (Ps. 32:1)

“How beautiful are the feet of those
who bring good news!” (Rom. 10:15)

“Blessed are they whose trans-
gressions are forgiven, whose sins
are covered.” (Rom. 4:6-7)





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