

The Word Series - The Translations of the Bible - 9

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[0 : 00] Thanks for checking in on this podcast. You are about to hear an inspirational teaching from Caris Ministries. If God has used this ministry to bless you in any way, please take a moment and write to us at amen at caris.org.

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Thank you for your word. Lord, as we hear your word, we pray that we will discover you. We will know you better. And we will receive more from you than we have ever known.

In Jesus' name. Amen. Matthew 5, verse 18 says that, For surely I see it till heaven and earth passes away. See that little word there? T-I-L-L. That means, haven't you noticed that the earth is passing away, heaven is passing away?

Just look at the nice designer dress you bought last week. It's already now in sparse. It's outdated. All of us are parents. Well, everyone has got parents, isn't it? All of us are parents. When they were young, what was in fashion is now outmoded.

[1 : 26] It's gone. It's gone. Far, far, far, far, far, far, far, far, far. All right. So heaven and earth will pass away. But actually the whole thing will go. Finally. The whole thing. So he said, till it passes away.

Watch it. Matthew chapter 5. Till heaven and earth pass away. One jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till it's fulfilled. Now this, I told you the other time.

This is Jesus speaking. Jesus was putting his endorsement on God's word, the Bible. It's interesting. I told you the other time that the jot, the smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet is called the yod.

Very little. So very tiny. Practically, you may have to use a magnifying glass to notice it. Which is different from the title. The title is the stroke.

Okay. Or in some other translations, the stroke. The title. Stroke is like lowercase T and lowercase L. The difference. That, just that. And, why am I showing you this?

[2 : 27] It's not that the Bible, the Bible, just the whole Bible is inspired in God's word. And it's not just word.

He said that even the cross on a T in the, so every little mark on every little letter, every little letter in every little word is inspired.

That's Jesus who said it. Because the Bible is inspired, I said it has credibility. I said that any matter it addresses, or any matter it addresses, is infallible. It's inerrant.

It doesn't, it doesn't have mistakes. Why do we have different translations then? If it doesn't have mistakes, why do we have, this translation is saying that, this translation is saying that.

That's, that's what it really means. Translation means just translation. Because the Bible was originally written in Hebrews, much of the Old Testament, virtually, predominantly all the Old Testament. Not everything, but only little Aramaic somewhere.

[3 : 32] And then the New Testament to some little Aramaic. The New Testament was written in Greek. Theologians call it Koine Greek. There are two types of Greek. Koine Greek is the street man's language. It's not for the post people.

It's not the classic Greek. It's just the normal Greek. And can you imagine, the Bible was written in Koine Greek, so that it can be accessible to everybody. Everyone can just simply understand it. And it was translated now.

The Hebrew language is so rich. Sometimes, even like, the Hebrew word for, spirits, is, rach. You may not even know, the meaning of what you have said, but the way it sounds, tells you, gives you an idea, that a wind.

Rach. Rach. Rach. Okay, so, they speak in pictures. Rach. So, you want to translate something into English.

And sometimes, there are different English words you want to use to, actually capture, you know, the actual word that was used. Because the word is so rich, it's so deep, that you want to capture it.

[4 : 36] And a combination of several words, such words, to make a statement. So, sometimes, you don't take a, one word, the way you render one, one word, can make it look, make the whole statement go in a particular way.

That is why it's not right, to take a text, out of context, and make it a pretext. Now, pretext is to start a whole new subject. Because every text is given within a context.

So, to be able to understand what it's saying, you have to get the whole picture, the context. All right. Now, so, people, it was, the first translation, as we know, just generally, is the, it's called, the authorized version, because that's what King James guided some scholars, it's not King James himself, who did it, but he guided some scholars, to do it, top, top, top, biblical scholars, scholars, to do the translation.

And then we have, so, so, it was initially done in, years ago, that's why the English is Shakespearean. All right. And then we have the new King James, which, you don't see certain, Shakespearean English.

However, the NIV, new, new, international version, is much more modern. When you look at all these versions, there, there are several versions, all right, there are several versions.

[5 : 51] Most of the, what the translators do, is they make sure they stay true to the text. But one may focus very strongly on, um, the aspect, a certain aspect of the word that has been used.

Because the word, the Greek word, the Hebrew word, has very, various aspects. You must make sure you have it right. And you are reading it, if I'm to translate, the, the just shall live, or you are to translate, the just shall live by faith.

Being a faith woman, or a faith man that you are, you can imagine the emphasis you put on the faith. You're believing in God. Which would be different from someone who just, maybe a scholar also been to some, translating faith.

He may translate the faith like the way, the journalist who, describe faith. So you can, both of them, the impact, the meaning. Your, your focus will not be, on the leave, just as much as it to be on the faith.

Now, if it's Joe who is translating, and maybe it's a Puritan, he will focus on the just. Like the way we quote this scripture, the name of the Lord is a strong teller, the righteous run into it, and they are saved. Now, now, when I go born again, we quote it to know that, God, your salvation, you run and save, you run and save.

[6 : 56] So one day I was reading, and I saw, I said, they're righteous, they're righteous. Not everybody, they're righteous. But most of the time, it's quoted as though everyone runs into it. So it depends on who, so can you imagine if I'm translating it?

My focus will not so much be, unless there's a season in my life, and that season, I'm so much just excited. Maybe it's the month of April, and I'm so excited about consecration, and I'm translating it, can you imagine?

I will not even say the righteous, the, those who are truly consecrated. Do you understand? As long as, as long as, that word can be rendered consecrated.

But if you take the general idea, and the general context, most of the time, it doesn't deviate from the general context. Other versions are not all that, other versions are demonically dangerous.

Like New World Translation, it's for the Jehovah Witness. They also translated it, but they omitted anything that points to the fact that Jesus is Lord, or Jesus is God. No, that cannot be right.

[8 : 01] So if you're a Christian, you go and pick that Bible, think it's Bible, or we have the Book of Mormon, it's not a day since, and it's a Bible, translated in quite a strange, and an interesting way. So there are some translations, that are not healthy.

There are some translations, that are just like the Message Bible. It helps you to have a general idea, of the context. But to do biblical exegesis, to pick on the worst, and break the worst, and like I was teaching on Friday, and I was telling you, Romans chapter 12, I beseech you therefore, by the mercies of the Lord, present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

You know, it may say, and the same thing, the same idea, but it may not put, it may leave some words, because it's just trying to create an idea. And personally, can't even, therefore may be silent.

So, you can say that, because of this. You know, and sometimes, if you want to go into semantics, because of this, can really, may slightly be different, from therefore. I'm talking on this, I'm not saying practically, but sometimes, depending on, how things are rendered.

So if you want to go into word, by word, you realize that, the healthier versions, are the King James Bible, the New King James Bible, the NIV, the ESV, English Standard Version, or the New American Standard Version, N-A-S-V.

[9 : 19] Right? Those ones, theologically, across the board, are used for theological exercise, like theologians, really keep putting a lot of, so many sound preachers, many born again preachers, if they are not using, all King James, they'll be using, New King James like me.

If they are not using, New King James, they are likely to be using, NIV, or English Standard Version, particularly, depending on what Bible school, you attended, and who raised you, in the things of God. Praise the Lord.

If I have restricted, my understanding, or my approach, to the Bible I use, based on my, Bible school education, because I had Bible training, my Bible school courses, all of them, in United Kingdom, and in the United Kingdom, we really focus a lot, on the NIV.

So then I would have been using, NIV always by now, but because of my, spiritual genealogy, where I was raised, and the fire, the Holy Ghost, we have always used, King James, or the new King James, hallelujah, but you can use NIV, and it's all okay.

So that's why we have different verses, it's not that, someone says something, but it's the translation, from the various, languages, so someone says, you can also do a translation, as long as you can understand, the Hebrew and the Greek.

[10 : 33] Yeah, you can take, a special course, on Hebrew and Greek, and be an authority, and translate, and, if that's what God has called you to do, it will work. If God hasn't called you to do, you'll be confused, amen.

All right, have I answered the issue of translation? Because I told you, I will throw a bit more light on it. So it's inerrant, it doesn't have errors. Okay, now listen to this, but if someone uses one word, another person uses another word, the words may mean the same, but it doesn't mean that the Bible is false, maybe the way, it's inerrant, the original text, is pure, and without any, but the way someone may translate it, he may slap his, his bend, his inclination, on the words they pick, and then someone else, on the other side, may read that word, and say, no, I don't, I disagree with it.

So sometimes, you may see a teacher, who will say that, the New King James, or the Divine Bible, used this word, I quite don't agree with that word. Doesn't mean, he doesn't agree with the Bible, all right, he doesn't agree with the word, the translators use, because, it wasn't written in English, some of you, may be familiar with other languages, but I know some of you, speak French, am I right?

So some of you, speak French, some of you, speak Spanish, and do you know, that there's a Spanish Bible, there's a French Bible, there's a tree Bible, there's a Cantonese Bible, different languages, all right, so it is the speakers, of the language, who will say that, no, maybe, when, let's say, if you, you are French, or you are German, it's translated into German, you, you, you go, and you now become a scholar, you understand the Hebrew, then you can realize that, no, in German, when we say this, this is what it means, but, the Hebrew doesn't actually mean that, but the one who doesn't know me, take it just like that, it doesn't mean misleading, but just that, it's basically sufficient, for your understanding, to get a picture of the scripture, do you understand what I'm saying?

Yeah, so just stay on the Bible, you know, and then study, and study, because, truth is universal, so, the, the, the good thing about the Bible, is that, it doesn't say one truth somewhere, which is not connected to every truth, truth is universal, truth is discriminative, truth discriminates, so, if you see one truth somewhere, it's discriminates against, any other thing, that's not truth, so then, if you, you are studying the Bible, and discover the truth, it's just like, woven upholstery, you pull one thread out, and the rest, may all be, disjointed, truth doesn't stand on, it's like, it's isolated from other truths, all truths are interwoven, so, as you study the Bible, you come across truth, it is interwoven, so, if even the translator, didn't use the right word, especially when it comes to the, they translate it, like, there's a Bible called Street Bible, they try and translate it, and use all kinds of, you know, so, it's the ones who translate it, so, it's very important to understand that, even though it may be translated, in a certain way, the original means, what it says, and the original is infallible, it makes, the translations infallible, but just that, the act of the translation, doesn't mean the translations, are inspired, the original is inspired, the translations are not inspired,

[13 : 41] I can't translate the Bible, why, because I'm not a Hebrew scholar, if I attempt it, I may make a lot of mistakes, or I can do it for myself, in my room, just to help my comprehension, but to make someone, no, no, you need scholars to do that, a Hebrew scholar, a Greek scholar, because the Bible is inspired, it has supernatural power, that some of the pointers, of the fact that it's inspired, the historical evidence, the scientific, I like the scientific accuracy, so much, the scientific accuracy, what Jesus said, about the Bible, makes us know, that the Bible is God's word, and I spoke about it briefly, what Jesus said, about the Bible, what Jesus said, Jesus said in John chapter 10, verse 35, the scriptures cannot be broken, the scriptures cannot be, and then the prophecies of the Bible, the miracles of the Bible, and then last week, I spoke about the, ethical superiority, of the Bible, you read other books, and it tells you, go kill the infidels, you read the Bible, and it tells you, love your neighbor as yourself, you read the Bible, and it tells you, love your wife, love your children, it teaches us, hard work, it teaches us, integrity, it teaches us, civic responsibility, can you imagine, he told them, that obey the authorities, of the land, the Bible said it, said obey, and he says, that don't steal from your employers, those of you, have been taking pains, so don't steal from your employers, it's amazing, the morality of the scriptures, to the extent that, in Galatians chapter 5, verse 23, it said that, the fruit of the spirit, against this, there's no law, there's no law, against such, flow, behavior, and self-control, against such, there is no law, the impeccable, morality, high moral standards, of the Bible, the moral standards, of the Bible, are so high, now I spoke about this, now finally today, the transforming, or the supernatural, power, of the Bible, that shows us, that this is not, an ordinary book, the transforming power, say transforming power, say it again, transforming power, what do I mean, by the transforming power, or the supernatural power, it changes lives, it changes lives, the Bible, the Bible, changes, a drunkard, into a sober man, the Bible, changes, a prostitute, into a pure girl, the Bible, changes, the prideful, into a humble person, the Bible, changes, the arrogance, into a sober person, it makes the weak, strong, the broken, puts the broken together, sometimes you can be, so broken, and shattered, and get into contact, with God's word, and suddenly, you realize, that your broken pieces, are being put together, by God's word, people have said, all kinds of things, about someone, said I don't believe, there's a Bible,

I don't believe, the Bible is there, I don't believe this, I don't believe, the Bible is God's word, one of the greatest, evidence, of the Bible, besides what Jesus said, and the witness, of the Holy Spirit, one of the greatest, evidence, of the Bible, being God's word, is in Psalm 34, verse 8, look at how, it's in Psalm 34, verse 8, test it, it's not enough, for someone to tell you, test it, and see the way, to radically change your life, test it, and see, it says, that let's already, let's go, oh, test and see, that the Lord, is good, blessed is the man, that trusts you, it's not enough, for someone to tell you, you have to test, test and see, how this thing, will change your life, how some people, have been able, to forgive, because they came, to the scriptures, yeah, in Rwanda, there was great, atrocity, that happened, a few years ago, genocide, there is the, hootsis, and the duties, and there is, pain and anger, pain and anger, short sleeves, or long sleeves, they will catch your hand, wicked, the atrocity, was so bad, in Sierra Leone, but, a pastor friend of mine, told me, that when you go, then you are preaching, and you see, hootsis and tutes, coming to sit, under the same roof, it must take, the word of God, even, that is why, it's confused, radical,

Muslims, who are very confused, who always want, to pick on the Bible, to radicalize, the young men, one of the things, they say is, especially the black guys, they tell them that, the white man, created the Bible, to control the black man, because in America, that's what Farrakhan, was riding on, so they, they go to the prisons, and say that, this whole thing, is a control, from a white man, they use the Bible, to enslave, to start slavery, is they use the Bible, to do all kinds of things, then they make you, read the Bible, and suddenly you say, okay, okay, it doesn't matter, I leave everything to God, then they can get away, with their foolishness, did you understand that, so they say, people use the Bible, because do you know, there's slaves, in America, that is why, the black Americans, are very Christian, or that religious, and most of them, their Christianity, is very strong, and Christianity, has passed from generation, to generation, in black America, you can't be holding, the Bible, and be preaching vengeance, against those, who hurt you, they understand forgiveness, because, what some of them, went through, it's inconceivable, what some of them, went through, and so, peace and forgiveness, let's hail Mandela, for how peaceful, he was, but yet, we have not brought, to justice, the atrocities, and the wickedness, of the people, who perpetrated it, that one is okay, but Mandela, you have done well, for not bringing problem, what, why has he done well, because someone did wrong, with a Christian, it doesn't matter, and that, because that is what, the scripture teaches, actually, it can change you so much, you can have a gun, the one is, someone is about to shoot you, and you end up having the gun, and you read the Bible, and you're about to shoot the person, and you really want to shoot, you read the Bible, and you feel like, no,

I won't kill you, I won't kill you, it doesn't matter anymore, I won't give you the gun back, so you can kill me, but it doesn't matter anymore, you read the Bible, and something happens in you, one great man said, I've read other books, but this book reads me, this book has transforming power, say transforming power, transforming power, and what we are supposed to do, is to come to it, and eat it, eat it, in Ezekiel chapter 3, verse 3, he says that, he told me, son of man, feed your belly, fill your stomach, with the scroll, that I give you, so I ate, and it was, in my mouth, like honey, in sweetness, eat, you have to eat it, Matthew 4, man must not live, by bread alone, by every word, of the Lord, Jesus puts it this way, in the book of Matthew, Matthew chapter 7, verse 7,

I like the way, the Bible can change it, he said, ask and he shall be given, seek and he shall find, knock, you try it and see, put it into practice, ask and he shall be given, seek and you shall find, knock and that will be open to you, and then in Matthew chapter 7, verse 21, he said, not all those who say, Lord, Lord will go into the kingdom of heaven, because many will come, and say, Lord, I did this, he said, not all, but those, but he who does, let's all read it together, let's go, but he who does, the will of my father, in heaven, so when you do, the will of the father, that is where you begin, to experience his grace, you begin to experience, his power, don't, the Bible is not just good, for just knowing about God, you, it will introduce you to God, many people know, about God through the Bible, but they don't know, God of the Bible, I remember in Bible school, the principal said, many people come through, the Bible school, but the Bible doesn't go through them, let the Bible get into you, in Matthew chapter 7, verse 26, and 27, Jesus speaks, that he who listens to my words, and doeth them, does them, everyone who hears this saying, of mine, and does not do them, he says like a foolish man, who is building his house, on the sand, so you have to listen, and do, in the book of James chapter 1, verse 25, it says, he who so ever looks, into the perfect law of liberty, and this man, that is not a forgetful hearer, by doer of the work, this one will be blessing, if you want to see, its impact, taste and see, practice it, and see what is going to happen to you, someone shout hallelujah, hallelujah, shout hallelujah, hallelujah, so it's very important, in Revelation chapter 10, verse 9 and 10, it says the same thing about, when he gave me the scroll to eat, you have to eat, you have to put, put it into practice, you have to, practice it to experience it,

[22 : 48] Jesus puts it this way, in John chapter 7, verse 7, look at John chapter 7, verse 17, and then from there, we go to, John chapter 13, verse 17, then from there, we go to John chapter 17, verse 17, isn't it, alright, why don't you start, the other way around, John chapter 17, verse 17, he said your word is true, John 17, 17, Jesus said your word, certify them by your truth, your word is truth, your word is truth, experience it and see, your word is truth, John chapter 7, verse 17, John chapter 7, verse 17, Jesus told them, that if anyone, if anyone, wills to do his will, he shall know, concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God, you see, don't, don't say, put it into practice, and you will know, whether this thing is from God or not, do it and see, don't just hear it, do it and see, see the way, it will radically, transform your life, in the throne of me, that's why the Jews are that unique, in the throne of me, a child is growing, the Bible is always inside him, they put the Bible, not on his face, it's inside him, they can actually rattle, before you get to a bar mitzvah, you should be able to rattle, certain things in the Old Testament, it's part of the Hebrew culture, no wonder, the Jews are unique, it's not just because, they are children of Abraham, that's part of the blessing, but for the blessing to work, the work must get into them,

Hitler tried to, to annihilate them, get rid of them, no one, Haman, is it Haman, Haman tried, he didn't work, Hitler tried, he didn't work, Ahmadinejad, he was trying to do it, people have been trying, to get rid of them, but because you see, when the word of God, enters your spirit, enters your life, your life is secured, for the future, listen, many parents, are so concerned, about how well, your children are doing, educationally, is that your biggest concern, they must do well, but if that is your, foremost concern, you are getting yourself, into trouble, yesterday, Mommike said something, she said, that, put, pump something, into them, very early, so that you can, in the later life, you can bear the fruits, enjoy the fruits, and on that, if you don't pump early, later parts of your life, they become prayer projects, for you, running from one place, asking please, pray for my son, pray for my daughter, pray for, so please, when the word of God, gets into you, he says that, hear all Israel, the Lord your God, is one, that's called the Sheba, that shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and all your soul, and all your wisdom, and these words, which I command you today, this day, you shall teach them, to your children, and to your children's children, and he said, let it be the topic, of conversation at home, write it on the walls, put it, burn it on your hands, put it on your front, between your eyes, let the word of God, saturate your children's life, that is what guarantees, their future, because I know people, who are well educated, and yet they messed up,

I know people, who are so successful, in business, and they messed up, you must be proud, that your child, can go to scripture, every week, every week, there must be a scripture, in the house, a new scripture, you are teaching your children, every week, oh, the teacher said, they are doing well, then your child, move and go to another school, you see how bad, the child is doing, so doing well, is very subjective, very very subjective, it depends on, who the teacher is, their aspiration, and what kind of school, the word, shout the word, no one has found, every way, is to fight the word, so that most of us, we have the bible, but it's secondary, it's not, it's a religious book, it's a religious book, you are so excited, about how your children, know the cartoon characters, every McDonald's, they have it, they have it in the house, they have it in the house, and you are not invested, into finding, how Christian resources, program that can inject, the bible, into their life, because please, don't look too far, just look a little behind you, and you can tell, what is following, is not good, he's about to jump on your child, oh you didn't get what I meant, yes, some of us, we have God, we have practically, assumed from some place, by the mercy of God, he has pulled you out, and so, if you don't secure, your children's future, with it, their aunties, have not changed you, their uncles, have been changed you, their great fathers, have been changed you, grandfathers, have been changed, it's the same people, the same family, it's blood, it's called blood, it's the word of God, that can refine your blood,

I said, it's changed me, it's changed me, it's changed me, Martin Luther said, this book, has life, it speaks to me, this book has hands, it holds me, this book has feet, it runs after me, get the word, into your house, build your marriage, on the word, young brothers, and sisters, let me tell you, our world, particularly in the United, in the West, everything has been reduced, to surface, superficiality, so as long as, a lady can, buy the best makeup, and knows how to do her makeup, and knows how to dress, and can go to the gym, and look a certain way, she's hot, that's hot, that's hot, as long as, the man looks like, some way, and he speaks with a certain, baritonic voice, and motor, motor, and works some way, and in some, in some traditions, in our country, the man must learn, how to drop his, his trousers, to the calves of his behind, for him to look cool, the images, that have been painted to us, about what matters in life, are all distorted, some people's biggest dream, is to be able to go to Mount Everest, be able to go to Spain, be able to go to, touring, and taking so many pictures, about your life, what's the meaning of your life, the Bible tells you, where you are coming, it's the only book, that tells you, where you are coming from, who you are, and where you are going, get yourself into the world, get yourself into the world, and your life will be sorted, your life will be sorted, get the word of God, eat it, and it will change your life, serious, yes,

John 13 17, he says that, blessed are you, if you do these things, I'm telling you, blessed are you, John 13 17, you are blessed, if you do these things, I'm telling you, let the word transform you, expose yourself to the word, it is not the job of a pastor, just to be reading the Bible for you, no, that's not a pastor's job, it's your job, it's your job, if you mean business in life, every day, make sure you read your Bible, right, make it a custom, make it a personal law, I'll read my Bible, and teach your children, how to quote their scriptures, teach your children, how to put their faith in the Bible, in God, God of the Bible, oh, it's just a quotation, you never know what, can you imagine, I was talking to Sinead, last week or so, my five years old girl, I was talking to her, I was talking to her, she said, daddy, can you take this from me,

[30 : 09] I said, no, I can't do it, she said, don't say that, you can't do all things through Christ, she corrected me, she told me, you can't do all, don't say I can't, because you can't do all things through Christ, who strengthens me, put the word inside, so when the thing is coming on, there is a word inside, that is catching their grace, securing their future, and you don't need a pastor, to do it for you at home, you don't need that, you don't need a pastor, to any pastor, I have to come to your home and be blessing your children.

You don't need that. Did you receive something? If you are not saved, you are not safe.

Because life is dangerous. Life is not under your command. I don't see why I should end this service without giving you an opportunity to say, yes, Lord. Pastor, pray with me. Because I want to have this bread.

It means I want to put all my confidence in him, all my hope in him. I want to give my life to Jesus. If that is your genuine desire, just lift up your hand and say this after me. Say it genuinely from your heart.

Say, Lord Jesus, I know I'm a sinner. I've sinned against you. I ask you to forgive my sins. Wash me with your blood. Thank you, Lord, for dying on the cross to save me.

[31 : 30] From today, I will serve you. I believe in you. I put all my hope in you. I put my faith in you. As my Lord and personal Savior.

I receive you into my life. I make a vow with you that I'll save you all the days of my life. Satan, get behind me. I don't belong to you.

I belong to Jesus. Thank you, Lord, for saving me. In Jesus' name. Father, I thank you. Your word says that you know your sheep and your sheep know your voice. No one can come to you except your father brings him.

I pray that let your grace be upon them. Help them to be strong. I pray that the grace of God will come upon you. The power of the Holy Spirit will come upon you. And help you to be a strong Christian. In Jesus' mighty name.

Amen. Thank you for listening. For more resources, please visit caris.org or call us on 0207-740-9960.

[32 : 29] God bless you.