

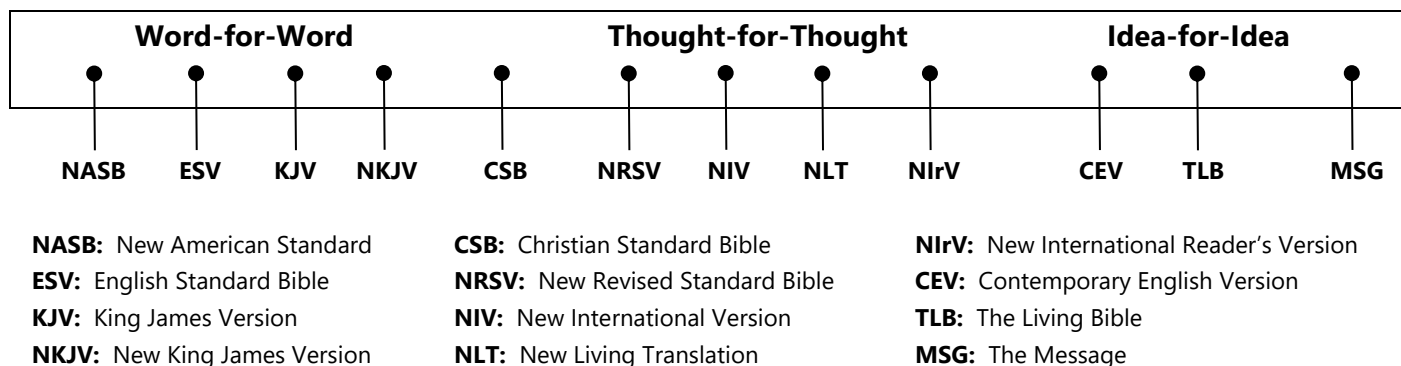
Which Bible Version is Best?

April 30, 2023 ▪ Nick Braito

What does the Bible tell us about itself?

What has been the history of Bible translation?

What are the differences between the different English translations?



What does all that mean for us?

2 Timothy 3:14-17

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (ESV)

2 Peter 1:19-21

¹⁹And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. ²¹For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (ESV)

Psalm 19:7-9

⁷The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; ⁸the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; ⁹the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions

Open: Which Bible version do you tend to use most often and why?

Read & Discuss: 2 Timothy 3:14-17

1. Since the Bible is "God-breathed," how should that affect our use of it? What stands out to you about what Paul (God) says Scripture is able to accomplish? Give examples of how you have experienced some of these promises.
2. Given the role that Scripture is meant to have in our lives and the fact that it brings to us the very words of God, why might it matter which Bible version we use?
3. Although Paul says Scripture is able to make us all "complete, equipped for every good work" (v. 17), it's also clear Timothy had others teach him Scripture (vv. 14-15). When it comes to studying Scripture, how do we find a good balance between studying it for ourselves and having others teach it to us?

Read & Discuss: 2 Peter 1:19-21

4. How would you explain verse 19 more simply to a new believer you were discipling? What are some rhythms in your life that help you to "pay attention" to Scripture, as Peter admonishes us to do (v. 19)?
5. In verses 20-21, what does Peter want us to understand, and why is that valuable to remember? How should this truth shape how we view and use the various Bible translations that are available to us?

Read & Discuss: Psalm 19:7-9

6. According to Psalm 19, what benefits does the Law of the Lord have? How should this text shape our thinking about the Old Testament Scriptures, especially in light of our New Covenant relationship?

Apply: How will you approach Scripture differently this week?

Pray: Pray we will be people who love, read, and obey God's Word.