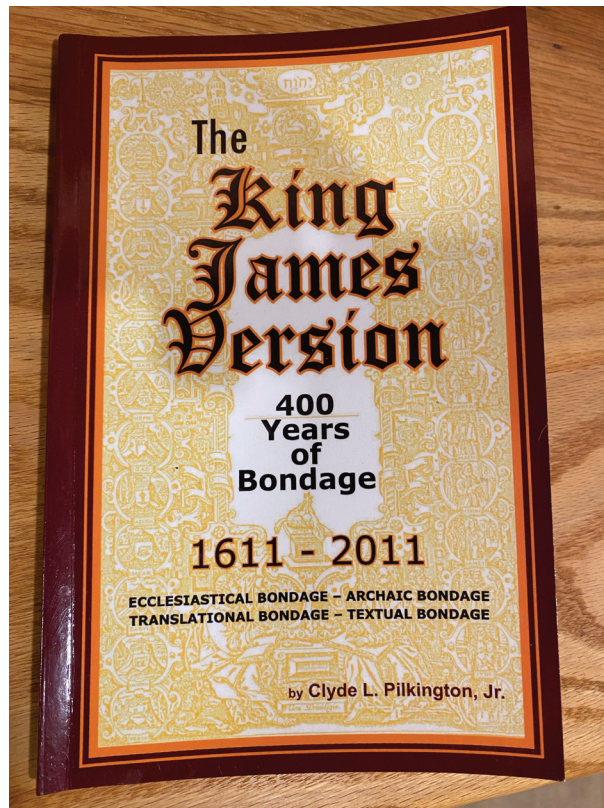




**Truth Nuggets**  
**Book Review**  
**“The King James Version**  
**400 Years of Bondage”**



I was puzzled when admired spiritual leaders would thump their KJV Bible and proudly proclaim, “I’m KJV only!” What was equally mystifying was that this English translation was to them without error, just like the original manuscripts that were written by the prophets. Upon what did they base their blind faith? How could that be when a translation by definition can never be a perfect expression of the original from another language with different idioms, grammatical structure, & vocabulary? To add to the confusion, the English was difficult to understand since it was more than 500 years old, (the KJV was essentially a copy of The Matthew’s Bible, written 100 years prior with language that was already antiquated by then).

Even the KJV came out with newer versions that corrected errors in earlier editions. And which KJV is the one without fault since there are over 150 versions of the KJV?

Nevertheless, I heard nothing but praise & exultation for the King James Version for decades, while I quietly read other translations (like The Living Bible), that I could easily comprehend.

Please know that I am not disparaging the Bible. The Bible as originally written is perfect. We just don't have any of them today, only copies of copies of copies, where often scribes inserted their notes into the text to either help the reader or to promote a particular doctrine. We do have some excellent English translations today, such as "The Scriptures," "Rood's Chronological Gospels," "Young's Literal," and several others, all of which also are not perfect.

But now, for the rest of the story on the KJV...

Different opinions are respected when one first hears both sides of the story, (Proverbs 18:13 & verse 17). This large-print, thin paperback presents another side to the KJV, and is well documented with historical facts while it does so.

Here's the big picture. People in authority without a personal walk anchored in the Messiah tend to be insecure, evidenced by their insane drive for control. This was the case with most Kings & Queens of England. They wanted the people to look to them/government, not God, as their source. So they tortured & destroyed both Messianics & their Hebrew scriptures, (the last believer burned was in 1612). Bibles were banned, and the newly invented printing presses were shut down, but Bibles were smuggled into England. Losing the battle, they shifted to a different tactic, allowing one Bible, the one that they edited, "The KJV." All printing presses were banned in England, except one which King James controlled.

The head of the translation team was Richard Bancroft, with King James getting the final say who hand picked all translators & the list of translation rules to follow. No Separatists/Pilgrims/Puritans, were allowed a voice on the translation team. Why not? The Separatists loved the Geneva Bible, with it's side notes pointing one to God (and not man). The Geneva Bible was the only one on the Mayflower and the first in the New World. Hopefully, "The KJV, 400 Years of Bondage," will encourage one to explore more current translations that far excel in both accuracy & clarity, preferably those translated from the Hebrew scriptures (prior to the Catholic Church's 700-year brutal Inquisition of Messianics), and by translators who understood the Hebrew language & culture in which they were first written. It is now known that the "New Testament"/Renewed Covenant was also first written in Hebrew, not Greek.

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