

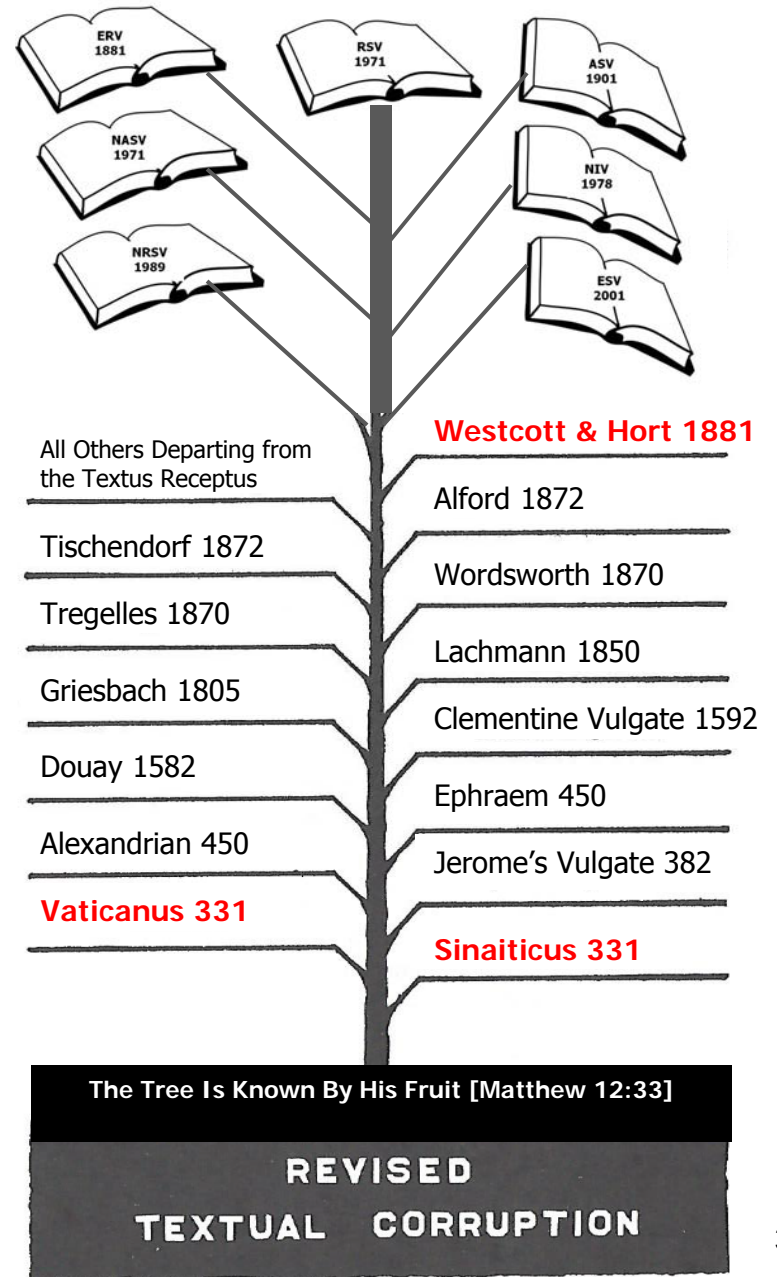
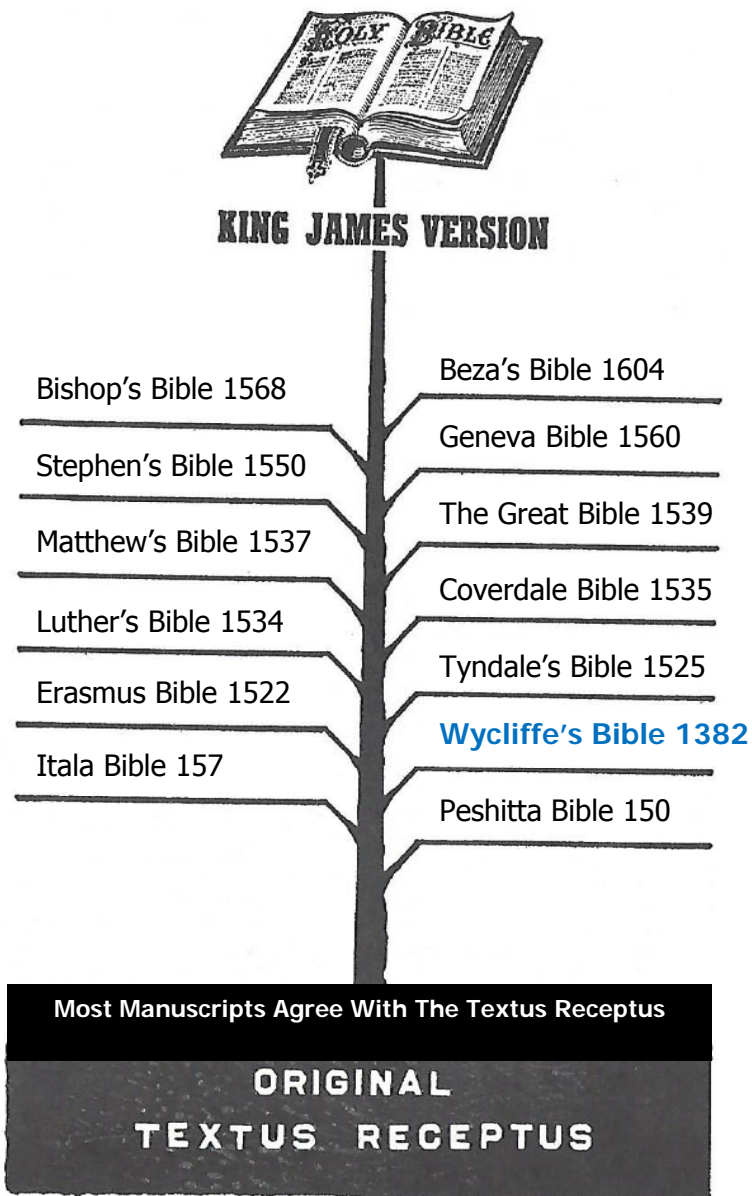
# **Why The King James 1611?**

A Biblical, **Historical** & Practical **Perspective**

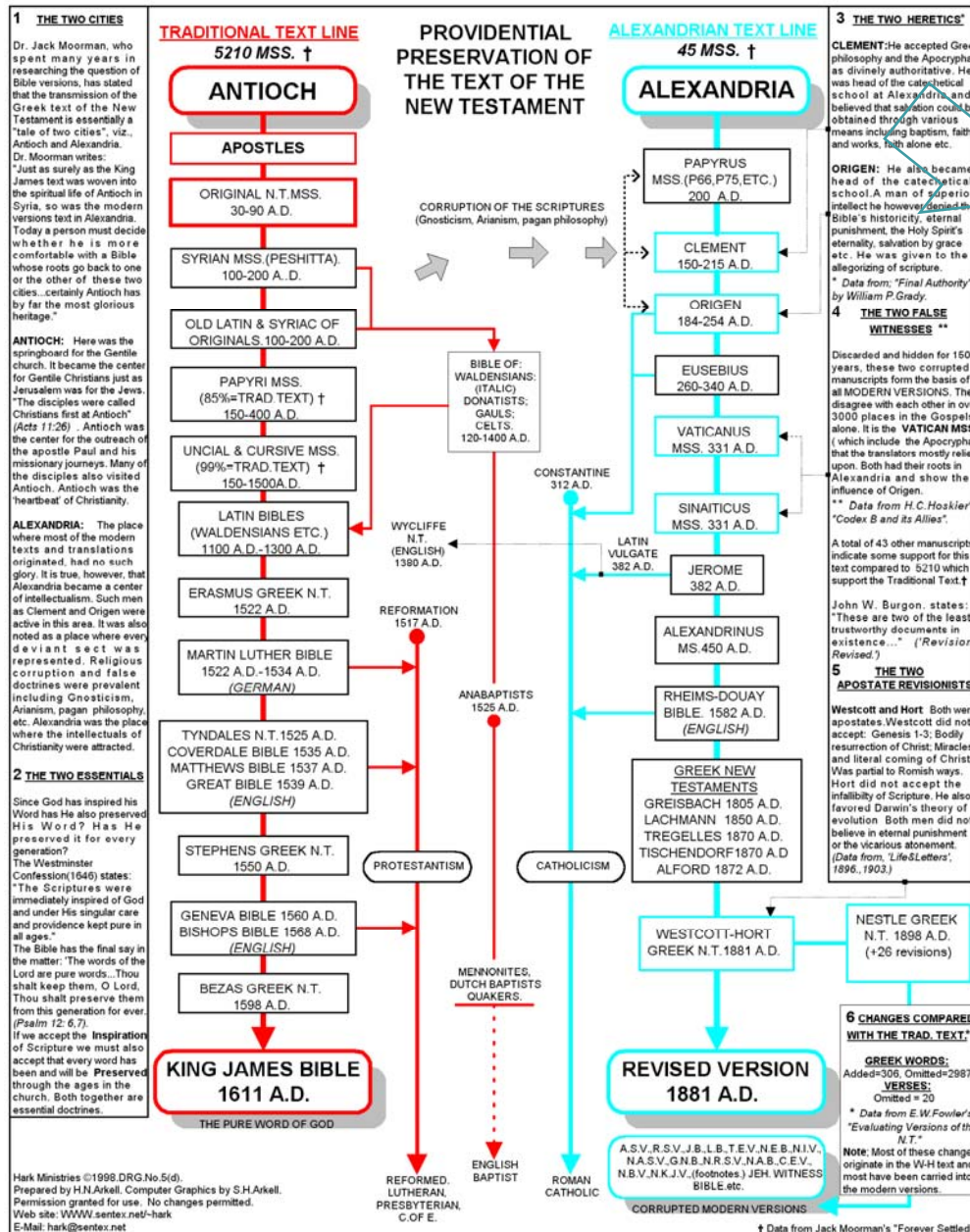
# Historical Perspective

- † Family tree of Bible manuscripts
- † Alexandria (Egypt) -vs- Antioch
- † Manuscript Evidence
- † Westcott & Hort
- † The Translators of the KJV
- † KJV Revisions & the New King James Version
- † Conclusion - The 4-fold Superiority of the King James

# Family Tree of Bible Manuscripts



# Antioch -vs- Alexandria



**CLEMENT:** He accepted Greek philosophy and the Apocrypha as divinely authoritative. He was head of the catechetical school at Alexandria and believed that salvation could be obtained through various means including baptism, faith and works, faith alone etc.

**ORIGEN:** He also became head of the catechetical school. A man of superior intellect, he however denied the Bible's historicity, eternal punishment, the Holy Spirit's eternality, salvation by grace etc. He was given to the allegorizing of scripture.

# Alexandria -vs- Antioch

## Egypt

- † Gen 12 – Egypt is first mentioned as not being trusted by Abraham
- † Gen 37 – Joseph is sold into slavery in Egypt
- † Exo 20 – God calls Egypt a house of bondage
- † Jer 42 – The Jews were forbidden to go to the Egyptians for help.
- † Rev 11 – Egypt is placed in the same category as Sodom

**TWO!?!?**

## Antioch

- † Acts 11 – Antioch is a shelter for persecuted saints.
- † Acts 11 – The first major movement of the Spirit among Gentiles happens in Antioch
- † Acts 11 – The disciples are first called “Christians” in Antioch.
- † Acts 11 – Paul and Barnabas taught the Bible in Antioch for an entire year.
- † Acts 13 – Paul’s first missionary journey started from Antioch.
- † Acts 14 – The headquarters of the early church was in Antioch

**5000+** manuscripts – full & partial

# Alexandria -vs- Antioch

## Egyptian Mentality

- ✚ Scripture was being interpreted ... **philosophically & allegorically.**
- ✚ Clement & Origen (school at Alexandria) – refer to previous chart
- ✚ The Bible is not perfect and can be improved upon.

## Antiochan Mentality

- ✚ The Bible is **perfect** and can't be improved upon.
- ✚ Lucian (240-312 AD, Christian theologian)
- ✚ The Bible is to be taken literally not figuratively.

# Alexandria -vs- Antioch

📖 Acts 6:5 “And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of **Antioch**.”

📖 Acts 11:26 “And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in **Antioch**.”

Antioch became headquarters for Christianity

📖 Acts 18:24-26 “And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and **expounded** unto him **the way of God more perfectly**.”

# Manuscript Evidence

## The Textus Receptus

(Latin for "received text")

- † Agrees perfectly with the vast majority of the 5,000+ Greek manuscripts in existence today.
- † Is not mutilated with deletions, additions and amendments, as the Minority Texts.
- † Upholds strongly the fundamental doctrines of Christian Faith: the creation account in Genesis, the divinity of Jesus Christ, the virgin birth, Jesus' miracles, Jesus' bodily resurrection and literal return.



# Manuscript Evidence

## Vaticanus

(350 AD?)

- † Found in 1481 in Vatican library
- † Revisers in 8th, 10th, 15th centuries
- † Not the Koine Greek of NT, but Classical
- † Contains Apocrypha within, but leaves out 1 Tim – Titus, Revelation and Hebrews after 9:14
- † 2,877 words omitted in the Gospels

# Manuscript Evidence

## Sinaiticus

(350 AD?)

† In 1844, Tischendorf found a number of sheets ready to be used as kindling in St. Catherine's Monastery (Mt. Sinai)

<http://www.chick.com/ask/articles/wastebasket.asp>

† Written by 3 scribes, and at least 10 revisers

† Tischendorf identified 14,800 corrections in it

† 3,455 words omitted in the Gospels

† Last 12 verses of Mark were there and erased

† Includes Apocrypha and 2 heretical books:

Epistle of Barnabas and Shepherd of Hermas

# Manuscript Evidence

## Sinaiticus (Aleph) & Vaticanus (B)

- † Both Manuscripts contain the Apocrypha as part of the Old Testament
- † Erasmus rejected these manuscripts as unreliable witnesses.
- † The King James Translators discarded both manuscripts as unreliable witnesses.
- † Vaticanus and Sinaiticus disagree with each other in over 3,000 places in the Gospels alone.
- † Vaticanus now in the Vatican library and the Siniaticus in the British museum.

# Revision: Westcott and Hort

## Background

- † Episcopalians
- † No record of a salvation experience
- † Neither believed that the Bible should be treated any differently than the writings of the lost historians and philosophers
- † Secretly, little by little, they inserted their own newly created Greek text into the Revision committee of 1870-1881

References:

JJ Ray's God Only Wrote One Bible, pgs 30-31

Sam Gipp's, An Understandable History of the Bible, pgs 256-259

# Revision: Westcott and Hort

- ✚ Westcott: "I never read an account of a miracle but I seem instinctively to feel its improbability, and discover some want of evidence in the account of it."
- ✚ Hort: "But the book which has most engaged me is Darwin. Whatever may be thought of it, it is a book that one is proud to be contemporary with. I must work out and examine the argument in more detail, but at present my feeling is strong that the theory is unanswerable."
- ✚ Westcott: "No one now, I suppose, holds that the first three chapters of Genesis, for example, give a literal history - I could never understand how any one reading them with open eyes could think they did . . . "
- ✚ Hort: "If you make a decided conviction of the absolute infallibility of the N.T... I fear I could not join you."

# Revision: Westcott and Hort

- ✚ Hort: "I had no idea till the last few weeks of the importance of texts, having read so little Greek Testament, and dragged on with the villainous Textus Receptus.. Think of that vile Textus Receptus leaning entirely on late MSS.; it is a blessing there are such early ones"
- ✚ Hort: "For ourselves, we dare not introduce considerations which could not reasonably be applied to other ancient texts, supposing them to have documentary attestation of equal amount, variety and antiquity."

# Results of Their Corruption

- † 1901 American Standard Version (ASV)
- † 1952 Revised Standard Version (RSV)
- † 1971 New American Standard Version (NASV)
- † 1978 New International Version (NIV)
- † 1989 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)
- † 2001 English Standard Version (ESV)
- † All other translations - there have been 235+ since 1881

**EXCEPT the King James!**

# The Translators of the King James

- † The Hampton Court Conference of January 1604
- † The Learned men
  - † **William Bedwell**
    - † Eastern / Arabic studies: Defender of Christianity against Islam
    - † Translated book of John into Arabic, wrote a 3 volume Arabic dictionary
  - † **Lancelot Andrews**
    - † “Star of Preachers” – Man of prayer, wrote a Book of Prayers
    - † Spoke more than 15 different languages
  - † **John Bois**
    - † By the age of **five**, he had read through the Hebrew Bible!



# The Translators of the King James

- † January 14, 16, and 18th of 1604 a conference was held at Hampton court John Rainolds, requested a new translation of the Bible be made. This was asked on the second day of the conference. Permission was granted and the process was begun.
- † The process began in 1604, and concluded with the publication of the Bible on May 2nd, 1611. (Ps 12:6,7, it took seven years/times!)
- † 47-54 men were chosen to translate the new Bible. Some died during the process.
- † Six companies/groups of men were assigned various parts of the Bible to translate.
- † Westminster, Cambridge, Oxford were the locations of Translation.

# The Translators of the King James

- † Each translator completed his revision of a chapter week by week, and each company forged a common revision by comparing these private revisions.
- † Revisions being completed, a company circulated its work, book by book among the other companies.
- † Then the translators circulated their work among the learned men, who were not official translators.
- † The translators then had to circulate these revisions among the other companies. Then, they prepared the final Text.
- † The review of each verse of Scripture could have occurred 14 times in this process

# Revisions to the KJV 1611

- † **1629AD:** 493 changes including the Apocrypha. Standardization of spelling.
- † **1638AD:** 235 changes, 224 becoming standard. These came from oversight/haste, word changes/clauses overlooked by the editors of 1611. Most of the changes again were of spelling. Two of the original Translators of 1611, John Bois & Samuel Ward, worked on this revision.
- † **1762AD:** This was edited by F. Parris. Additional standardization and modernization of spelling, punctuation, italics, etc. The text was again proofread and checked.
- † **1769AD:** Edited by Benjamin Blaney. This is the standard edition which we currently have in use. Chapter summaries, running titles, and marginal references were revised.

# How The NKJV Was Translated

✚ NKJV preface says text based on Textus Receptus.

“The New King James Version is a conservative revision of the King James version that does not make any alterations on the basis of a revised Greek or Hebrew text, but adheres to the readings presumed to underlie the King James version. In the New Testament, this means that the Greek text followed is the Textus Receptus of the early printed editions of the sixteenth century. The ancient manuscripts, upon which critical editions of the Greek text have been based for nearly two centuries now, are ignored (except in the marginal notes).”

✚ Text is hybrid from English reading from modern Bibles.  
(you are not told this anywhere )

✚ NKJV changes Textus Receptus 1200 times in the text.

# NKJV -vs- RSV & NASV

The following 4 verses in the NKJV are a "hybrid" from readings found in the RSV (1952) and the NASV (1971). They do not match the Textus Receptus reading:

## Acts 4:27

**RSV:** "for truly in this city there were gathered together against thy holy servant Jesus, whom thou didst anoint, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,"

**NASV:** "For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,"

**NKJV:** "For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,"

**KJV:** "For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,"

# NKJV -vs- RSV & NASV

The following 4 verses in the NKJV are a "hybrid" from readings found in the RSV (1952) and the NASV (1971). They do not match the Textus Receptus reading:

## Acts 17:22

**RSV:** "So Paul, standing in the middle of the Are-op'agus, said: 'Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious.' "

**NASV:** "So Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, 'Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects.' "

**NKJV:** "Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious;" "

**KJV:** "Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious."

# NKJV -vs- RSV & NASV

The following 4 verses in the NKJV are a "hybrid" from readings found in the RSV (1952) and the NASV (1971). They do not match the Textus Receptus reading:

## 1Tim 6:20

**RSV:** "O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you. Avoid the godless chatter and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge, "

**NASV:** "O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly *and* empty chatter *and* the opposing arguments of what is falsely called 'knowledge—' "

**NKJV:** "O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane *and* idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge— "

**KJV:** "O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:"

# NKJV -vs- RSV & NASV

The following 4 verses in the NKJV are a "hybrid" from readings found in the RSV (1952) and the NASV (1971). They do not match the Textus Receptus reading:

## 2Tim 2:15

**RSV:** "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. "

**NASV:** "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth."

**NKJV:** "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. "

**KJV:** "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

The NKJV in all these verses reads as the RSV/NASV.

There are literally scores and scores of readings like this in both Old and New Testaments of the NKJV. It is NOT from the "Traditional Text" of 1516AD as the NKJV preface states.



# 4-Fold Superiority of the KJV 1611

## † Superior Texts

“The oldest and most reliable manuscripts” is a lie

## † Superior Technique

The time, carefulness, and use of Formal Equivalence

## † Superior Translators

Credentials of the KJV Translators -vs- Westcott & Hort

## † Superior Theology

Will examine in detail next session

Q & A