

HOW TO: Select A Bible

To understand what the Bible is saying when you read it, you have to understand that the English versions are translations of Greek and Hebrew manuscripts. This means you are not reading exactly what was in the mind of the writer, even of God gave them the inspiration. This is an important concept that frames what you think of the book.

The Bible is not 'Jesus in Print'. It's a collection of writings about God and his people that are very useful for understanding spirituality from his perspective.

When choosing a Bible to use, it depends on the use you want to put it to and also what spiritual insight you want to get out of it.

The English translations fall into a number of types, according to the technique used to translate them:

1. Word-for-word
2. Thought-for-thought
3. Impression-for-impression
4. Amplification
5. Literal

All the available translations fit into one of these categories.

There are also study Bibles which have study notes included. Plus there are cross-reference Bibles.

Jonathan Welton has written a fine article to explain the differences, usefulness and errors of the Bibles that you can select from. Read it here:

"Bible Translations"¹ – weltonacademy.com/blogs/jonathanwelton/bible-translations

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26-8-2017

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1 – Jonathan Welton (17-8-2017) "Bible Translations" (weltonacademy.com/blogs/jonathanwelton/bible-translations)