March 24, 2002                               Northwest Bible Church

INSPIRATION OF THE SCRIPTURES - Part III
A word about translations

INTRO

I. THE KJV vs THE NEWER VERSIONS - Which manuscripts should have the most importance?

     A. The origin of the KJV. 1st printed in 1611.
          1) John Wycliffe, 1384
          2) William Tyndale,1529.
          3) Coverdale Bible, 1535.
          4) The Great Bible, 1538.
          5) Geneva Bible, 1560.
          6) Bishop's Bible, 1568.

     B. The debate over the textual basis for the KJV.
          1) The existing manuscripts.
               Autographs:                          0
               Greek copies:                          5,338
               Versions in other languages:                8,000
          2) The KJV does not reflect later manuscript discoveries.

Diagram#1

Diagram #2
II. THE NEWER VERSIONS AND THE DEITY OF CHRIST - Are the accusations just?

KJV     NASB     NIV
John 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.
     John 1:18 No man has seen
God at any time; the only
begotten God, who is in the
bosom of the Father, He has
explained Him.
     John 1:18 No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father’s side, has made him known.

     See also Tit. 2:13 and 2 Pet. 1:1 where the NASB and NIV are clearer.

III. THE NIV AND THE PHILOSOPHY OF TRANSLATING THE BIBLE - Literal or dynamic in meaning?

          1) Literal or formal equivalence method. Seeks a word-for-word equivalency, trying to retain the grammatical structure of the original. KJV, NASB, RSV.

          2) Free or dynamic equivalence method. Seeks effectiveness in communication. More likely to reflect the current culture and social factors of modern readers in its translation. NIV, GNB. This method can easily be abused.
     See Jn. 1:18 for example above for NIV.

IV. THE GENDER-NEUTRAL SHIFT IN TRANSLATIONS - How much should culture influence the translation of the Bible?

NIV     TNIV
1 Tim. 2:5 - There is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

Heb. 2:17 - For this reason he (Jesus) had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest.

Mk. 1:17 - Come, follow Me, Jesus said, and I will make you fishers of men."     1 Tim. 2:5 - There is one God and one mediator between God and human beings, Christ Jesus, himself human.

Heb. 2:17 - For this reason he had to made like his brothers and sisters in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest.

Mk. 1:17 - "Come, follow me, Jesus said, and I will send you out to catch people."

CONCLUSION