Monday April 29

Lesson 5

Passing on God's Word

Read 2 Corinthians 4:1-6 and 2 Corinthians 2:14. What do these passages tell us about the confidence Paul had, despite the challenges he faced in proclaiming the truth of God's Word?

The apostle Paul faced overwhelming odds in his work of spreading the gospel; yet, he had the confidence that God's Word would eventually triumph, "for," as he said, "we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth" (2 Cor. 13:8).

The Reformers faced similar trials; yet, by faith they remained faithful to God's Word. An example of courage in the face of seemingly overwhelming odds is William Tyndale. Tyndale's greatest desire was to give England an accurate, readable translation of the Bible. He determined to translate the Bible from the original languages and correct some of the errors in Wycliffe's translation 200 years before. Eventually Tyndale, too, was arrested and tried. Many of his Bible translations, which were printed in Worms, Germany, were seized and publicly burned. His trial took place in Belgium in a.d. 1536. He was condemned on the charge of heresy and sentenced to be burned. His executioners strangled him while they tied him to the stake and then burned his body. His dying words were spoken with zeal in a loud voice and were reported as, "Lord, open the King of England's eyes." God miraculously answered Tyndale's prayer.

Within four years of his death, four English translations of the Bible were published. In 1611 the King James Version of the Bible was printed, and it was largely based on Tyndale's work. The 54 scholars who produced the work drew heavily from Tyndale's earlier English translation. One estimate suggests that the Old

Testament of the 1611 King James Bible is 76 percent Tyndale's translation, and the New Testament is 83 percent. In 2011 the King James Version of the Bible celebrated its $400^{\rm th}$ anniversary by passing the milestone of one billion Bibles in print. Translated into 2,454 languages, it has impacted tens of millions of people around the globe. William Tyndale's sacrifice was well worth it.

No matter how difficult it seemed or how challenging the circumstances were, Tyndale and his Bible-believing colleagues trusted that God was working out everything according to His will. Tyndale's life made a difference for eternity.

TODAY WE FACE A DIFFERENT BUT JUST AS SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGE WHEN IT COMES TO BIBLE VERSIONS. THE PROBLEM TODAY IS NOT THAT WE DO NOT HAVE THE BIBLE BUT RATHER THAT WE HAVE SO MANY DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF THE BIBLE.

THE BIBLE IS THE BEST SELLING BOOK IN THE WORLD FOR ALL TIME AT 5-7 BILLION COPIES.

SO NOW WE HAVE PUBLISHERS AND PEOPLE WORKING OUT WAYS TO BRING THEIR THEOLOGICAL
BENTS INTO THE BIBLE AND EVEN MAKE MONEY ON GODS WORD.

EACH VERSION IS COPY RIGHTED BUT NOT THE KJV. THAT MEANS EACH NEW VERSION OF THE BIBLE MUST VARY A CERTAIN PERCENTAGE FROM ANY PREVIOUS VERSION IN ORFER FOR IT TO BE COPYRIGHTED.

THERE ARE AT THIS TIME OVER 100 ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS OF THR BIBLE WITH EACH CHANGING TO SOME DEGREE THE ORIGINAL TEXT MEANING AND INTENT AND THIS IS NOT WITHOUT CONCERN AND EVEN SERIOUS WARNINGS FROM THE BIBLE ITSELF:

REV 22:18, 19 -

OT DEUT.

REVELATION 1:10 GIVIS IS A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF A MAJOR CHANGE THAT HAS SIMPLY BEEN

ADDED TO THE TEXT IN NO LESS THAN 8 TRANSLATIONS OF THR BIBLE INCLUDING SPANISH!

SWEDISH AND DANISH.

INSERT STUDY HERE

Revelation 1:10- Sunday texts-Bible translations -

HOW?

Word for word - KJV

Thought for thought NIV

Paraphrase or modern language, dynamic equivalent Message and Voice.

Revelation 1; Verse ten

 $\underline{10}^*$ I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet." KJV

Compare with Message Bible and several other modern Bible versions:

Modern Version 1

10 "It was Sunday and I was in the Spirit, praying." (Message Bible)

Modern Version 2

10 On the Lord's day [C probably a reference to the "first day of the week, Sunday, when Christians met for worship] I was in the ·Spirit..." (Expanded Bible)

The [expanded] Bible is a modified version of the New Century Version (NCV) [first gender neutral Bible] that is like a commentary, dictionary, and Bible all rolled into one. Words are defined, cross-references are noted, and commentary is made within the -text. No more looking in the foot notes, side columns, or a completely different book to get your extra information during Bible study (not if you want the basics anyway). The [expanded] Bible makes digging deeper a little easier.

Modern Version 3

10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day,[c] and I heard a loud voice behind me like a trumpet.

Footnotes:

c. Revelation 1:10 Sunday"

(Holman Christian Standard Bible, 2004 [interesting history on switch from TR to WH after death of original scholar who did NKJV])

Modern Version 4

10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day (the first day of the week), and I heard a voice behind me. It sounded like the blast of a trumpet. (The Voice, 2011).

The Voice is an English translation of the Bible developed by Thomas Nelson and the Ecclesia Bible Society. The Voice is a modern language, dynamic equivalent translation. The New Testament was released in November of 2011, and the full Bible was released in April of 2012).

Version #5

10 I was in Spirit in the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, [I was in Spirit in the Sunday, and I heard after me a great voice, as of a trump,] (Wycliffe Bible, 2001 by Terence P. Noble)

Version #6 [Spanish]

Apocalipsis 1:10

10 Pero un domingo[a] quedé bajo el poder del Espíritu Santo. Entonces escuché detrás de mí una voz muy fuerte, que sonaba como una trompeta." (Traducción en lenguaje actual (TLA, 2003))

Footnotes:

Apocalipsis 1:10 Domingo: lit. Día del Señor.

Version #7—Swedish

10Jag var i andanom, på en Söndag, och hörde efter mig en stor röst, såsom en basun;

Swedish "Karl XII 1873"

10I was in spirit, on a Sunday, and after me heard a great voice, like a trumpet;

Version #8-Danish

10En søndag, mens jeg var på øen, kom jeg under Helligåndens magt. (Bibelen på Hverdagsdansk (BPH) Dansk [Danish]

10A Sunday while I was on the island, I came under the power of the Holy Ghost. (The Bible in Everyday Dance (BPH) Danish [Danish]

Version # 9-Hebraic Find?

MAJOR POINT— we should note that these Bible versions are not based on the Greek. However, the direction of the newer translations is to move us in a direction that has

allowed for the next step. What began with subtle changes and corrections of the Greek is now leading to no less than 8 Bible versions that openly teach that the Lords day is Sunday not the Seventh-day Saturday Sabbath (Mark 2:27, 28; Exodus 20:10).

Read Daniel 12:3 and Revelation 14:13. How do these texts apply to Tyndale's life in a powerful way? Now think about your own life and your impact on others. What encouragement do these texts give regarding the opportunity you have to influence others for eternity?