



Lesson #4

**Before Reading the Bible:
Bible Version Comparison**

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Needless to say, if you are trying to glean the truth about a certain topic, the quality of the source used in obtaining information matters. This is especially true when studying the messages in the bible. An accurate translation of the scriptures is essential when studying the bible.

You may have noticed that your past bible study lessons, in this series, have utilized the King James Version (KJV) of the bible. This is due to the fact that numerous studies have shown that the KJV provides one of the closest English translations to the original manuscripts. Although the KJV isn't perfect, it keeps much of the underlying messages intact and does not omit texts in order to satisfy any particular doctrine. With that being said, it's not necessary to ditch all other versions of the bible. It can be useful to use other translations to get another perspective or to resolve wording issues.

In this bible study, we have provided you with a hands-on, comparative study to show how inaccuracies in some bible translations can alter or water down what is being conveyed in the bible. If you don't have access to the KJV, NIV, or another translation of the Bible, you can access them online at BibleGateway.com or BibleStudyTools.com

Look up and compare the following texts.

Look up **Luke 23:42** in the KJV

Look up **Luke 23:42** in another version – Is the word “Lord” missing?

Look up **John 6:47** in the KJV

Look up **John 6:47** in another version – Does it say that belief should be in Jesus?

Look up **Acts 8:37** in the KJV

Look up **Acts 8:37** in another version – Is it missing?

Look up **1 Corinthians 15:47** in the KJV

Look up **1 Corinthians 15:47** in another version – Does it fall short of calling Jesus, Lord?

Look up **Galatians 6:17** in the KJV

Look up **Galatians 6:17** in another version – Does it falls short of calling Jesus, Lord?

Look up **Colossians 1:14** in the KJV

Look up **Colossians 1:14** in another version – Is there any mention of the “blood” of Christ?

Look up **Ephesians 3:9** in the KJV

Look up **Ephesians 3:9** in another version - Does it leave out the name of Jesus?

Look up **Revelation 1:11** in the KJV

Look up **Revelation 1:11** in another version - Does it leave out that Jesus is Alpha and Omega (the beginning and the end)?

Establishing the fact that Jesus is one with the Father and therefore worthy to be called Lord, is a very important fact that should not be diminished in any translation of the bible.

See John 10:30 KJV _____

As we continue our study, let's look up and compare the following texts that appear to water down the underlying message, found in the original manuscripts of the bible.

Look up **Luke 4:4** in the KJV

Look up **Luke 4:4** in another version – Does it omit the “word of God”.

Look up **2 Timothy 2:15** in the KJV

Look up **2 Timothy 2:15** in another version – Does it mention the need to study God's word?

Look up **2 Corinthians 2:17** in the KJV

Look up **2 Corinthians 2:17** in another version – Does it water down the word “corrupt” by using a milder word?

Those were just a few more examples to show the difference between the KJV and other translations of the bible. As mentioned before, the KJV is not without its own faults. When it comes to some of the word choices found in the KJV, it is evident that the translators cut some corners here and there. Some of that corner-cutting has resulted in errors in how some of the

