

# Origin of the English Bible

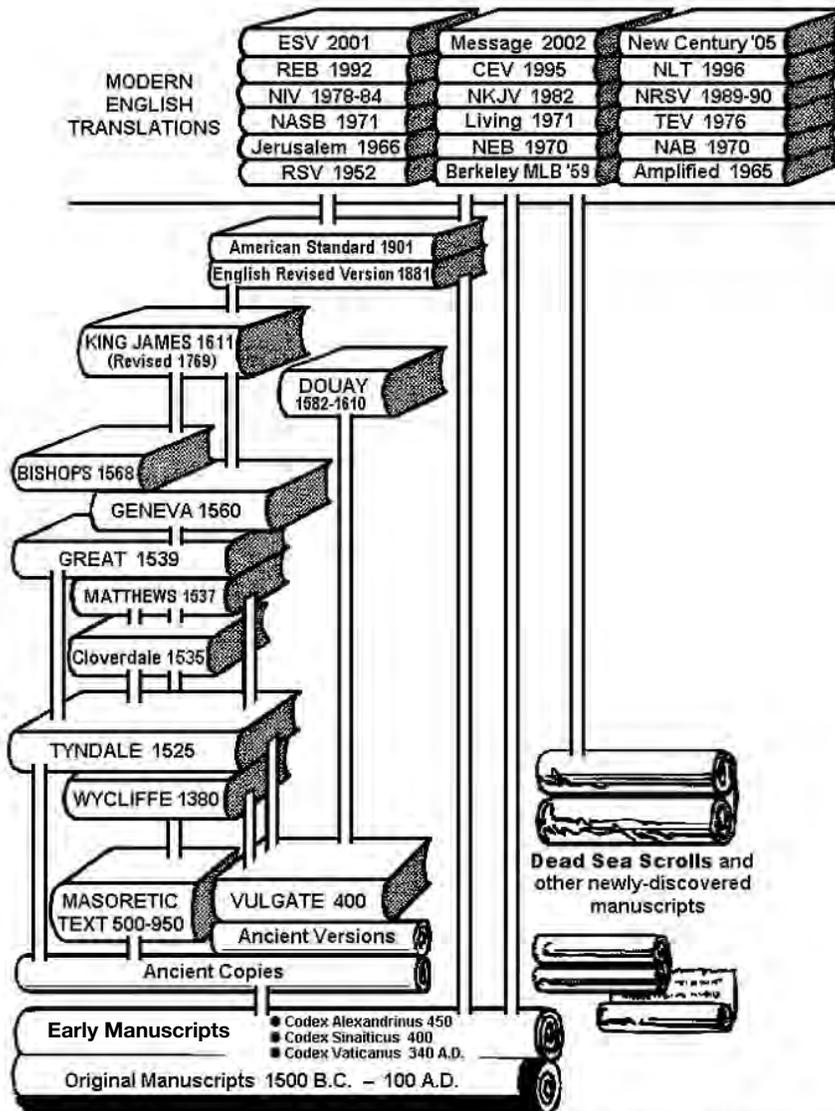


Chart adapted and updated from Thompson Chain Reference Study Bible by David Ahl, Nov. 2010, www.BibleStudyMen.com

The first known translations of the Bible were from Greek manuscripts known as the **Textus Receptus**. John Wycliffe and his followers produced the first complete English Bible in 1380 based on the Latin Vulgate.

Because of the invention of the printing press, the King James Version, based on previous English versions, became the standard for Protestants while the Latin Vulgate remained the bible for the Roman Catholics.

It wasn't until the 20th century that modern translators went back to the earlier manuscripts for their translations.

This included the Masoretic Text which is the official Jewish Hebrew Bible and manuscripts found in Egypt and the eastern provinces of Rome called the **Majority Text**. This included Code Alexandrinus, Codex Sinaiticus, and Codex Vaticanus.

**Human Error:** Scribes, even those intending to be accurate, made mistakes. Simple typos, forgotten words, misread words, or accidental omissions.

**Intentional Error:** To clarify an ambiguous passage, or to align with their own views.

The vast majority of variants are minor and have no impact on the meaning of the text. By comparing thousands of different manuscripts, we can come up with an accurate English translation.

**Only the original manuscripts are the inspired Word of God**

-The KJV was based on the Hebrew **Masoretic Text** of the O.T. and the Greek **Textus Receptus** for the N.T. (The Ancient Copies).

-It also used elements from the Latin Vulgate, the English Tyndale, Coverdale, and Geneva Bibles.

-There are two versions of the KJV: 1611 and 1769. The 1769 version corrected spellings, punctuation, and printing errors.

-This became our authorized version that we have today. Printed originally by Oxford University Press.

-Our modern translations included the **Majority Text** from earlier copies, and the **Dead sea Scrolls**.

-**The Majority Text** included manuscripts from the Codex Alexandrinus, Codex Sinaiticus, and Codex Vaticanus.

-Most of those were found in Egypt and the Byzantine Empire. The Byzantine area was formally Mesopotamia and Asia Minor east of Italy.

-The Byzantine Empire ruled for over a thousand years in the 5th century AD and preserved much of the Greek and Roman literature.

-The Dead Sea Scrolls gave insight to the Hebrew O.T. discovered between 1946 and 1956.