4. TRANSLATION

Part 1: Text – "What is the makeup of the passage?"

How to Understand and Apply the Old Testament

Jason S. DeRouchie, PhD

Professor of Old Testament and Biblical Theology

Bethlehem College & Seminary

Elder, Bethlehem Baptist Church

Spring 2019

Goal: Translate the text and compare other translations.



- a. Facts
- b. A biblical foundation for Bible translation
- c. A biblical hope for Bible translation
- d. Pray!

2. The Benefit of Multiple English Translations in Bible Study

The Shema: Different Translations of Deuteronomy 6:4										
4 3	2 1	1	2 3 4							
שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה אֶחָד "Hear, Israel: Yahweh our-God Yahw										
A	В	Version	Distinct Significance							
1. God our God,	God the one and only!	MSG	Slogan: Stresses the sole							
			allegiance to Yahweh							
2. The LORD our God	is one LORD.	ASV, KJV, BBE	Confronts poly-Yahwism							
3. The LORD our God,	the LORD is one.	NKJV, ESV, NIV,	Stresses Yahweh's supremacy							
		CSB	and uniqueness							
4a. The LORD is our God,	the LORD alone.	NRSV	Identifies Yahweh as our only							
			God.							
4b. Our God is the LORD,	only the LORD!	CEB	Asserts that our only God is							
	-		Yahweh							
5. The LORD is our God;	the LORD is one.	NASB, WEB, NET	Combines 3 and 4							

3. Engaging Different Translations and Translation Theories

- a. Introduction
 - (1) Ways Bible translations differ:
 - (2) Three types of correspondences:
 - Lexical:
 - Grammatical:
 - Historical:

Form-equivalence		Sense-equivalence			Idea-equivalence			
YLT	KJV/NKJV	RSV/NRSV	CSB	NAB	JB	NEB	TLB	
	NASB/NASU	ESV	NET	NJB	GNB	CEB	MSG	
			NIV		REB			
					NLT			
+ Lexical, Grammatical, Historical		+ Historical			– Lexical, Grammatical, Historical			
	– Lexical and Grammatical							

- b. Form-Equivalence
 - (1) Strengths
 - (2) Weaknesses
- c. Sense-equivalence
 - (1) Strength
 - (2) Weaknesses
- d. Idea-equivalence
 - (1) Strength
 - (2) Weakness

Psalm 1	Psalm 119:105 in Various Translations								
			L	G	Н				
	5	4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5							
	ּ לְנְתִיכָּתִי	A-lamp to-my-feet your-word and-light to-my-path.							
Form	YLT	[Nun] A lamp to my foot [is] Thy Word, And a light to my path.	5	5	5				
	NASB	Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.	4	4	5				
	ESV	Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.	4	4	5				
Sense	NIV	Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.	3	3	5				
	NLT	Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.	2	3	5				
Idea	TLB	Your words are a flashlight to light the path ahead of me and	1	1	2				
		keep me from stumbling.							
	MSG	By your words I can see where I am going; they throw a beam	1	1	3				
		of light on my dark path.							