

Wednesday, July 26

A History of How the Bible got into the English Language, and Why This is Important to Us Today

- I. Why we need the Bible
 - A. Our God is a speaking God and His speaking is recorded in the Bible
 1. Hebrews 1:1-2a – “God, having spoken of old in many portions and in many ways to the fathers in the prophets, Has at the last of these days spoken to us in the Son....”
 - B. His instant speaking is *rhema*.
 1. Matthew 4:4 – “But He answered and said, It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out through the mouth of God.’”
 2. John 6:63 – “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.”
 - C. To have the *rhema*, the instant speaking, we must first get the *logos*, the written word.
 1. Matthew 19:4 – “...Have you not read...?”
 2. Colossians 3:16a – “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly....”
- II. A history of how we got the Bible in English
 - A. The Bible, ultimately in Latin and inaccessible (300-1500s)
 - B. John Wycliffe (1330s-1384)
 1. His background
 2. Translation of Bible and training Lollards to travel and preach the Word
 3. Reaction of the Catholic Church
 - C. Printing press invented (1440s)

D. William Tyndale (1494-1536)

1. His background
2. Translation work
3. Reaction and result of his work

E. Thomas Cranmer (1489-1556)

1. His background
2. His burden to spread the Word
3. Result

III. Conclusion