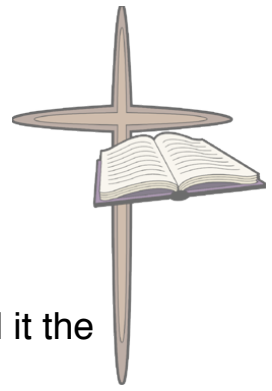


The Indestructible Book

The Story of the Bible

Volume 1



I. God's Word to Man: How the Bible Began - 1500 BC

A. God's first communication to man was called the Decalog - we call it the

Ten Commandments

1. Moses wrote all the words of the Lord which became known as the book of the covenant
2. This was the beginning of the sacred writings which we call the Bible
 - a) Composed over 1500 years
 - b) 40 different authors
 - c) 3 different languages
 - d) Written as poetry, history, and biography
3. There are two testaments (covenants)
4. There are 66 books

II. The Old Testament Canon - 300 BC

A. Canon - collection of books that constitute the Bible

1. Given by man with a special revelation that came from God
2. Final authority on all matters
 - a) The highest court of appeals

B. Writing the words of the Bible

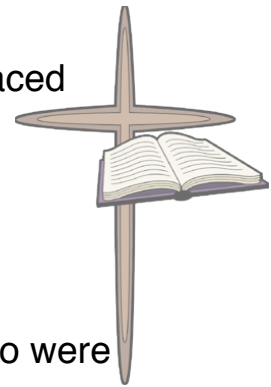
1. No small letters, no vowels, no punctuation marks, no spacing between words
2. Wrote from right to left
3. Had 22 books in their Old Testament
4. Words were written and protected

C. After Solomon's Temple was destroyed the people were taken captive

1. When they were released they spread all over the world
2. They built synagogues to worship in
3. The synagogues needed scripture
4. Brought in the institution of the scribes

D. Scribe's regulations

1. Could only use clean animal skins
2. No less than 48 no more than 60 lines on a page
3. Special black ink of a special recipe
4. Verbalize (say) every word while writing it
5. Wipe their pens and wash their bodies every time they wrote Jehovah (God)
6. Must be revised within 30 days



7. If 3 pages needed correction the entire document must be replaced
8. They needed to count every **letter**, word, and paragraph
9. Invalid if two letters **touched** each other
10. All documents needed to be stored in sacred places
11. Old and worn documents were **buried**

III. Greek Influence - 250 BC

- A. During the time of Alexander the Great there were a lot of men who were asking questions
- B. Greek became the language that everyone used
- C. There was a need for a Greek translation of the Bible
 1. 285 BC there were many **Jews** that were part of the Egyptian culture
 2. According to tradition Demetrius, head of the world famous **library** at Alexandria asked King Ptolemy Philadelphius of Egypt if he could have a Greek translation of the Jewish law made for the library
 - a) The king released **100,000** Jewish slaves and sent them with a generous gift and an ambassador to Eleazar, the high priest, of Jerusalem
 - (1) Wanted them to collect 6 scholars from the 12 tribes making **72** men
 - (2) They were to go to Alexandria to work on the translation
 - (3) Were sent to an island which was prepared with 72 cubicles
 - (4) In **72 days** the Torah was translated
 - (5) This is called the Septuagint the Greek word for 70

IV. The Messianic Focus of the Bible - 4 BC

- A. Ever since the Babylonian captivity the Jews lived under some kind of oppression
- B. The people were looking for a Messiah (a Savior)
- C. New Testament writers said that Jesus Christ was the Messiah
- D. The people would not accept Him just being a carpenter's son
 1. They saw Him as a fraud

V. The Claims of the Man from Galilee - 4 BC to 29 AD

- A. Jesus' Claims
 1. He was the **Son of God**
 2. He was the Way, the Truth, and the Life and no one could come to the Father but by Him
 3. His sacrificial death to be followed by His resurrection **3** days later
- B. The leaders said He was blaspheming
- C. They crucified Him at the place of the skull
- D. Buried in a new tomb and rolled a large **stone** over the door
- E. On Sunday morning they found that the body was missing
 1. Explanations



- a) Disciples said that He resurrected from the dead
- b) The authorities claimed that the disciples **stole** it
 - (1) Couldn't explain how
 - (2) Never issued a warrant
- c) Soldiers said they were **asleep**
 - (1) They were never reprimanded

F. His resurrection was a sign to the believers that His claims were true

VI. The writes of the New Testament - 0 to 90 AD

A. Truth

1. Living truth 0-39 AD - while Jesus was alive who was mighty in word and deed
2. **Oral** tradition 30-50 AD - didn't write anything because they thought He would be returning soon
3. Written communication 50-90 AD
 - a) Writing of the letters
 - b) The apostles couldn't keep up so they wrote to the believers
 - c) Peter wrote to the Hebrew **Christians** scattered through Asia Minor and living under persecution
 - d) John wrote 3 epistles, a gospel, and the book of Revelation
 - e) Saul of Tarsus - persecutor of the Christians

VII. The First Christian Martyr - 35 AD

A. 7 years since Jesus has ascended

B. Deacons were appointed to settle disputes

C. Stephen was a deacon

1. He stood before the Sanhedrian and angered the Sadducees and Pharisees
2. He was taken to the gate (now called Stephen's Gate) and stoned him to death
3. They took off their coats and laid them at a man's feet
 - a) This man was Saul of Tarsus, later known as Paul the Apostle

D. Saul

1. He was a Pharisee
2. He was a Roman
 - a) That citizenship exempted him from **slavery**
 - b) Gave him the right to appeal to Caesar
 - c) Gave him the right to roam anywhere in the world
3. On his way to persecute the believers in Damascus he was converted by God
4. The people in Damascus wanted to kill him
5. He escaped and lived in **Arabia** for 3 years
6. He returned to begin his ministry



VIII. The Powerful Pen - 45 to 68 AD

- A. He started the **Gentile** churches on two different continents
- B. Took 3-4 missionary journeys
- C. Traveled over **12,000** miles over sea and land
- D. He became the center of riots, one where they stoned him and left him for dead
- E. He began writing follow-up letters to the churches
- F. He was the writer of over half of the New Testament
 - 1. Many were written while he was in prison in chains
 - 2. Final letter written while in the prison at Rome waiting the decision of Caesar
- G. Paul was kept in prison
 - 1. It was below the city
 - 2. He was left alone
 - 3. He was ready to be offered - the time of my departure has come
- H. Death of the apostles
 - 1. Paul was beheaded
 - 2. Peter - whipped and **crucified** upside down
 - 3. Thomas - **boiled** to death in India
 - 4. John was the only one to escape being killed even though he was dipped in boiling oil

IX. Where are all Those Letters - 50 to 90 AD

- A. There are no first edition copies of the **Bible** available
- B. The Bible was given to us in fragments
 - 1. They pieced together several separate documents to get one complete copy
 - 2. The latest discoveries of these manuscripts have testified to the meticulous process of copying the scriptures
- C. The most recent discovery was made in 1947 - the **Dead** Sea Scrolls
 - 1. The most important called the Qumran
 - 2. They were found in **11** different caves
 - 3. There was a great deal of value in these discoveries
 - a) Able to reproduce the entire Old Testaments except for **Esther**
 - b) We came closer to the original manuscripts by 1,000 years
 - c) There was no need to change what we have translated into the Word of God

X. The Roman Contribution - 100 AD

- A. Two major contributions made by Rome to Christianity
 - 1. Administrative Law
 - a) Dated back to 451 BC when they had the 12 tablets

b) They had **120** million people and with it they developed the legal process

(1) This became the laws of Europe

(2) Later became part of America

2. Building

a) They wanted to be able to mobilize the army

b) They build **roads** and bridges and walls

c) These are remarkably well preserved today

B. The Catacombs

1. Under the city of Rome

2. Used for a Christian burial ground

3. There are an estimated **4** million graves

4. There were 40 separate congregations meeting just before the last persecution

5. They were spread as far as England

XI. Learning to Crawl - 150 AD

A. There were controversies and heresies in the early church

1. Attempted to destroy the unity in the church, the purity of the doctrine, and their authority of their **Bible**

2. These served 3 beneficial purposes

a) Heresies can be healthy - when a germ enters the body it produces antibodies (which learn how to fight the germ or bad things)

b) False theologies were what gave birth to true Christian theology

c) Conflict forced the development of an authoritative and universally recognized Bible

B. Polycarp - one of the men who defended the church against these heresies

1. Disciple of **John**

2. Pastor of the church of Smyrna

3. Knowledgeable of nearly all the **New** Testament letters

4. Several from his church faced the **lions** courageously

5. The persecutors cried out for their pastor

6. A servant under torture told where he was staying

7. They arrested him

a) Brought him to the city

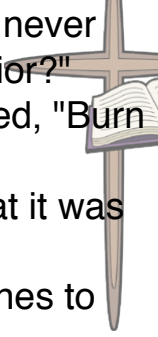
b) The chief magistrates took him in his chariot and asked him to call Caesar lord and offer sacrifices to him

c) He refused and was thrown out of the chariot and he broke his ankle when he hit the pavement

d) They took him to the arena

e) The judge in the arena asked him to curse Christ and he would be able to go free



- 
- f) His response was "80 and 6 years have I served Him and He never did me any harm. How can I blaspheme my King and my Savior?"
 - g) When they saw that he was not afraid of the lions they shouted, "Burn him!"
 - h) When they ignited the fire the executioner wasn't satisfied that it was burning fast enough and threw a dagger into him
 - i) His friends later came and stirred among the ashes for his bones to give him a decent burial

XII. Colosseum Converts - 80 to 303 AD

- A. Started by Vespasian 72 AD and completed by Titus 80 AD
- B. Normans came in at 1084 AD and destroyed it to where it is today
- C. Monument to the Christian martyrs
- D. Persecution
 - 1. 10 waves rolled against the church
 - 2. In 250 AD it became an empire issue
 - 3. It was always centered around an emperor - when he died the persecution stopped
 - 4. Roman hostility started in 64 AD by Nero
 - a) He burned Rome and blamed it on the Christians
 - b) Put great numbers of them to death after tortures
 - (1) They were made to wear coats covered in pitch
 - (2) They were hung by chains with sharp stakes in the ground and then burned at midnight for torches into the city
 - (3) Buildings were filled with Christians and then burned to the ground
 - (4) They were tied together by 50's and then thrown into the sea
 - (5) Red hot chairs
 - (6) Wheels for stretching bodies
 - 5. They were trying to stamp out Christianity
- E. Why they tried to get rid of Christianity
 - 1. Political reasons - meet at night and were suspicious about being another political party
 - 2. Religious reasons - the refused to burn incense on an altar to Caesar
 - 3. Philosophical reasons - had the philosophy that all men were created equal
 - 4. Financial reasons - some made their living by selling little idols and the gospel put them out of business
- F. 10th wave came at 303 AD - Diocletian
 - 1. End to all meetings
 - 2. Destruction of all church buildings
 - 3. Disposition of all officers
 - 4. Imprisonment of those who persisted in disobedience



5. All sacred writings to be confiscated and burned

6. Sacrifice to the pagan gods or be put to **death**

G. What came of these many years of persecution

1. The church grew

2. There was now an interest in this indestructible book

XIII. From Persecution to Proclamation - 313-331 AD

A. Constantine put an end to the persecutions

B. His priorities were misdirected

1. Affluence (riches) was the sign of divine approval

2. He brought bishops into the palaces

3. Built churches and put clergymen and bishops in them when there were was no known Christians in that region

4. Bestowed large sums of money into them for the poor to bring about conversions

C. Asked that **50** Bibles be prepared and copied to take them to the new empire head in the east - Constantinople

XIV. The Word Becomes Supreme - 367 to 397 AD

A. The early church expected their Savior to come quickly

1. Writing began but only to convey enough information to make converts

2. Scribes began busily writing

a) There were 13,000 documents circulating

B. Athenacious crusaded for an authoritative, canonized New Testament

1. Canon = a measuring rod, a plumb line

2. 367 AD he wrote a letter listing the **27** books of the New Testament

a) 397 AD the Counsel of Carthage gave their approval of the 27 New Testament books

b) Everyone submitted to this authority

XV. Jerome's Latin Vulgate Bible - 405 BC

A. He and 3 friends traveled to the East

1. He got to the town of Antioch and a high fever got a hold of him

2. He dreamed that **Christ** told him he was not a Christian

B. He dedicated his live to mastering the Hebrew language

C. He went to Rome to mediate a counsel being held

1. He met Damascus who was the bishop of Rome - who later became Pope

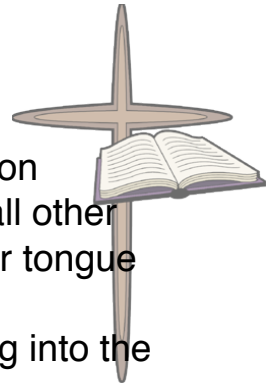
2. A strong bond was between them

3. Damascus asked Jerome to translate the Hebrew Old Testament into the **Latin** language for the first time

D. Latin was being used throughout the empire

1. He moved to Bethlehem and dedicated himself to this task which he completed in 405 AD

2. This was called the Vulgate (Bible in the common language)
 - a) This blocked the road for any other vulgate
 - b) Succeeding generations decided to forbid any other translation
 - c) Latin would become the official language of the church and all other languages would be deprived of any translation in their mother tongue
 - d) The good became the enemy
 - e) This deprived the public of a Bible and sent the world plunging into the darkness of the **Middle Ages**



XVI. Movement in the Monastery - 382 AD

- A. Jerome saw the secular influence on the church, the opulence of the church, the struggle for authority, and the absence of piety
- B. He became a preacher of monasticism (separation from the world)
 1. Monasteries were educational centers
 - a) Spend their time writing Scriptures

XVII. The Darkness of the Middle Ages - 550 AD

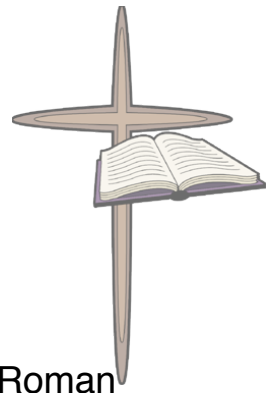
- A. Downfall of the Roman Empire
 1. Some say it was when they divided the empire between east and west
 2. Some say it was the **20** year war with the Goths that ended in 555 AD
 - a) 13 years later Lombards came and what the Goths hadn't ruined - they did
- B. Gregory the Great - a pope
 1. He took money from the church and paid the Lombard army
 2. Became known as the savior of Caesar's Empire
- C. The church was the supreme power of the age
 1. The Bible was relegated to the closed doors of the monastery
 2. Confined to a language that only the privileged few could read
- D. The church was consumed with its political objectives
 1. The ushered in the **Crusades**
 2. The church would be responsible
- E. The Bible was starting to cause shock waves on the small island of Britain
 1. This would change the course of history forever

The Indestructible Book

God's Word in English: A Bible for the Common Man

389-1382 AD

Volume 2



- I. The Legacy of Two Devoted Men - 389-597 AD
 - A. Christianity reached the fringes of the Roman Empire through the Roman armies
 - B. It grew through two important men
 1. St. Patrick - born in Scotland in 389 AD
 - a) At 16 he was taken captive to Ireland
 - b) He spent 6 years there and he escaped
 - c) He had a dream that he was to go back to Ireland
 - d) He went back to Ireland and reached out to the people of Northern Ireland to teach them about Christianity
 - e) Scotland returned to paganism but because of St. Patrick's influence another man rose up and went to Scotland
 2. St. Columba - born in Ireland in 521 AD
 - a) Descendant of a royal family - could have been a king of Ireland
 - b) He was introduced to Christ and a systematic study of the Scripture
 - c) He was ordained as a priest
 - d) Planted over 100 monasteries in Ireland
 - e) He set out for Scotland - and built a monastery for a base camp
 - f) He converted the king of the Picts which brought peace between the Picts and the Scots
 - g) Scotland evangelized Ireland through St. Patrick and Ireland evangelized Scotland through St. Columba
 3. Both are buried in the same grave
- II. The Stable Boy and the Scholar - 650-735 AD
 - A. Caedmon - a stable boy who sang
 1. He would listen to a priest read in Latin, wait for him to translate it and then he would convert it into poetry about it in English
 2. These were the first translations
 - B. Venerable Bede - died in 735 AD
 1. He was a monk, scholar, mathematician, historian, and theologian
 2. He wrote the ecclesiastical history of England
 3. He translated John's gospel
 - a) He would translate and dictate for a scribe what to write
 - b) The scribe informed him that they were at the last chapter but he was afraid that Bede was too frail to finish it

- c) He told the scribe to write quickly and after they finished the last verse he leaned back onto his pillow and died



III. The Age of Intolerance - 1100-1300 AD

A. Persecutions began against any who do not agree with the teachings

1. Waldensians

- a) Believed that the Bible was the supreme **authority**
- b) Heartbeat was evangelism
- c) The leaders should give up their secular living and preach the Word
- d) They preferred to die than to adopt the Roman creeds

B. The persecutions multiplied the people and strengthened their resolve

C. The people went up into the Alps to find refuge

1. In May 1655 Emmanuel II went in to force an edict

- a) The women, children, and old men were up in the higher regions
- b) The men and the **boys** stayed behind
- c) The army found the hiding place and they shoved them over the top of the mountains

IV. John Wycliffe - Translator of Our First English Bible - born in 1324 AD

A. He was a brilliant man

B. He stood against the power of the king, the parliament, the university, and the imperial church

C. Gathered a group of men willing to die for what he believed

D. The language

1. People spoke middle **English**

- a) Old English - 7th century
- b) Middle English - came later

E. Politics of the time

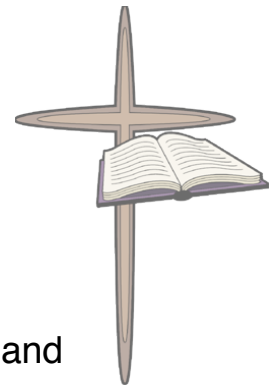
1. When William the Conqueror took over the land (1066 AD he governed it through barons

- a) These barons collected **taxes** and marshaled armies for him

2. He handed the throne to King John

- a) When he inherited the crown it came with enormous debts
- b) He wanted to go to war with France
- c) The barons were stubborn with him
- d) He turned to Morocco for help promising that if they would help he would even become **Islamic**
- e) Couldn't turn to the pope because he had violated his laws
- f) He was forced to come to an agreement with his barons
 - (1) He signed the Magna Carta in 1215 AD

- g) John Wycliffe would use the Magna Carta to accomplish his task along with his Bible



V. The Boot Camp - 1350 AD

- A. John Wycliffe went to Oxford University
- B. At 24 he lived through the "Black Death"
 - 1. There was no cure
 - 2. It got young and old
 - 3. They buried 200 victims every day until over 100,000 had died
- C. With the common place of death he developed a holy **fear** of God and thinking about his priorities and he had no fear of men
- D. He had a whole new relationship with **God**
- E. He was ordained and assigned to a job (by the church/state)
- F. He became a great debater

VI. The Cold War - 1351-1372

- A. War between Rome and Oxford
 - 1. Politics
 - a) Rome had an iron grip on England
 - b) Assignments were assigned by Rome to people who were not members of England
 - c) The Frenchmen were given these assignments over England
 - d) Laws were made to keep control in England
 - (1) Any foreign church appointments must first get the king's approval
 - (2) No foreign court could hold a trial or exact penalty of an English citizen before he was tried before an English court
 - e) The Pope in Rome called the king to come and defend himself to Rome
 - 2. Theology
 - a) Denied the Doctrine of Transsubstantiation - the elements became the actual body and blood of Jesus Christ

VII. His Mighty Pen - 1360-1381 AD

- A. Wycliffe used his pen to make his point
- B. He wrote many documents - over **200** manuscripts
- C. In 1366 - he decided with the Parliament, that the demands of the pope were unconstitutional
 - 1. He became the chaplain to the **King**
 - 2. He spoke against Rome
 - 3. His pen was like acid

VIII. Heresy! - 1377-1383 AD

- A. Rome had to convince the public that John Wycliffe was guilty of heresy
- B. They needed to put him on trial
- C. They concluded that there were 19 counts of **heresy**
- D. After Wycliffe became sick another trial was set - a riot broke out and Wycliffe escaped



- E. A time of schism in the papacy
 - F. In 1381 he began writing articles which attacked the doctrine of transubstantiation - the teaching was unscriptural
 - G. This stand left him standing alone
 - H. In 1383 he was put on trial again
 - 1. The never gave him any instruction
 - 2. He stood and turned his back on them
 - 3. Wycliffe walked out of that trial and never to return to Oxford again
- IX. The First English Bible - 1382
- A. The 1378 Wycliffe and his disciples began to translate the Bible in English for the first time
 - 1. The Bible contained the **whole** of God's revelation
 - 2. There was no need for any further teaching to be supplied by church tradition, the Pope, or any other source
 - 3. Authorities, traditions, and even **Popes** must be tested by the Scriptures
 - 4. The Bible is to be available to all Christians
 - B. The Bible must be translated into the vernacular of the people
 - C. It was translated from Jerome's Latin Vulgate
 - D. In 1382 the Old Testament was completed and the people had a Bible in their own **language**
 - E. It took **10** months to complete one Bible because it was hand written
 - 1. A Bible cost 30-40 pounds which was 9,600 pennies
 - a) When a chicken cost 2 pennies
 - b) A hog cost **4** pennies
 - 2. People would bring a load of hay just so they could possess a New Testament for one day
 - 3. People would give the entire earnings of one month's pay so they could own **1** page of that Bible
 - F. He died on December 31, 1384
 - G. His impact can still be felt today
 - H. In 1428 his teachings were so infectious that the church condemned his writings, they dug up his bones, **burned** them, and then threw them in the river, hoping to stamp out the influence of this heretic

The Indestructible Book

God's Word and Sacrifice: Martyrs for the Bible 1395-1536 AD

Volume 3



I. The Wycliffites

A. After the death of Wycliffe - his followers considered themselves to be operating independent of the Roman Catholic Church

1. They believed in the priesthood of all believers
2. They could administer the sacraments without the authority of a **bishop**
3. They were poor people - the priests were rich
4. They preached in the vernacular (language) of the people - the priests conducted services in the dead language of **Latin**
5. The Wycliffites had a tremendous success publicly
6. They had courage
 - a) They had asked that the parliament abolish
 - (1) Celibacy
 - (2) Transsubstantiation
 - (3) Prayers for the dead
 - (4) Offerings to images
 - b) They took Wycliffe's book and nailed it to St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey

B. They caused an uproar with the bishops and clergy - blasphemy against the church

C. In 1399 the Bishop of York aligned with King Henry VI

1. He told King Henry to consolidate the throne, conciliate the clergy and sacrifice the Lollards
 - a) The Lollards - "the mumblers" - an abusive name of the Wycliffites
2. Henry replied that he would be the protector of the church
3. In 1401 the act for burning heretics was passed
4. The bishop of York had accomplished his counterreformation objectives

D. Within 8 days the fires of Smithfield began to burn to death those that they did not agree with

1. William Sawtry - 1401 AD
 - a) His crime - he said he adored not the cross on which Christ died as much as the Christ who died on the cross
 - b) He was dragged to St. Paul's cathedral, shaved, and degraded
 - c) He was taken to civil authorities to have mercy extended
 - d) He was taken to Smithfield and burned



2. Lord Cobham - 1413 AD

- a) He was brought to trial at St. Paul's Cathedral
- b) He was questioned and he said he was willing to believe all that God desires, but that the Pope should have authority to teach what is contrary to Scripture, that I can never believe.
- c) He was taken back to the Tower of London
- d) They gave him 40 days in hopes he would recant
- e) He escaped - something no one had ever done through history
- f) He went to Wales until 1416
- g) He was caught again and brought back
- h) They chained him to a rotisserie and roasted him to death in a slow burning fire

3. Lollard's Tower

- a) A room was added that was the Lollard's prison
- b) The room was 12 x 12 with a 7 foot ceiling
- c) The prisoners were tortured and held in chains until they were brought out to die
- d) One etching said, "Jesus is my love"

4. Lollard pit

- a) A place of public execution where many Lollards died

5. For 125 years they were persecuted

6. They began a reformation that turned Europe upside-down

II. A Guillotine to Ignorance - 1456 AD

A. The Middle Ages politically

- 1. Began with the fall of the Roman Empire
- 2. Ended with the discovery of America in 1492

B. The Middle Ages Religiously

- 1. Began with the conversion of Constantine
- 2. Ended with the publication of the Greek New Testament

C. Differences between the Dark Ages and the Renaissance

1. Three stages of the Renaissance

- a) Church became the guardian of education from the 11th to the 14th century

(1) This was called scholasticism

- b) Human achievement

(1) Inter-motivated man - human values and rational thought

(2) Continued through the 16th century

- c) 1453 - fall of Constantinople

2. Three years after the fall of Constantinople

- a) The first Bible was printed - 1456
- b) Johann Gutenberg was the printer



- (1) Came up with the idea of the printing press
- (2) 1450 a lawyer gave money for the project
- (3) When Gutenberg ran into trouble he fled and the press was moved into his house
- (4) He died in 1468 - destitute
- (5) No one knows where his grave is
- (6) He was forgotten by history
- (7) 30 years after his death these machines were seen all over Europe

III. Playing with Matches - 1516 AD

A. Rebirth of Knowledge - the Renaissance - Humanism begins to take root

1. Erasmus - born 1467

- a) At age 8 - he made friends with the future pope
- b) At 11 both his mother and father died of the plague
- c) In 1492 he became a monk
- d) He started learning and teaching Greek
- e) At Oxford he met Thomas Moore - the future Chancellor of England
 - (1) Moore took him to meet a child
 - (2) The child was the future King of England - Henry VIII
- f) He had a sharp mind and a keen wit
- g) Erasmus became so popular because of his pen (writings)
- h) He wrote "In Praise of Folly" - wrote against the church of the day (kings, princes, and even the pope)
- i) In 1516 he put together the Bible in Greek and his Latin translations and dedicated it to Pope Leo X
 - (1) This dedication was to secure the outward favor of the church
 - (2) Assure its selling
 - (3) It was banned almost immediately

2. This Bible fell like seed on the ground

- a) Martin Luther translated that Greek into the German of his day and he gave the Germans a Bible
- b) Zwingli and Calvin did the same thing for Switzerland
- c) Tyndale did the same thing for the people of England

3. The Bible went through editions

- a) the 4th and 5th editions became known as the Textus Receptus
- b) Textus Receptus was used for the Kings James version of the Bible in 1611

B. Erasmus laid the egg and Luther hatched it

IV. The European Reformation - 1517 AD - the Protestant Reformation

A. Martin Luther - 1483

1. Entered the monastery



2. In 1511 he was transferred to the monastery in Wittenberg and became a professor of Biblical literature

3. A priest named John Tetzel was selling indulgences

a) A form of penance by price

b) Allowed people to buy a piece of paper which allowed them to commit sins - the degree of which was determined by the price they **paid**

4. Luther strongly resented the practice and when teaching on the book of Romans, found a verse in Romans 1:17 - a man in Christ, through faith, had the righteousness of God transferred to his credit and there was no need of indulgences or other forms of penance

a) This was his conversion experience

b) This led to his "95 Thesis" which was nailed to the castle church door in 1517

(1) He took issue with every doctrine of the church which was not supported by Scripture

(2) In 1520 Pope Leo X required him to recant under the threat of excommunication (being kicked out of the church)

(3) In 1521 Luther took his stand in Worms, Germany

(a) "Here I stand, my conscience is captive to the Word of God."

(4) His publications attacked the doctrines of the church which were at odds with the Scripture

(5) In 1525 he wrote, "The Bondage of the Will" - it was done in response to the humanists

(6) A rebel is someone who tries to change the past - a reformer is someone who tries to change the future

(a) A reformer knows that you can't effect succeeding generations unless you provide them with a Bible in their own language

(b) In 1522 - printing presses began to print Bibles in the German language

i) He put Hebrews, James, Jude, and **Revelation** at the end of the publication as non-canonical (they didn't claim the right of inspiration)

ii) In 14 years it went through 377 editions

(7) He taught the world how to protest against the popes and potentates of that day

B. Ulrich Zwingli was responsible for the Zurich Bible for the people of Switzerland

C. Presbyterianism was born in Geneva

1. John Calvin

a) Built the only university for reformed ministers

b) Protestants took their turn at persecutions

(1)58 executions

(2)34 woman were burned on suspicion of spreading the plague by magical means



V.The White Horse Inn - 1520 AD

A.Thomas Bilney

1.His religious life was barren and nonproductive

2.The Erasmus Greek New Testament crossed his path

a)He bought a **black** market copy of the New Testament

b)He trusted Christ

c)He had to share his new faith

3.He went to the White Horse Inn where they discussed things they were not allowed to discuss in class

a)They discussed the New Testament

B.This effected one man named William Tyndale

VI.The Forbidden Book - 1525 AD

A.Tyndale graduated in 1515

B.Thomas Wolsey - the archbishop of York - was waging an all out assault on **reformers**

1.In 1517, five men and two women were charged with heresy

a)They were found guilty of teaching their children the Lord's prayer and the 10 commandments in English

b)They were burned to death in the public square

C.Tyndale knew that the Bible needed to be translated in the language of the common man

1.The mission of his life was to translate the Bible into **English**

2.He worked for the Walsh family, and there did his translating the Greek into English

3.He exiled himself to Wittenberg to finish his work as an outlaw

4.In Cologne, Germany, a printer was willing to print the Bible

a)English spies broke up the operation

b)Tyndale escaped out the back with whatever copies were finished

c)They traveled to Worms

d) In 1525 they finished the task and the New Testaments were ready to be shipped

(1)They smuggled the Bibles into England in sacks of **flour**

VII.Burn Them! - 1526 AD

A.The opposition against the Bible came from the church, from the crown, and from humanism - especially Thomas Wolsey

1.He was a devout Roman Catholic

2.He became a leader of a crusade to stamp out heretics

B.Henry VIII was also in opposition



1. Opposed to the Lollards and Reformation

2. Was the protector of the church

C. Sir Thomas Moore was a third voice of opposition

1. Became Chancellor of England

2. He denounced Tyndale's doctrine and his English Bible

3. He determined that Tyndale needed to be assassinated

4. His Bibles were to be found and burned

5. Tyndale's operation must be found and bought out

D. Augustine Packington, a merchant, was hired to buy every Bible that could be bought to bring them back to be burned

1. He was a friend of Tyndale

2. He paid four times the cost of production of each Bible giving them enough money to replace the Bible that was burned and print **three** additional copies

VIII. When Thou Walkest Through the Fire Thou Shalt Not Be Burned - 1531 AD

A. Bilney was arrested in 1527 while preaching in Ipswich

1. They left his cell in the Tower of London with the door open allowing his friends in and out of his cell

2. His friends persuaded him to sign an adjuration

3. He listened to a sermon that denounced his heresy

4. He was told to ignite a stack of Bibles

5. He made up his mind to get arrested again

a) In 1531 he was executed in Norwich

b) He was totally committed to die for Christ

c) He put his finger in the flame of a candle until it burned to the bone

d) He quoted from Isaiah 43:2 and said, "If Christ is in the flame, you will not be burned"

B. He ran to embrace the stake to die for Christ

C. He taught the reformers how to live for Christ, and then he taught them how to **die** for Him

IX. The Smithfield Heroes - 1531 AD

A. Those burned for religious crimes were burned at Smithfield

B. The people who died here were human

C. Some were strong and endured the burning

D. Others recanted only to be fortified and stand firm later

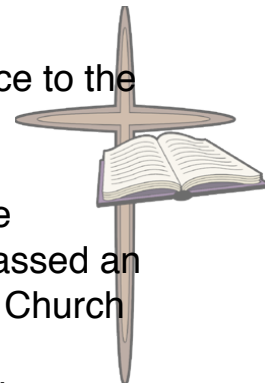
X. The King, the Supreme Head of the Church of England - 1534 AD

A. King Henry VIII

1. His daughter was "Bloody **Mary**"

2. He blamed Catherine for not having a son to be heir to the throne

3. He wanted to divorce his wife - Catherine - so he could marry Ann



- a) To divorce his wife and marry a Protestant would be a disgrace to the church
- b) Pope did not grant the divorce
- c) Henry got angry and replaced Wolsey with Sir Thomas Moore
- 4. Henry made a break with the church of Rome and Parliament passed an act that declared that the King was the supreme authority of the Church of England
 - a) Moore couldn't abide by this decision - was arrested and put into prison
 - b) He refused to recant became known as the "Man for all Seasons"
 - c) Placed on trial for high treason
 - d) Seven days later was executed outside the Tower of London

B. Thomas Cranmer

- 1. 1533 he was consecrated as Archbishop of Canterbury
- 2. Defended the king's decision
- 3. Declared the marriage to Catherine null and void
- 4. Crowned Anne Boleyn Queen and became the God Father of their daughter - the future Queen Elizabeth

XI. Lord Open the Eyes of the King of England - 1536

A. Tyndale's New Testaments were burned

B. Bounty hunters from England were traveling all over the continent wearing disguises and paying for information without success

C. Tyndale began the translation of the Old Testament and moved to Antwerp

- 1. Even though the King had separated from the church - he was still opposed to Tyndale
- 2. He lived like a fugitive wandering from city to city
- 3. He spoke 7 languages with great fluency which made him hard to find
- 4. In 1535 Henry Philips posing as a friend, betrayed him
- 5. He was found guilty of sacrilege
- 6. He was killed in 1536
 - a) Chained to a stake
 - b) He was to be strangled as well as burned
 - c) He prayed, "Lord, open the King of England's eyes."

D. His commitment inspired thousands

E. He laid the ground work for the [King James](#) Version of the Bible in 1611

The Indestructible Book

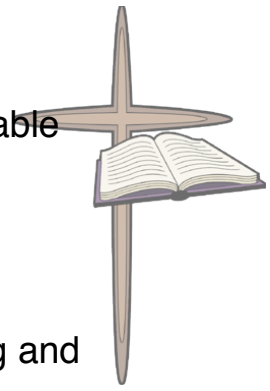
God's Word: From the King James Bible to the Shores of America

1536 AD

Volume 4



- I. After the death of Tyndale the English Bible was considered a forbidden **book**
- A. King Henry VIII was not a protestant at heart, but his wife Ann Boleyn was
1. She tried to help those smuggling the Bibles
 2. Appointed Matthew Parker chaplain to her daughter Elizabeth
 3. Appointed Hugh Latimer to become the king's chaplain
 4. There was firm foundation laid for the reformation
- B. King Henry's passion turned towards another lady in the court
1. So upset that Ann gave birth prematurely to a stillborn son
 2. Caught in a compromising position with Jane Seymour
 3. Ann knew something would happen but what
- C. At a festival she dropped her handkerchief and a man picked it up
1. A guard at the tower showed up at her door
 2. She was taken as a prisoner to the Tower of London
 3. Archbishop Cranmer couldn't believe it
 4. After torture men agreed to charges of adultery
 5. Three men and Ann were all executed
 6. Her head was severed with one blow of the **ax**
- II. John Fryth – “The Persuader” 1533
- A. John Fryth was arrested with other friends of Bilney who had been caught reading their Bibles in their room
1. They were put into a cave under the **college**
 2. 4 died because of the deplorable conditions
 3. The rest were made to carry wood to burn a collection of forbidden books
- B. Fryth was able to escape and cross the English Channel to Antwerp
1. There he met **Tyndale** and a close bond grew between them
 2. His knowledge of Scripture and attacks on Roman doctrine were unanswerable
 3. He crosses the channel back to England and was taken to the Tower
 4. He conducted a debate in prison through the printing press with Sir Thomas Moore
 5. He was tried, condemned, and relocated at Newgate Prison where he became friends with Andrew Hewit
 6. On the 4th of July in 1533 they were brought to Smithfield and chained them back to back and burned them



C. John Nicholson was tried for his doctrinal difference of the Lord's table

1. He was tried and convicted
2. 4 days later he was burned at Smithfield
3. His legs burned off and he hung by the chains
4. The soldiers got impatient and thrust spears in his side
5. His hands caught on fire and he held them out to those watching and said, "None but **Christ**"

III. The First Authorized Bible – 1538 AD

A. Tyndale never finished the translation of the Old **Testament**

B. John Rogers using the alias Thomas Matthews finished the work

1. They were sent to a printer in England who was so impressed that he passed it on to archbishop Cranmer to see if he could get official approval
2. King Henry VIII gave permission for an English Bible to be printed
3. This was 3 years after Tyndale prayed, "Open the King of England's eyes"
4. The Bible's footnotes were anti-Catholic
5. Cromwell, the Secretary of State, decided another Bible must be printed
 - a) Miles Coverdale softened the footnotes of the previous Bible
 - b) 1539 the Great Bible was finished
 - (1) it was an edition of Tyndale's outlawed translation
 - (2) it was to be bought by every parish in the land
 - (a) a time limit was set
 - (b) once the time passed the price doubled every month until every church had one
 - (c) it had to be available to everyone at any time
 - (d) a reader had to be provided in case someone wanted to read it and couldn't read

C. The Great Bible was the fruit of Tyndale's labor and memorial to his **life**

IV. The Rage of Bloody Mary – 1553

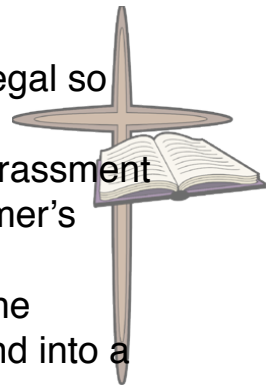
A. Only 3 legitimate children survived infancy – Mary, Elizabeth, and Edward

B. 1546 – Edward became heir to the throne at 9 years of **age**

1. He was Protestant to the core
2. The cause of the reformers seemed firmly established
3. His health brought his death after only 6 years on the throne

C. Mary inherited the throne

1. She was as committed to the Catholic faith as her step-brother was to the Protestant faith
2. She thought she could conduct her own mass

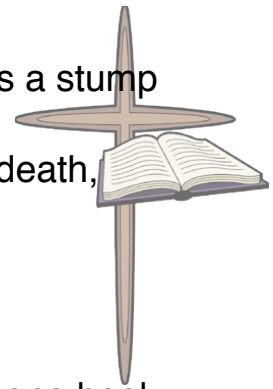


3. Her mother's marriage (Catherine of Aragon) was considered illegal so Henry could marry Ann Boleyn
4. She was 20 when her mother died and her life was filled with harassment
5. Her religious zeal was evident and a dark cloud fell on the reformer's cause
6. She vowed vengeance on Archbishop Cranmer who approved the divorce of her mother making her illegitimate and making England into a Protestant faith
 - a) Cranmer, Ridley, and Latimer were all arrested
 - b) Reading the Bible was **banned** in England
 - c) Migration of people of the reformed faith filled the free cities of Europe
7. Many were kept in the Newgate prison
 - a) John Rogers – Thomas Matthews (who finished the Bible) – he was taken from the prison to Smithfield he wasn't allowed to talk to anyone
 - (1) he was condemned to die because
 - (a) he refused to accept the Christian character of the church in Rome
 - (b) refused to accept that the elements actually turned into the blood and body of Jesus Christ
 - (2) he was the first of over 300 men who were to die under Bloody Mary
 - (a) Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer were the English Reformations' most famous martyrs
 - (b) Bilney was responsible for Latimer's conversion
 - (c) 1554 Ridley, Latimer, and Cranmer were all imprisoned together
 - (d) Ridley was the first executed
 - (e) Ridley and Latimer were burned together

V. Lord Jesus Receive My Spirit – 1556

A. Archbishop Cranmer was tried

1. He was humiliated - degraded from his position
2. After thinking about what happened to Latimer and Ridley and he wrote 5 recantations
3. It was decided that he was still to be burned
4. He said, "I renounce and refuse, as things written with my hand, contrary to the truth in my heart, and written for fear of death.... And forasmuch as my hand offended in writing contrary to my heart, therefore my hand shall first be punished: for if I may come to the fire, it shall be first burned."
5. They tried to stop him but he ran to the stake
6. After the fire was lit he placed his right hand into the flame saying, "This hand offended"



7. only removing it once to wipe his face. He left it there until it was a stump

8. He cried out, "Lord Jesus receive my spirit," and he died

B. Two years later Bloody Mary and after 300 people were burned to death, she died of poor health

C. Elizabeth ascended to the throne

1. She was presented with the English **Bible**

2. She kissed it and promised to read it often

3. In 1559 she reenacted what Edward had done before her – that one book should be in every parish

VI. Translation by Committee – 1557 & 1586

A. The Reformers in Geneva made another translation of the Bible called the Geneva Bible

B. It was the first produced by a committee instead of one person

1. They had access to John Calvin

2. They worked on every detail together

3. It became a household Bible because of its **size**

4. It became the Puritan's Bible

C. 1559 Elizabeth appointed Matthew Parker as the Archbishop of Canterbury

1. He insisted that a new English Bible was needed

a) it was called the 4th revision of the Tyndale Translation

b) it was a result of a committee of eight or nine bishops

c) it was known as the Bishop's Bible

d) it was needed because of the Geneva Bible for two reasons

(1) the Geneva Bible was replacing the authority of the authorized version – the Great Bible

(2) it was undermining the authority of the bishops

2. Puritan movement began

a) stressed purity and wanted purity in the lives of the clergy

b) tried to find a new form of church administration

3. The movement alarmed Archbishop Parker

a) the Bishop's Bible survived only 40 years

b) it underwent 20 editions

c) it was the weakest of all the reformation Bibles

VII. The Best Selling Book Of All Time – 1611 AD

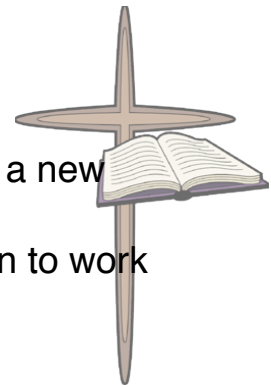
A. After the death of Elizabeth, who had no children, James VI of Scotland son of Mary Queen of Scots took the throne

1. James was Protestant

2. Scotland was reformed by John Knox

3. He was met by a party with a request signed by 800 Puritan clergymen asking him to remove certain religious rituals.

a) Signing of the cross at baptism



4. A meeting was held at Hampton Court
 - a) The Bishop's Bible was weak
 - b) Either make the Geneva Bible the authorized version or start a new translation
 - c) July 22, 1604, the king announced the appointment of 54 men to work under the guidance of Richard Bancroft
 - d) It was the work of the greatest minds of that generation
 - e) Considered to be the greatest masterpiece of English Literature
 - f) It was to become the greatest selling book of all times

VIII. The Pilgrim Fathers – 1580-1620

A. William Brewster adopted the doctrine of the Puritans

1. He became a friend with William Bradford
2. In 1602 they worshipped at the Separatist's church
 - a) John Smith was called as pastor
 - b) This assembly was only accountable to its own congregation
 - c) This brought persecution from the state, and they escaped to Amsterdam where Smith became a physician
3. Brewster invited the members to his manor in England
 - a) John Robinson joined this underground church
 - b) Many members lost their property, were fined, and had stiff prison sentences
 - c) Fishtoft – the Pilgrim fathers met together - 1607
 - (1) They wanted to leave
 - (2) You could not leave without a permit
 - (3) They tried to leave and were caught and brought back
 - (4) The ring leaders were tried and were released one month later
 - (5) Another attempt was made to leave England for Amsterdam
 - (6) They had left farming and had to live by trade
 - d) They relocated in Leyden for the next 11 years
 - (1) They were exemplary in character
 - (2) They grew to about 300
 - (3) Their products were used by other tradesmen
 - (4) Edward Winslow and Miles Standish cast their lots with them
 - (5) They were forced to leave because
 - (a) It was difficult to make a living in this market
 - (b) The children were joining the Netherlands army and submitting to the temptations of the city
 - (c) Persecution was beginning to reach them
 - i) Two books that they had written made James want them brought to justice



B.70 Merchants came with a proposal

- 1.They had claims for a track of land obtained from the London Company with a right to self-government
- 2.They were to cross the Atlantic in two vessels

a)Speedwell

b)Mayflower

- 3.The journey to the New World began on August 5, 1620

a) there were 30 on the Speedwell

b) 90 on the Mayflower

c) the Speedwell sprung a leak and had to be repaired

d) after setting sail again, the Speedwell sprung another leak and the two set back to Plymouth

(1)18 passenger decided not to go

(2)they all crowded onto the Mayflower and set sail again

- 4.After 9 weeks at sea, they saw land

a)The Mayflower Compact was written and signed

b)They set out an expedition to find a place to land

c)After 27 days of expedition they found the harbor at Plymouth where their journey could come to an end

C.They had brought the Geneva Bible with them to help them through their greatest time of need

D.The delays they had, they came totally unprepared for the winter that would lie ahead

E.Many died

1.They hid the bodies afraid of what the Indians might think

2.There were more people sick than well

3.By the end of January half of them had died and buried at Cole's Hill

F.Samoset came to their colony

G.He introduced them to Squanto

1.He was the sole survivor of his tribe

2.He introduced them to other Indians - Massasoit

3.They signed peace pacts that lasted 50 years

H.These people became the seeds of a new nation

1.They wanted the freedom to worship God according to their own conscience

2.Their strength came through the indestructible Book