

Today's New International Version

The "Today's New International Version" of the Bible was released a few years ago, which normally would not catch many people's attention since there have been over 160 English translations of the Bible since 1900! But this version is different. The International Bible Society, sponsor of the new version, believes change is necessary to reach 21st century readers. Its North American publisher, Zondervan, now has the TNIV for pro-inclusive customers, and the original "New International Version" for traditionalists.

At the heart of the problem lies the version's language. This language originated in the 1980s with the ascent of religious feminism. A panel from the very liberal National Council of Churches published translations of key Bible passages that abolished "male-biased" language regarding God and Jesus Christ. As you might guess, this new version has "gender neutral" language.

Some examples of the changes include the use of "*brothers and sisters*" instead of the literal "*brothers*" in the Greek. Also, the word "*man*" is often changed to "*person*." Furthermore, the new translation often uses plural pronouns and avoids the words "*him*" or "*his*." For example, in 1 Timothy 2:5, the KJV says, "*For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus*" and the TNIV says, "*There is one God and one mediator between God and human beings, Christ Jesus, himself human.*" In Hebrews 2:17, the KJV says, "*Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people*" and the TNIV says, "*For this reason he had to be made like his brothers and sisters in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest.*" The KJV of James 1:12 reads, "*Blessed is the man that endureth temptation*" whereas the TNIV reads, "*Blessed are those who persevere under trial.*" Finally, in James 5:20, the KJV reads, "*Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins*" and the TNIV reads, "*Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save their soul from death.*"

In order for the Bible to be implanted in the heart, it must be accurate. Changes such as these seem insignificant, but they pave the way for even more serious violations of the text. People want to trust every word of their Bibles. If you do not have a Bible you can trust, it strikes at the heart of the Christian faith.

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