

as it is spoken today. Neither the RSV nor the New English Bible is such a version. In the New Scofield Reference Bible, of which I was one of the editors, we changed about one word on a page, on the average, so as to make it more understandable to present day readers. We tried to keep the meanings exactly as in the KJV, since we were not making a new translation, but simply making the KJV more usable for today. Many people have spoken very highly of the great improvement in understanding that this has given. In all such cases we placed the rendering of the KJV in the margin. The only valid reason for needing a new version today is the way that the English language has changed. Those who try to belittle the accuracy or reliability of the KJV in favor of the RSV are merely showing their ignorance and lack of scholarship.

LETTER 13

1977

UNDERSTANDING THE BIBLE

It was indeed a pleasure to hear from you, and to read your commendation of my stand for the inerrancy of God's Word. I have always had the highest regard for your evangelistic and pastoral work. In those very important areas of activity in which you have accomplished so much, I confess myself to be utterly inferior to you.

My own life has been devoted to Hebrew and Greek scholarship and I believe I know something about these areas. I do not feel that it is at all egotistical for me to consider that my competence in technical biblical studies is just as much greater than yours as is your competency in the field of evangelism and pastoral work as compared to mine.

It is good of you to offer to send me a copy of Wilbur Pickering's book. He was so gracious as to send me a copy himself. Seeing this evidence of the great amount of work that he had