

Testament contradict each other by mistranslating the Messianic passages of the Old Testament. There are naturally many other places where to a greater or lesser extent the liberal bias of the translators affects their translation. Some people may feel that it is better to put up with this bias than to have the difficulty of reading language that is so different from that spoken today. Personally I prefer what is true, even if difficult, to what contains more error, even if it is easier to read. Yet I can understand why some would feel the other way.

I am not personally familiar with Unger's Bible Handbook. I know Professor Unger personally, and on the whole have been very well impressed, both with his attitude and with his knowledge. Whether the decision to use the RSV in his handbook was his own or was made by the publisher is unknown to me. I do not believe that it is the policy of the Moody Bible Institute or of the Moody Press to adopt the RSV. It would surprise me greatly if they were to take any such action. Yet I am not personally acquainted with the present managers of the Moody Press, and so am unable to make a judgment.

In this wicked world I would say that whatever we read, except for the Bible, must always be read with a watchful, careful eye. Everything must be checked by the Word of God. Some publishers who in the past were absolutely true to the Word of God and had as their primary objective making good Christian literature available to Christian people, have been led away by the desire for popularity or increased wealth to the point where they published material that is against the Bible instead of for it. This is the history of most Christian institutions. Starting with the desire to be loyal to Christ they gradually are led astray. Each one of us needs to keep his eye on the Lord.

In Matthew 16:17 Christ greatly praised Peter for his recognition of Jesus' Messiahship, yet only six verses later He called him Satan and condemned him most strongly. If even a wonderful man like Peter was not dependable when he was speaking by his own wisdom instead of following the Word of God, it is not surprising that all other human beings have to be tested by the Word of God.