

that it came at the end of a century in which man after man had done his best at making a Bible translation. Numerous translations had been published, and the KJV translators were able to pick the best renderings from each of them.

Before it can be hoped that a translation into the language of our day will be anywhere near as good as the King James Version was for its day, it will probably be necessary that many different translations be prepared and that various students succeed in making useful suggestions on many different sections of the Bible. It would be misleading to recommend any present day translation as altogether dependable. Much work still needs to be done.

As far as the Revised Standard Version is concerned, a rather mixed verdict must be given. It labors under the great disadvantage that it was prepared by a committee of men, most of whom did not believe in the truth of the clear teachings regarding salvation. It is hard to see how the prejudices and misconceptions of men of this type could fail to interfere with the usefulness of the translation which they made.

Over against this may be noticed another fact. Most of these men were quite different from the liberals of a generation ago. Those liberals were anxious to show that the writers of the Bible held views different from those of the Christian church today. Most of the real liberal scholars of today recognize that Jesus and Paul taught something quite different from what they personally believe. They seem to have made a definite attempt to give a picture, not of what they themselves believe, but of what Jesus and Paul actually said. Some of these individuals had spent years in the study of the Greek New Testament. They had a background of scholarship which would be hard to duplicate today.

Many individuals, including myself, were most pleasantly surprised by the version when it appeared. We expected that a group of liberals would prepare a translation which would be of little use. Instead, we found that at point after point they had given a good rendering in modern English of what the Greek actually meant. In comparatively few places would we find clear evidence that the liberal background had caused a false picture of the views of the original author to be given. I personally could not help thinking that it would be a wonderful thing if true Christians would make great use of this version of the New Testament. We