

The reason is that for over centuries before it was made, many men were busy trying to translate the language of the Bible into English. Many of these had the benefit of the work of their predecessors. They studied carefully and at great length the best ways of rendering the ideas of the Hebrew and Greek into English. The translators of 1611 profited by the work of a great host of predecessors. Their translation is the result of over a century of careful work of putting the Bible into ^{the} English language and never has a task of translation been done better. It is probably about as fine as a translation can be and yet it cannot be accepted as final authority on meaning of difficult passages, simply because of the nature of translation and of the difference between languages.

Here we might notice also that our Authorized Version was translated into the language of 300 years ago. The English language has changed greatly in these 300 years. Many statements in the Authorized Version are almost incomprehensible to one who is familiar only with the English of today. At other times these statements are quite misleading because of our ignorance of the language ^{of} ~~at~~ that time. It is for this reason that it was necessary that a revision be made. The revision has lost much of the literary quality of the Authorized Version at various points. It is also occasionally disputable whether the revision is as good a rendering as the original. Yet frequently it is necessary to change ^{the} ~~a~~ word in order to make the ^{meaning} ~~reading~~ clear to modern readers. ~~Firstly~~ Personally I wish sometimes that the revision had gone further in this regard than it did. Thus we read in the book of Judges about Abimelech, that he "gat him up to the top of a hill." This is quite understandable in the English of the days of King James but why should we find it in the revised version issued within the last fifty years? The Hebrew merely says "He went up" and that would be much clearer to a modern English reader.