

How Did We Get Our Bible?

Isaiah 40:8

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Part 2: From the Greek to the NIV

How Did We Get Our Bible?

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- **Ancient Translations of the Bible:**
 - **The Septuagint (Greek Old Testament) – 250-150 B.C.**
 - **The Peshitta (Syrian) – 2nd century A.D.**
 - **The Old Latin Version – Around 150 A.D.**
 - **Latin Vulgate – 405 A.D.**

How Did We Get Our Bible?

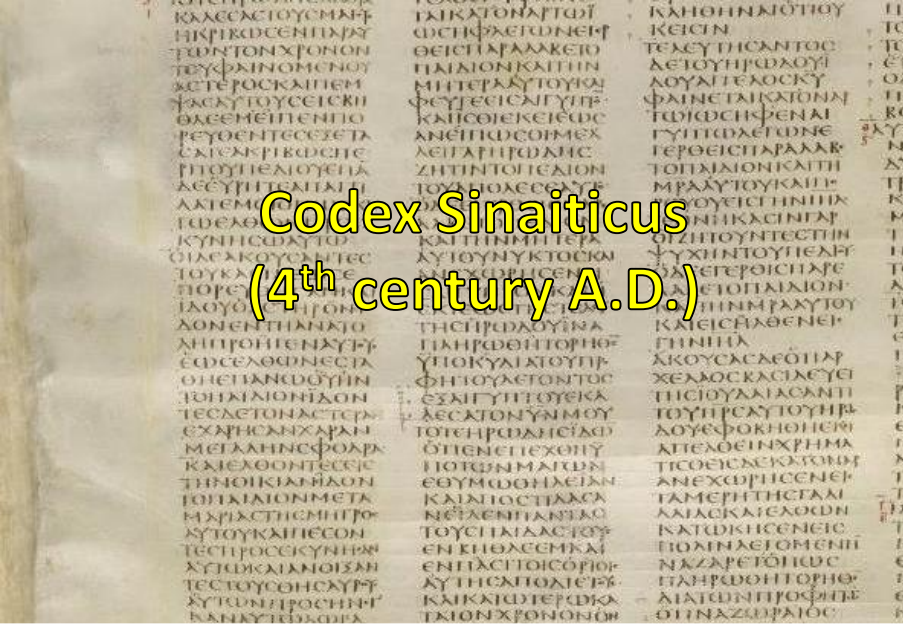
Isaiah 40:8

- **What Do We Translate From?**
 - **Three sources:**
 - **Manuscripts (Fragments, books, pages, etc.)**
 - **Versions (like the codices).**
 - **Early Church Writers (Their quotations of the Scriptures)**
 - **Translators work from all three of these sources to get to the original text of our Bibles.**

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Isaiah 40:8

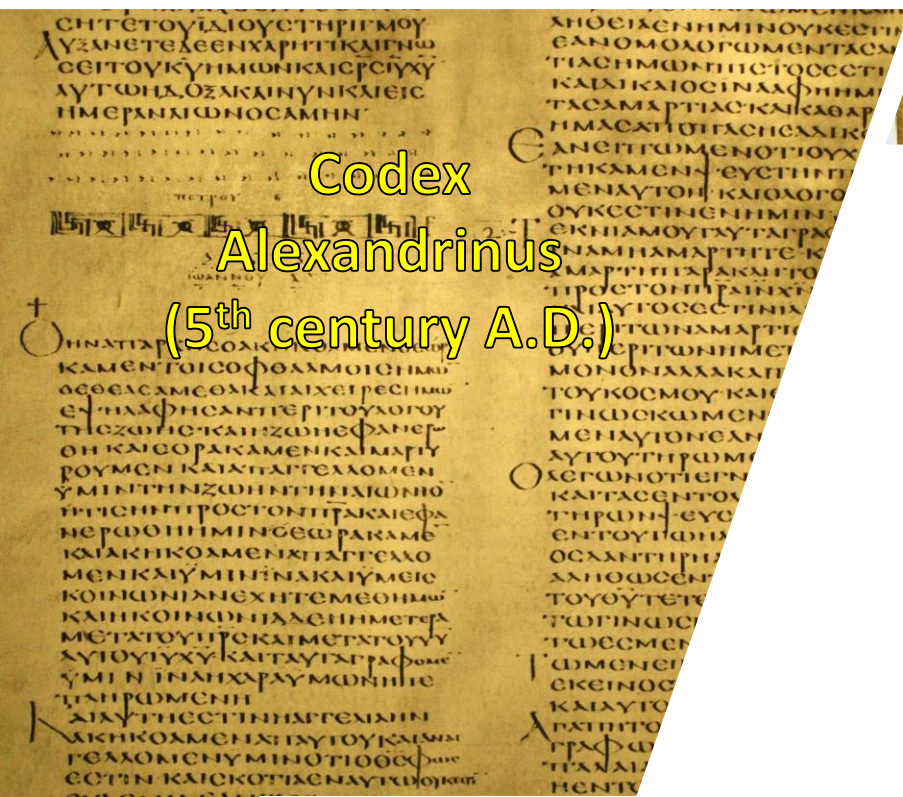
- What Do We Translate From?
 - Three major codices:
 - Vatican (300-325 A.D.)
 - Sinaitic (330-360 A.D.)
 - Alexandrian (400-440 A.D.)
 - These are the oldest bibles in the world.



Codex Sinaiticus
(4th century A.D.)



Codex Vaticanus
(4th century A.D.)



Codex
Alexandrinus
(5th century A.D.)

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Isaiah 40:8

- What Do We Translate From?
 - Vatican (300-325 A.D.):
 - Contains most of the Old Testament and most of the New Testament.
 - Missing most of Genesis and some Psalms.
 - Missing Hebrews 9:14-Revelation.

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Isaiah 40:8

- **What Do We Translate From?**
 - **Siniatic (330-360 A.D.):**
 - **Found in a pile of to be burned materials in 1844.**
 - **Appears that at one time contain all of the Old Testament. Most of it was missing in 1844.**
 - **New Testament is fully intact.**

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Isaiah 40:8

- **What Do We Translate From?**
 - **Alexandrian (400-440 A.D.):**
 - **Only 10 leaves missing from the Old Testament.**
 - **New Testament missing parts of Matthew, John, and 2 Corinthians.**
 - **Gifted to Charles I in 1627 – Not available when the KJV was translated in 1611.**

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Isaiah 40:8

- From Greek to NIV:
 - 1382 – Wycliff Bible, first “English” Bible.
 - **Jn. 3:16** “For God louede so the world, that he yaf his `oon bigetun sone, that ech man that bileueth in him perische not, but haue euerlastynge lijf.”

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Isaiah 40:8

- **From Greek to NIV:**
 - **1382 – Wycliff Bible, first “English” Bible.**
 - **1522-1536 – Tyndale Bible.**
 - **1539 – The Great Bible.**
 - **1560 – Geneva Bible.**
 - **1568 – Bishops Bible**
 - **1611 – King James Bible (A revision of the Great, Geneva, and Bishops Bible).**

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Isaiah 40:8

- From Greek to NIV:
 - 1611 – King James Bible.
 - **Jn. 3:16**, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”
 - Goal of the translation: “But we desire that the Scripture may speake like it selfe, as in the language of Canaan, that it may bee understood even of the very vulgar.”

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Isaiah 40:8

- **From Greek to NIV:**
 - **1611 – King James Bible.**
 - **1881-1894 – English Revised Version (Official update of the KJV).**
 - **1901 – American Standard Version (American version of the ERV).**
 - **1952 – Revised Standard Version (an update of the ASV).**
 - **1978 – New International Version.**

How Did We Get Our Bible?

Isaiah 40:8

- From Greek to NIV:
 - 1978 – New International Version.
 - 1982 – New King James Bible.
 - 2001 – English Standard Version (Update of the 1971 RSV).
 - **Jn. 3:16**, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

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- **Why So Many Translations?**
 - **A few considerations:**
 - **More manuscripts have been recovered since the KJV.**
 - **Knowledge of ancient Greek and Hebrew has greatly improved since the KJV.**
 - **English words and usage have changed.**

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WYCLIFF BIBLE (1382)

Jn. 3:16 “For God
louede so the world,
that he gaf his `n
bigetun son, that
ech man that
believe in him
schene not, but
haue euerlastynge
lijf.”

ENGLISH STANDARD
VERSION (2001)

Jn. 3:16 “For God
loved the world, that
he gave his only Son,
so that whoever
believes in him
should not perish but
have eternal life.”

These are both “English”!

How Did We Get Our Bible?

Isaiah 40:8

- **Why So Many Translations?**
 - **The goal of all translations has been the same since the King James Bible:**
 - **To translate “the Scripture... that it may be understood even of the very vulgar.”**
 - **Translation is a Christian tradition!**

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- **Conclusions:**

- God promised that His word would not fail (**Isa. 40:8**).
- By the end of the first century A.D. the books of our Bible were in existence, being read, preached, copied and passed along.
- The text of the Bible as we have it today has been faithfully preserved through the ages.
- Each translation, regardless of what textual tradition, contains the same truth.

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- **Mark 16:16:**

- **Wycliff Bible** “Who that bileueth, and is baptisid, schal be saaf; but he that bileueth not, schal be dampned.”
- **King James Bible** “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
- **American Standard Version** “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned.

How Did We Get Our Bible?

Isaiah 40:8

- **Mark 16:16:**

- **New International Version**, “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”
- **New King James** “He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”
- **New Living Translation** “Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned.”