

The Dean Burgon News

In Defense Of Traditional Bible Texts

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No. 49 OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE DEAN BURGON SOCIETY August--Dec., 1994

1994 DBS, Hagerstown, MD--Unique!!

What Blessing!

As I contemplated the 18 messages that our Dean Burgon Society (DBS) men were scheduled to bring, I was filled with anticipation. I know every one of the speakers, and know them to be men of God who are committed to our DBS motto, "IN DEFENSE OF TRADITIONAL BIBLE TEXTS." This year's 16th annual meeting of the DEAN BURGON SOCIETY is now history. What a blessing it was! What encouragement to us who hold to the original language texts of Hebrew and Greek that underlie the King James Bible, and also hold to the King James Bible itself as the Word of God in English!

What Hosts!

Through the 16 years of annual meetings, the DBS has had some very fine hosts. Our hosts this year were no exception. They were the members of the Bible Brethren Church in Hagerstown, Maryland, led by their gracious Pastor, J. Paul Reno. They showed the Dean Burgon Society the utmost courtesy and care. The meals were excellent. The church provided breakfast, lunch, and supper for the two days of Wednesday and Thursday, August 17-18.

What Fellowship!

Since we had two hours for our meals between the meetings, we had an abundance of time to fellowship with those who attended. It was so nice not to have to drive somewhere for meals, and then rush back to the meetings. The food was excellent and plentiful. We truly met together with those of like

mind IN DEFENSE OF TRADITIONAL BIBLE TEXTS! And in the days in which we live, such solid and unbroken fellowship is rare indeed!

What Rain!

On the day of our arrival in Hagerstown, at the Bible Brethren Church, the rain was coming down in torrents. This was indeed a test of our endurance to the cause, and a chance for our hosts to show their unbounded grace and hospitality to us who were arriving. Young men helped us unload our eight boxes of books, holding umbrellas over us to keep us dry. Young ladies also helped with umbrellas to take us to where the DBS Executive Committee was to meet.

What Book Tables!

We were very happy to have had four 8-foot tables to display our many books this year. They were neatly covered with white paper, and in readiness when we arrived. We didn't have to pile them up at all. There were three or four other tables for others to put their books as well. Another example of good planning by our hosts.

Capture the Moments!

Because of the excellent videoing by Mrs. Waite (as always), each of you who receive our DEAN BURGON NEWS will be able to JOIN US for the 1994 DEAN BURGON SOCIETY meetings at Hagerstown, Maryland! These are captured on THREE videos. The first two (BFT #2490/VC1-VC2 @ \$25) have 12 hours in all and have all 18 messages given by the DBS men. The third one

(BFT #2490VC3 @ \$15) has two hours of the DBS women, including comments by Mrs. Reno, Mrs. Hollowood, Mrs. Waite, and Mrs. Bennett. If you want all 14 hours of messages on three VIDEO CASSETTES, they are BFT #2490VC1-3 @ \$35. The AUDIO CASSETTES are also available if you prefer. They are BFT #2490/1-8 @ \$24, and include all 14 hours of messages on eight cassettes.

Bible Texts Seminar

We think that for those of you who really want to understand the Biblical position of the DEAN BURGON SOCIETY, you should order these audio and/or video cassettes and spend the 12 to 14 hours studying the truths IN DEFENSE OF TRADITIONAL BIBLE TEXTS. It is like a SEMINAR on this theme. Some messages were more technical than others, but ALL were practical and understandable!

DEFENDING THE KING

JAMES BIBLE

A four-fold superiority:

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Technique, Theology

God's Word Kept Intact

In English

By Rev. D. A. Waite, Th.D., Ph.D.

(A product of 21 years)

340 pages

BFT #1594-P--For GIFT of \$12.00

Order Your Book NOW!!

[FLASH--This book is now in its third printing and ready for mailing!!]

THE DEAN BURGON SOCIETY, INC., proudly takes its name in honor of John William Burgon (1813-1888), the Dean of Chichester in England, whose fireless and accurate scholarship and contribution in the area of New Testament Textual Criticism; whose defense of the Traditional Greek New Testament Text against its many enemies; and whose firm belief in the verbal inspiration and inerrancy of the Bible, we believe, have all been unsurpassed either before or since his time!

1994 Message Book

If there is ANY one of our DBS MESSAGE BOOKS that you should have (and you should really have all three of them from previous years, that is, 1991, 1992, and 1993) it should be our soon-to-be-published 1994 DBS Message Book! It promises to be the largest of them all. The present publication date is somewhere between October 15 and October 30th. The suggested GIFT for the book will be about \$27.00 due to the extra messages that will be contained therein. It will include all the messages that the speakers send in to the DBS office on or before Saturday, October 15, 1994. This will give us time to make our tentative deadline for completion.

Some 1994 Messages

In case you don't remember the titles of the messages given at our 1994 DBS 16th Annual Meeting. You might like to order VCR's or audio cassettes of some or all of them: Here are a few: (1) *"The Robinson/Pierpont 'Majority Text'"*; (2) *"With God and His Word"*; (3) *"Thy Word Is Truth"*; (4) *"Critical Problems--Many in Biblical Scholarship; None in God's Holy Word"*; (5) *"Practical Benefits of Holding to the King James Bible"*; (6) *"The Reading Ease of the King James Bible--The KJB vs. 5 other versions"*; (7) *"God's Word Preserved"*; (8) *"The French Version and the Received Text"*; (9) *"Erasmus--His N.T. Text and Faith"*; (10) *"Thoughts on the Trail of Alexandrian Philosophy in European History"*; (11) *"Now That We Have the Greek T.R. on Computer, What Can We Do With It?"*; (12) *"Softening Words in the Word of God"*; (13) *"The Vital Importance of the KJB & TR for Colleges, Universities, and Seminaries"*; (14) *"Trifling with or Trembling at God's Word"*; (15) *"The Word--Once Given"*; (16) *"Staying Balanced in Bible Defense"*; and (17) *Dean John William Burgon's Vindication of the Last Twelve Verses of Mark (Mark 16:9-20).*" Each message was right on target! Why not listen to them yourself!!

\$25 Special Pre-order

For your DBS friends who order IN ADVANCE, we'll give you a SPECIAL

\$25.00 PRE-PUBLICATION OFFER. We'll look for your order for the DBS 1994 MESSAGE BOOK soon. The number to ask for is #2490-P. Our men have done a superb job in their presentations this year as always.

VISA/FAX/800 Now

You can now use your VISA, MASTER, or DISCOVER cards to order any of our DBS materials. If you wish, you can send us a FAX on our FAX NUMBER (609-854-2464) and give us your VISA, Master Card, or Discover Number & expiration date. We can then process your order much quicker and try to get your material to you within 7-10 days. If you prefer, you can call our ORDER PHONE at 1-800-JOHN 10:9 and give us your credit card numbers in that way. If all else fails, just send us your check and order in that way.

KJB Resolution

This year, the Dean Burgon Society decided to re-affirm and re-publish a "RESOLUTION DEFENDING FAITH IN THE KING JAMES BIBLE" that we had passed at last year's annual meeting. This is what we re-affirmed: WHEREAS, the original language text of Hebrew/Aramaic and Greek underlying the Authorized Version is the only Received text perpetuated in historical continuity from the original autographs, and: WHEREAS, The Authorized King James Bible has been defended by a consensus of the common faith of English speaking saints for nearly 400 years as the English standard of God's Holy Scriptures; and: WHEREAS, The King James Bible is translated by superior texts, translators, techniques, and theology; and: WHEREAS, the Authorized King James Bible and those who defend and use it are facing increased ridicule and oppression from some church leaders, educational institutions, and mission agencies: BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: that we the Executive Committee and members of the Dean Burgon Society, meeting in annual session at Heritage Baptist University and Berean Baptist Church, Greenwood, Indiana, July 22, 1993, do hereby commend those who hold in honor the King James Bible

(Authorized Version) as God's Holy Scriptures, and warn those who willfully oppose them, that they will one day face in Judgment the Holy God of Holy Scripture."

DBS Exec. Com.

This year, the same members of the DBS Executive Committee as last year were re-nominated and elected to serve for one more year. They are (in alphabetical order): (1) Dr. Robert Barnett, DBS Vice President, Grayling, MI; (2) Dr. David Bennett, Australia; (3) Dr. Clinton Branine, Greenwood, IN; (4) Dr. Donald Champeon, DBS Secretary, Warren, ME; (5) Dr. Bob Doom, Asheville, NC; (6) Mr. Leroy Ehredt, Pearl City, IL; (7) Pastor Denis Gibson, Brampton, Ontario, Canada; (8) Pastor Bill Hendricks, Grafton, IL; (9) Mrs. John Heubel, DBS Treasurer, Mt. Laurel, NJ; (10) Dr. M. James Hollowood, DBS Vice President, Watertown, WI; (11) Pastor J. David Hollowood, Cedarville, IL; (12) Dr. Gary LaMore, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada; (13) Dr. Jack Moorman, Middlesex, England; (14) Pastor J. Paul Reno, Hagerstown, MD; (15) Mr. Walter Schmidt, St. Paul, MN; (16) Dr. James Sightler, Greenville, SC; (17) Pastor Bob Steward, Harrison, MI; (18) Dr. Thomas Strouse, Virginia Beach, VA; (19) Dr. D. A. Waite, DBS President, Collingswood, NJ. [Please pray for these men.]

DBS Advisory Council

We have nominated some new members of our DBS Advisory Council. Just as soon as we have contacted all of them and they have agreed to serve, we will probably publish their names in an upcoming DBS NEWS. As you might remember, the DBS Advisory Council is a group of men who have the same qualifications as those on the Executive Committee who are chosen by the Executive Committee from this country or foreign countries to give them advice and helpful suggestions concerning the ministry of the Dean Burgon Society. They need your prayers as well. Should you have suggestions or nominees for this Council for possible consideration at our next annual meeting, June 12-13, 1995, please let us know. Our DBS Advisory Council has no numerical limit.

Help Us SUPPORT Our DBS Radio Outreach MONTHLY?!

DBS Canada--1995

Here's a letter I received from Pastor Denis Gibson, Calvary Baptist Church, Brampton, Ontario, Canada dated 8/22/94

"Dear Dr. Waite, Greetings in the Great Name of our Saviour. I trust you and Mrs Waite returned home safely, and rejoicing in another excellent DBS Annual meeting. Certainly the Hagerstown Bible Brethren did themselves and the cause proud. Even the inclement weather did not dampen the fine spirit that prevailed throughout the sessions. The messages also were well presented and most encouraging to us all. Pastor Reno and his dear people are certainly to be commended for their wonderful hospitality, We do hope the hosts of the 1995 Meeting will do as well.

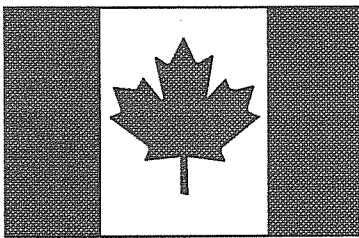
"This letter carries an official invitation to hold the 1995 Annual DBS Meeting in Calvary Baptist Church, Brampton, Ontario, Canada on July 12-13. We are confident that the faithful folks here will do their best to make the 1995 meeting a success also. We will be consulting each other in due time to finalize all the details necessary for the comfort and blessing of all attendees.

"You may recall the location of the motel you stayed at when you and Mrs Waite visited us. If we can reserve bookings in this motel, it will be so very convenient for those involved as it is just five minutes from the church. Anyhow, in the meantime, may our Sovereign Lord be pleased to look with favour on all our efforts for the cause of the Preserved Word of the Living God. . . ."

Needed For Canada

If you are planning to attend our June 12-13, 1995 Canadian Meetings in Brampton, Ontario (near Toronto) at the Calvary Baptist Church, you must know about some of the rules and regulations when going from the U.S.A. to

Canada. If you have specific questions, why not phone Pastor Denis Gibson at 416-457-9832. We'll repeat some things we mentioned before going to Canada a few years ago.



Canadian Travel Rules

Here are a few things you should bring with you when you go into Canada from the United States: (1) **Proof Of U. S. Citizenship.** You must prove to the Canadian officials that you are a citizen of the U.S. This can be done either by a **passport**, a **voter's registration card**, or a **birth certificate**. A driver's license will NOT do (though sometimes exceptions are made). When I asked a Canadian official about this the last time I was in Canada, he said "The only thing a driver's license proves is that you are authorized to drive a car. It does not prove citizenship." (2) **Insurance Proof.** You must also have a "CANADA NON-RESIDENT INTER-PROVINCE MOTOR VEHICLE LIABILITY INSURANCE CARD" to prove you are insured in Canada. You can get this by asking your U. S. insurance company to provide it. I had no trouble in getting one in this way. But mine expired 5/4/93, so I must get a new one! (3) **Bringing Literature Into Canada.** If you are bringing religious literature or other materials into Canada, you might want to check with the Immigration authorities to find out whether there are any restrictions.

KJB Reading Ease

By D. A. Waite, Jr.

A. **Did the King James Translators Write on a College Level?** Yes, it is absolutely true. The translators of the King James Bible really WROTE on the college level! The readability statistics are crystal clear. Utilizing the same methods used in my *Reading Ease of the King James Bible*, I have computer-generated these readability statistics: *Flesch*

Reading Ease--47.9 (difficult readability); *Flesch Grade Level*--13.3 (college sophomore); *Flesch-Kincaid*--12.7 (high school senior); and *Gunning Fog Index*--15.2 (very "foggy").

But did the translators of the King James Bible TRANSLATE on the college level? You see, these readability scores were generated from the *Introduction* to the Authorized Version of 1611, written by the translators and addressed to King James I of England. These scores are important because they demonstrate how these Elizabethan translators could write when they were free to create their own words and syntax and were not limited by the words and syntax they were translating. The long sentences and complicated syntax stand in stark contrast to the simple words and compact phrases of the translation that followed.

The *Introduction* to the KJB may be written on the college level, but what about the readability of the King James Bible itself? For my *Reading Ease of the King James Bible*, I computer-generated four different readability scores based on every KJB word from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21. The *Flesch Reading Ease* score of 79.8 indicates that the KJB is fairly easy to read. In addition, the *Flesch Grade Level* score of 7.0 suggests a beginning seventh grade readability. The *Flesch-Kincaid* score of 6.0, however, suggests a beginning sixth grade readability. And finally the *Gunning Fog Index* score of 7.8 indicates the presence of only a little bit of "fog." These scores do not characterize a book that is difficult to read.

The King James Bible's *Introduction*, then, is about twice as difficult to read as the King James Bible itself: **FRE**--13.3/ 7.0; **FGL**--13.3/ 6.0; **F-K**--12.7/ 6.0; **GFI**--15.2/ 7.8. Although the *Introduction* to the KJB is written in Elizabethan English, the translation of the Bible that follows is NOT! Not a single chapter of the 1611 King James Bible had **FRE**, **FGL**, or **GFI** scores as poor as the *Introduction*; and only Esther 10's three-verse chapter had an **F-K** score any lower (13.4). This is a very important point! The KJB translators, then, did NOT force their Elizabethan syntax onto the Bible itself. They merely

Plan To Come To DBS, Toronto, Canada, July 12-13, 1995!

D.B.S. 30' WEEKLY RADIO PROGRAMS FOR THE KING JAMES BIBLE

FL, Chiefland--WTBH (91.5 FM), MON., 4:30--5:00 p.m.

MD, Easton--WOEL (90.7 FMT), SAT., 3:00--3:30 p.m.

D.B.S. 5' DAILY (MON-FRI) RADIO PROGRAMS FOR THE KING JAMES BIBLE

AL, Dothan--WVOB (91.3 FM), 8:05 p.m.

DE, Philadelphia--WTMR (800 AM), 12:20 p.m.

FL, Bonifay--WJED (91.1 FM), 10:30 a.m.

FL, Chiefland--WTBH (91.5 FM), 9:05 a.m.

FL, Pace--WTGF (90.5 FM), 4:45 p.m.

GA, McRae--WYIS (1410 AM), 7:45 a.m.

GA, McRae--WYIS (1410 AM), 4:45 p.m.

IA, Harlan--KNOD (105.3 FM), 5:55 p.m.

MD, Easton--WOEL (90.7 FMT), 8:45 p.m.

MD, Elkton--WOEL (89.9 FM), 8:45 p.m.

MO, Mt. Grove--KCMG (106.5 FM/1360 AM), 6:45 a.m.

MD, Elkton--WOEL (89.9 FM), SAT., 3:00--3:30 p.m.

SC, Greenville--WTBI (91.7 FM/1540 AM), SAT, 11:30 a.m.

NC, Creedmoor--WFTK (1030 AM), 2:25 p.m.

NC, Morehead City--WOTJ (90.7 FM), 6:45 a.m.

NC, Princeton--WOTJ (103.1 FMT), 6:45 a.m.

NC, Wilmington--WOTJ (95.9 FMT), 6:45 a.m.

PA, Beaver Falls--WITX (90.9 FM), 6:45 a.m.

PA, Philadelphia--WTMR (800 AM), 12:20 p.m.

SC, Greenville--WTBI (91.7 FM/1540 AM), 5:45 p.m.

TX, Kilgore--KHVM (1060 AM), 9:15 a.m.

VA, Charlottesville--WKTR (840 AM), 12:30 p.m.

VA, Edinburg--WOTC (88.3 FM), 6:45 a.m.

WV, St. Mary's--WVVW (630 AM), 10:16 a.m.

translated the Hebrew and Greek words into the best English words available at that time. They were not trying to create the Word of God in their own image; they were simply trying to translate it. If only modern translators would strive to do the same!

B. A Readability Ruse? Recently I was in a Bible college bookstore and noticed a display on how to select a Bible translation. The text of this display contained readability information that indicated these grade levels: New International Version--grade 7; Living Version--grade 8; New King James Version--grade 9; Revised Standard Version--grade 10; New American Standard Version--grade 11; and King James Version--grade 12. Although there was no way to identify who wrote these words, I suspected that the publishers of the NIV were behind them. And although there was a

footnoted reference to *All About the Bible* (Oxford University Press), there was no mention of the method used to generate these readability statistics.

I do not know how these grade levels were determined, but I do know that they conflict with the results that I found in doing a readability analysis of the 1611 KJV, the 1901 ASV, the 1952 RSV, the 1978 NIV, the 1982 NKJV, and the 1989 NRSV. In my computer-generated entire Bible readability study, I recorded these Flesch Grade Level and Flesch-Kincaid grade level scores: KJV--7.0/ 6.0; ASV--7.0/ 5.8; RSV--6.8/ 5.8; NIV--7.1/ 5.8; NKJV--7.0/ 6.6; and NRSV--7.1/ 6.0. My objective findings clearly indicate that there is very little significant difference in the readability of these six versions. If I were pushing a new Bible version, however, would I be content with these findings? Might I be

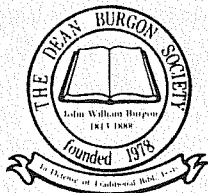
tempted to select certain Bible portions that made my newer and "easier to read" version look good? Could I bring myself to distort the actual facts? Would I care more about profit than the truth?

In my introduction to the *Reading Ease of the King James Bible*, I fully explain the method that I used together with its validity. Why are the highly-touted Bible readability results cloaked in such secrecy? What is there to hide? If you can find out how these Bible version publishers come up with their readability results, please send me this information. I would really like to know. Remember this old adage: "Figures don't lie, but liars can figure."

[For the definitive, exhaustive, complete 277 large page report, send a GIFT to DBS of \$28.00 for #2486 *The READING EASE of the King James Bible*. Don't miss it!! Ed.]

The Book You Can Trust--The King James Bible!!

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