

Covenant
Presbyterian
Church

Learning God's Love. Living God's Love.

Covenant Presbyterian Psalms Study

MAY 6, 2020, PSALM 139

Bible Translation

- ▶ Old Testament – Biblical Hebrew
- ▶ New Testament – Koine Greek
- ▶ Early translations
 - ▶ Septuagint
 - ▶ Vulgate
- ▶ Reformation
 - ▶ Martin Luther
 - ▶ Coverdale Bible
 - ▶ King James Bible

Time to eat children!



Commas save lives.

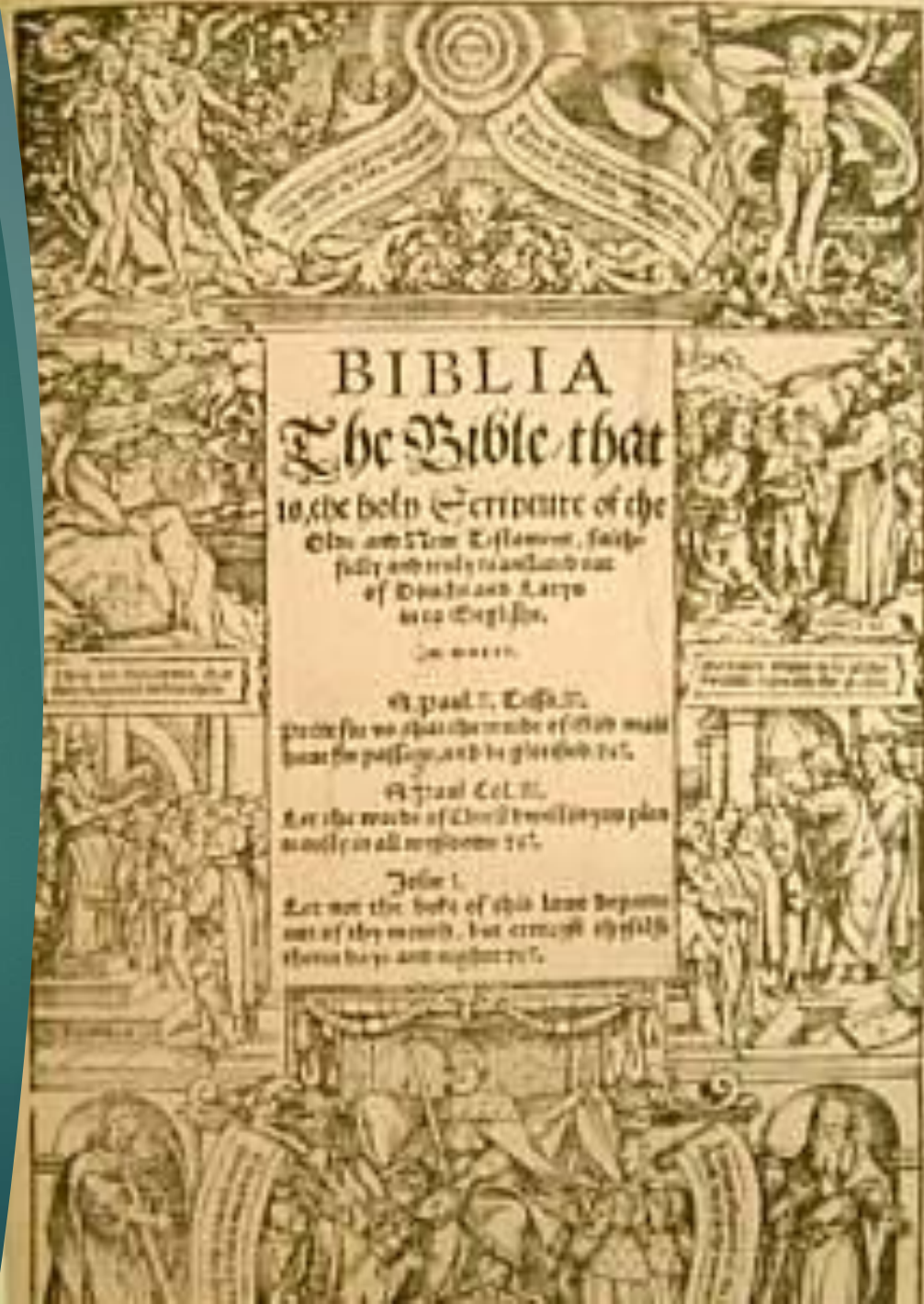
SCRIBENDI

Bible Translation

- ▶ Old Testament – Biblical Hebrew
- ▶ New Testament – Koine Greek
- ▶ Early translations
 - ▶ Septuagint
 - ▶ Vulgate
- ▶ Reformation
 - ▶ Martin Luther
 - ▶ Coverdale Bible
 - ▶ King James Bible

King James Bible

- ▶ Published in 1611
- ▶ Commissioned by the Church of England
- ▶ King James VI
- ▶ Created to be timeless



New Revised Standard Version

- ▶ Published in 1989
- ▶ Authorized by the National Council of Churches
- ▶ “As literal as possible, as free as necessary”
- ▶ Readability was a priority
- ▶ Minimized gendered language when possible
- ▶ Most commonly used in the PC(USA)

HOLY
BIBLE

NRSV

NEW REVISED
STANDARD VERSION

Common English Bible

- ▶ Published in 2011
- ▶ Ecumenical translation: DoC, PC(USA), UCC, Episcopal, UMC
- ▶ Readability a major focus
- ▶ Contractions!
- ▶ Natural wording



KJV

O lord, thou hast searched me,
and known me.
²Thou knowest my downsitting and
mine uprising, thou understandest
my thought afar off.
³Thou compassest my path and
my lying down, and art
acquainted with all my ways.
⁴For there is not a word in my
tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou
knowest it altogether.
⁵Thou hast beset me behind and
before, and laid thine hand upon
me.
⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful
for me; it is high, I cannot attain
unto it.

NRSV

O LORD, you have searched me
and known me.
²You know when I sit down and
when I rise up;
 you discern my thoughts from far
away.
³You search out my path and my
lying down,
 and are acquainted with all my
ways.
⁴Even before a word is on my
tongue,
 O LORD, you know it completely.
⁵You hem me in, behind and
before,
 and lay your hand upon me.
⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful
for me;
 it is so high that I cannot attain it.

CEB

LORD, you have examined me.
 You know me.
²You know when I sit down and
when I stand up.
 Even from far away, you
comprehend my plans.
³You study my traveling and
resting.
 You are thoroughly familiar with
all my ways.
⁴There isn't a word on my
tongue, LORD,
 that you don't already know
completely.
⁵You surround me—front and
back.
 You put your hand on me.
⁶That kind of knowledge is too
much for me;
 it's so high above me that I can't
reach it.

KJV

⁷ Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

⁸ If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.

⁹ If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

NRSV

⁷ Where can I go from your spirit?

Or where can I flee from your presence?

⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there;

if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

⁹ If I take the wings of the morning

and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

CEB

⁷ Where could I go to get away from your spirit?

Where could I go to escape your presence?

⁸ If I went up to heaven, you would be there.

If I went down to the grave, you would be there too!

⁹ If I could fly on the wings of dawn,

stopping to rest only on the far side of the ocean—

KJV

¹⁰ Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

¹¹ If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.

¹² Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

NRSV

¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.

¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,"

¹² even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

CEB

¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.

¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,"

¹² even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

KJV

¹³ For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

¹⁵ My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

NRSV

¹³ For it was you who formed my inward parts;

you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,

intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

CEB

¹³ You are the one who created my innermost parts;
you knit me together while I was still in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I give thanks to you that I was marvelously set apart.

Your works are wonderful—I know that very well.

¹⁵ My bones weren't hidden from you

when I was being put together in a secret place,
when I was being woven together in the deep parts of the earth.

KJV

¹⁶ Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.

¹⁷ How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!

¹⁸ If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.

NRSV

¹⁶ Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were
formed for me,

when none of them as yet
existed.

¹⁷ How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

¹⁸ I try to count them—they are more than the sand;

I come to the end—I am still
with you.

CEB

¹⁶ Your eyes saw my embryo,
and on your scroll every day
was written that was being
formed for me,
before any one of them had
yet happened.

¹⁷ God, your plans are
incomprehensible to me!

Their total number is
countless!

¹⁸ If I tried to count them—they
outnumber grains of sand!

If I came to the very end—
I'd still be with you.

KJV

¹⁹ Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody men.
²⁰ For they speak against thee wickedly, and thine enemies take thy name in vain.
²¹ Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee?

NRSV

¹⁹ O that you would kill the wicked, O God,
and that the bloodthirsty would depart from me—
²⁰ those who speak of you maliciously,
and lift themselves up against you for evil!
²¹ Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD?
And do I not loathe those who rise up against you?

CEB

¹⁹ If only, God, you would kill the wicked!
If only murderers would get away from me—
²⁰ the people who talk about you, but only for wicked schemes;
the people who are your enemies,
who use your name as if it were of no significance.
²¹ Don't I hate everyone who hates you?
Don't I despise those who attack you?

KJV

²² I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies.
²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:
²⁴ And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

NRSV

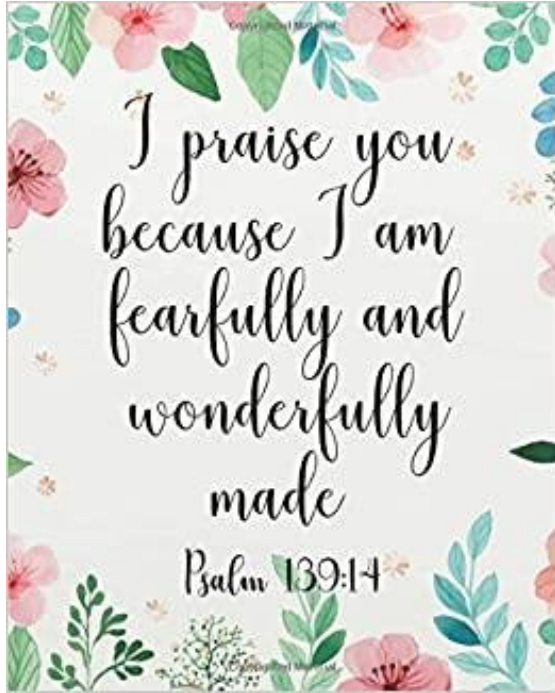
²² I hate them with perfect hatred;
I count them my enemies.
²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.
²⁴ See if there is any wicked way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.

CEB

²² Yes, I hate them—through and through!
They've become my enemies too.
²³ Examine me, God! Look at my heart!
Put me to the test! Know my anxious thoughts!
²⁴ Look to see if there is any idolatrous way in me,
then lead me on the eternal path!

Reflections?

Joys and Concerns



**Covenant
Presbyterian
Church**

Learning God's Love. Living God's Love.

Covenant Presbyterian Psalms Study

NEXT WEEK: MAY 13 PSALM 30 WITH CHARLIE BERTHOUD