

Dunham Bible Museum News



Houston Baptist University

Fall 2011

Vol. 9, Issue 1

A Story of Biblical Proportions

Don't let the October 19 registration deadline for *KJV@400: A Story of Biblical Proportions* pass you by! The October 28-29 conference for the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible promises to be a memorable event. All sessions will be held in the Morris Cultural Arts Center, and the Dunham Bible Museum will be open throughout the conference. Many of the presenters at the conference have written books related to the King James Bible, its translation, history and influence. A special book table of their works will be available at the conference.

Friday's sessions include the following lectures:



GERALD BRAY
"Translating the Bible from William Tyndale to King James"



LEONARD GREENSPOON
"Jewish Origins of the King James Version and its Legacy with Judaism"



DONALD BRAKE
"A Royal Monument of English Literature, The King James version, 1611-2011"



DAVID JEFFREY
"The Power of a Common Text: The KJV and Biblical Authority"

Friday's program also includes a panel discussion on the history, translation and printing of the King James Bible and a multi-media poem presentation on the history of the English Bible.

Saturday's program includes a panel discussion on the influence and impact of the King James Bible and a special showing of the film *KJV: Making of the King James Bible*.

Saturday's sessions also include the following lectures:



ROBERT B. SLOAN JR.
"The Hallelujah Chorus: A Theological Reading of Scripture."



LELAND RYKEN
"Legacy of the King James Bible"



LIANA LUPAS
"Through All the Earth: the King James Bible in America"



TIMOTHY LARSEN
"A People of One Book: The KJV and the Victorians"

The \$110 registration fee includes lunch and dinner on both Friday and Saturday. A special rate is available for pastors and students. Further information and registration can be found online at www.hbu.edu/biblemuseum, or contact Dr. Diana Severance at dseverance@hbu, 281-649-3287.

From Hampton Court, around the Globe, and to the Moon

The Dunham Bible Museum's special exhibit for the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible continues through December 17, 2011. The exhibit begins with the historic background of the translation, featuring King James' collected works, the first account of the Guy Fawkes rebellion, the sermons of Lancelot Andrews (a leading translator), and the edition of the Bishops Bible the King authorized as the basis of the translation. The first 1611 edition of the King James Version as well as the ensuing major 17th and 18th century printings (including the "Wicked" and "Vinegar" Bibles) and later 19th century revisions are all on display. Background graphics provide insight into the printing techniques and challenges behind the world's most published Bible translation. One section of the exhibit tells the story of the Bible taken to the moon, while another displays Bibles with a global impact – including, most recently, the commemorative King James Bible issued for the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton.

An Exhortation to the Study of the Holy Scripture gathered out of the Bible

At the front of the 1541 Great Bible, authorized by King Henry VIII to be read in the churches, is a beautifully designed page with the following biblical encouragements to Bible study (spelling has been modernized):

Christ unto the people. — John 5

Search the Scriptures: For they are they that testify of me.

Paul to Timothy — II Timothy 3

All Scripture given by inspiration of God is profitable to teach, to improve, to amend and to instruct in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect and prepared to all good works.

The same to the Romans — Romans 4

What things so ever are written, are written for our learning: that we through patience and comfort of the Scripture might have hope.

Solomon — Proverbs 30

All the word of God is pure and clean, it is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Put nothing unto his words, lest he reprove thee and thou be found a liar.

Moses to the people — Deut. 12

Ye shall not do every man what seems him good in his own eyes. But whatsoever I command you, that take heed to do: and put nought thereto, nor take ought there from.

The Lord unto Joshua — Joshua 1

Let not the book of this law depart out of thy mouth. But record therein day and night, that thou may be circumspect to do according to all that is written therein. For then shall thou make thy way prosperous, and then shall thou have understanding. Turn therefore neither to the right hand, nor to the left: that thou may have understanding in all that thou takes in hand.

The same to the people — Exodus 18

And thou shall shew thy son at that time, saying: This is done because of that which the Lord did unto me when I came out of Egypt. Therefore it shall be a sign unto thee upon thy hand, and a remembrance between thine eyes, that the Lord's law may be in thy mouth. For with a strong hand the Lord brought thee out of Egypt.

Moses — Deut. 31

See that thou read this law before all Israel in their years. Gather the people together, both men, women, and children, and strangers that are in they cities, that they may hear, learn, and fear the Lord your God, to keep all the words of his law.



RECENT ACQUISITIONS:

From Melancthon to Criswell

In memory of her husband Dr. Tim Deibler, Carolyn Deibler donated to the Dunham Bible Museum a 1572 folio edition, published in Wittenberg, of Philip Melancthon's *Chronicon Carionis*. Dr. Deibler had applied to teach philosophy at HBU, when he was suddenly taken ill and passed away this January. Melancthon's *Chronicon*, a universal history beginning with creation, presents both secular and sacred history as under God's providence.

Marc and Lindsay Rylander donated a 1979 numbered edition of the *Criswell Study Bible*, signed by both editor W.A. Criswell and managing editor Paige Patterson. Dr. Criswell (1909-2002) was pastor of the First Baptist Church in Dallas for more than 50 years. Dr. Paige Patterson, now President of Southwestern Baptist Seminary, was President of Criswell Center for Biblical Studies (now Criswell College) when the *Criswell Study Bible* was published. The *Study Bible* continues to be published today under the title *Holy Bible – Baptist Study Edition*.

Fault Escaped

The preliminary matter of the 1535 Coverdale Bible contains a small section called "Faultes Escaped," correcting mistakes which had crept into the final printed copy. The last issue of the *Dunham Bible Museum News* contained a regrettable "fault escaped." In "Winners of 'A Piece of the Past,'" the name of Dr. Morris, a sponsor of the essay contest, was given as "Stuart" rather than "Stewart" Morris. To misspell the name of an important founder and benefactor of HBU is inexcusable, and we deeply apologize for this error. HBU is indeed blessed by the continued interest and support of Stewart Morris throughout its history.

A Scrapbook New Testament

One of the intriguing volumes in the Dunham Bible Museum's John Hellstern Collection is a New Testament which has truly been made into a kind of scrapbook. A printed New Testament was taken apart and rebound with blank pages between many of the printed Bible leaves. The Testament itself is from two different versions. Matt. 1:1-5:6 is a commentary Bible from the early 1800s; the section beginning with Matt. 5:16 dates from the 1700s. Written on the interspersed pages in a lovely Spencerian script are numerous poems, almost all in



iambic pentameter, on specific verses of Scripture. Hundreds of small woodcut illustrations have also been glued on the additional pages next to the appropriate text. Many of these are labeled "1556" and apparently came from a book printed at that time. Some are labeled "P" or "Papillon," the name of a leading 18th century French woodcut engraver. Do those marked "LB" come from a Luther Bible? Though the sources of the cut-out pictures would make a fascinating study, the poems themselves are interesting.

Of the more than 90 manuscript poems, 60 can be identified from other sources. Of these, most are from Bernard Barton's *Devotional Verses*, first published in 1826. Barton (1784-1849), a Quaker, has sometimes been called Britain's counterpart to America's Quaker poet, John Greenleaf Whittier. Barton published more than 10 volumes of poems, many of which became hymns. The poems in *Devotional Verses* are tied to specific Scriptures. Since the manuscript poems in the museum's Bible do seem to have additions, corrections, and changes in the text, it was at first thought that this might be Bernard Barton's manuscript. A comparison with Barton's autograph, however, indicates the hand-writing is not his.

There are poems by several other identifiable poets – John Newton, James Montgomery and Emily Taylor. A comparison of Emily Taylor's hand-writing with that of the hand-written poems in the Museum's Bible shows a definite likeness. Emily Taylor (1795-1872) was a descendant of English Puritans, non-

Conformists, and Dissenters and grew up in Banham, a small Norfolk village. Her mother died shortly after she was born, but her father, five brothers, a sister, and two aunts ably cared for the little one. When she was seven, Emily had scarlet fever, which injured her health and left her hearing impaired. Not able to easily interact with other children, Emily became withdrawn, finding comfort in her father's numerous books. In spite of her disability, Emily was always seeking to help others. She established a school in New Buckenham, and wrote numerous books for children – including histories of England, geography, ornithology and collections of poetry. Many of her works can now be found online at Google Books. The New Testament scrapbook is just the type of thing Emily would have created.

One of the unidentified poems in the Bible, possibly composed by Emily, is for Matthew 12:10, about the man with a withered hand:

*And lo! Another child of woe appears
Who claims our sympathy and tender cares.
See his right hand hang useless by his side,
By fierce disease withir'd, shrunk, and dried!
Depress'd of means his daily bread to gain,
Who now will shelter him, or what maintain?
His hapless case we cry is hard indeed!
But while we thus commiserate he's freed:*

New Features on our Website

If you haven't visited the Dunham Bible Museum website recently (www.hbu.edu/biblemuseum), you'll want to make a visit and explore the new additions. Three new main categories have been added: **Bible Reading Plan**, **Children's Corner**, and **Family Records** in the Museum's Collection. In addition, we've added to our **Links** and **Reprints from the Collection**, making them valuable tools for research and study. **Reprints from the Collection** allows you to "look inside" some of the Bibles and read the Bible study notes from the 17th-19th centuries. For this year, you'll want to especially read the original preface of the 1611 KJV. Among the **Links** is a booklet several have asked about: *Inspirational Highlights of the Bible in America* by Jerry Wiles, first available in booklet form from the Bible Museum but now out of print.

As you browse the website, also take a look at "Books and Resources." There you will find several books and videos on the Bible which you can purchase from Amazon.com. The Dunham Bible Museum receives a small percentage from purchases made from this site (including any purchases from Amazon.com not specifically listed but which you accessed through first visiting our site!).

How many 1611 KJVs in Texas?

Someone called to ask how many original King James Version Bibles were in Texas. To the best of our knowledge there are 15. The Ransom Center at the University of Texas has five, and the Bridwell Library at SMU has three (one of which is incomplete). The San Antonio Library, University of Houston, Hardin Simmons University, and Houston Baptist University each have one copy; three other copies are in private hands.



Houston Baptist University
7502 Fondren Road
Houston, TX 77074-3298

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HOUSTON TX
PERMIT #8634

281-649-3287
dseverance@hbu.edu

Visit our website at
www.hbu.edu/biblemuseum

"It is my confident hope that my subjects may never cease to cherish their noble inheritance in the English Bible, which in a secular aspect, is the first of national treasures and is, in its spiritual significance, the most valuable thing that this world affords."

~ King George V

SPECIAL EXHIBIT

*KJV@400: From Hampton Court, Around the Globe,
and to the Moon*

Open through December 17, 2011

NEW EXHIBIT OPENS

*The Pictured Word:
Illustrations in 16th – 17th century Bibles*
January 24, 2012

BIBLE LEAVES FOR SALE

The Dunham Bible Museum does have a small number of early English Bible leaves for sale. These are from portions of Bibles which had fallen into pieces and disrepair, but individual leaves remain in good condition. A limited number of leaves are available from:

- 1611 King James Bible (\$225 framed; \$190 unframed)
- Pre-1650 King James Bible (\$100 unframed)
- 17th century Geneva Bible (\$25 unframed)

Understandably, all Scripture passages are not available. These would make excellent gifts, especially in this 400th anniversary of the King James Bible.

The Dunham Bible Museum

IS OPEN

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Saturday,
except University holidays
and the
Saturdays before Monday holidays.

To make an appointment for group tours,
or for further information, contact:

Dr. Diana Severance at 281-649-3287
or dseverance@hbu.edu



OCTOBER 28-29, 2011

Commemorate the 400th Anniversary of The KJV with
KJV@400: A Story of Biblical Proportions.

See pg. 1 for details.