

FACTS

ABOUT THE REVISED STANDARD VERSION BIBLE

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Two claims made by sponsors of the Revised Standard Version Bible need to be challenged. The first is that the "New" Bible is "MORE UNDERSTANDABLE" than the King James; the second is that the revised Standard Version "CONTAINS NO CHANGES IN DOCTRINAL OR FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPT." Let us compare the two texts and see whether these claims are true.

First, let us examine them to see if the "Understandability" has been improved. John 1:3 says, "All things were made by Him." New Version says, "All things were made through Him." Again in verse 10 "The world was made by Him." New Version says, "The world was made through Him." If the world was actually made by God, how could it be stated more plainly than to say "The world was made by Him." Matthew 12:42 reads: "The queen of the South . . . came to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, a greater than Solomon is here." New Version renders it "The queen of the South . . . came . . . to hear the wisdom of Solomon and behold, something greater than Solomon is here." What is this something? Is

it a man? And does it refer to Christ? Is the "Understandability" improved in this change? Matthew 16:26 reads: "What shall a man give in exchange for his soul." New Version says: "What shall a man give in exchange for his life." Now, which did Christ mean when He spoke these words, "Life" or "Soul." John 3:7 says: "Ye must be born again." New Version reads: "You must be born anew." "Anew" means to be made over. Do we need to be made over or is a new creation needed?

Now let us look into this other claim that "THIS NEW VERSION CONTAINS NO CHANGES IN DOCTRINAL OR FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPT."

In the King James Version the word "Begotten" is used four times in the first three chapters of the Book of John in connection with the birth of Christ and conveys the thought that Christ was NOT of natural generation. This has been the historic belief of the church all down through the years. On this word "Begotten" hangs the whole doctrine of the incarnation and Deity of Christ. If Christ was not Begotten of God, if He was of natural generation, then