

The Living Bible, however, does not operate on this high level of belief. It accommodates itself to the translators of unbelief. And this is exactly what the translators of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible themselves did.

John 3:13

It happens again and again throughout this entire volume that references that reveal the divine nature of Christ or His attributes in the fullness of His deity are paraphrased so that they no longer are seen.

In the King James John 3:13 reads:

"And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven."

In this verse Jesus Christ is both on earth and in Heaven at the same time, which is gloriously true as a manifestation of His deity.

The Living Bible reads:

"For only I, the Messiah, have come to earth and will return to heaven again."

This does violence to the translation — of course, it is a paraphrase — but the author at this point could not conceive of Christ's being in Heaven and earth at the same time, so he wanted to make it clear to the young people, who would be reading, or others, that when Christ was on earth He could not be in Heaven, and after He left the earth, then it was possible for Him to go to Heaven.

Romans 9:5

Of all the passages which seem to be particularly

offensive, outstanding is that one in Romans where Jesus Christ, having been clearly identified as a Jew, as a human being, is called God by the Apostle Paul.

The King James reads:

"Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen."

The Living Bible reads:

"Great men of God were your fathers, and Christ himself was one of you, a Jew so far as his human nature is concerned, he who now rules over all things. Praise God forever!"

The literal translation in the King James requires twenty-two words, but the paraphrase required thirty-four and left out the deity of Christ. Every true believer will understand that the very purposes of the Scripture are to reveal unto us Jesus Christ. "It is they," Christ said, "that testify of me." He said to His disciples after His resurrection, "All things must be fulfilled, which are written in the Law of Moses, in the prophets, and in the psalms concerning me." Thus "he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself." A paraphrase such as this, eliminating and minimizing and downgrading the fullness of His glorious deity, involves an abuse and rejection of the Word of God

Genesis 1

One very excellent way by which to test this new book that comes representing itself as the Word of God is in the Book of Genesis, particularly the first chapter, the account of creation. The Devil has always focused his attacks upon the Word of God in its very beginning.