

James Version. I do not believe that a sufficient number of such efforts to translate the Old Testament have yet been made, or that it is possible as yet to produce an Old Testament translation that will be comparable in value with the King James translation of the Old Testament.

I suppose that you are familiar with many of the translations into English that have been made in recent years. Some have been made by Bible-believing scholars, some by those who thought the Bible contained error, some even by those who felt that it was simply a relic of ancient ideas. Some, like the New English Bible and the version of J. B. Phillips, are paraphrases in which no attempt is made to stick to the order of words or to make anything like a word-for-word translation, but simply to give the general idea of the original. My wife feels that the J. B. Phillips paraphrase of the Epistles of Paul was very well done, but that the Gospels and Revelation are not nearly so well done. I myself have not made sufficient examination of it to form a judgment. The New English Bible seems to have departed far more from being a real translation than the Revised Standard Version did, and is much more of a paraphrase.

Ultimately the question boils down to what your results from the use of the Bible throughout the English-speaking world show as to whether a change is needed. If so, the next question is: What change is available? Perhaps Dr Goddard might have suggestions, if you should care to get in touch with him. Only harm could come from circulating any version prepared by men who are not thorough Bible-believers.