

this day, a remarkable evidence of the determination of the scribes to copy exactly what was written, even if it was obviously wrong. No one knows how old Saul was when he became king or how long he reigned. Some translations insert "twenty," but this is purely a guess. However, no error is introduced by this miscopying. There are a number of other places in the Old Testament where it is equally clear that copying errors have occurred. It would be natural for a larger number to be found in the New Testament, since there were a number of years in which its books were passed around separately before they were combined into one volume.

I am greatly interested in any effort to increase the confidence of God's people in the complete inerrancy of His Word, but I am equally interested in every effort that is made by consecrated Christians to put the Bible into the language that is actually spoken today. Comparatively few young people who are not already consecrated Christians will read the Bible in the language of nearly 400 years ago. If we ask them to read "doth," "thinkest," "thou," and "thee," they will soon lose interest. When they hear such phrases as "I do you to wit," or see requests that the Lord should keep us from "leasing" and protect us from the "counsel of the froward," the result is confusion or boredom.

One of the leading causes of the great revivals connected with the Reformation of the 16th century was the fact that the Bible was translated into the language that people actually spoke. The King James Version was the end-product of nearly 80 years of efforts by many people to express the precise thought of the Hebrew and Greek in the language that people of their day would understand. Every effort of consecrated Christian scholars to render a like service deserves our support, and working toward this objective is far more important than arguing about whether a certain verse says "Jesus Christ," or "Christ Jesus."

May the Lord bless all the great work that you have done for the achievement of His Gospel. May He prevent the time that you have devoted to fighting for minutiae from confusing those who should be giving their support to every effort to make it possible for people in the English-speaking areas to read the Bible in language they understand.