

quite natural to use a word in their own language in addressing them, just as the German word Fuehrer was widely used in English in referring to Hitler during World War II, or the Russian word Sputnik in referring to the artificial satellites that the Russians put into orbit. To clinch the argument, we note that the very word *bar*, which the RSV refuses even to mention in this context where it would be a further reference to Jesus as the Son of God, is three times translated "son" in the RSV itself, in the midst of the Hebrew of Proverbs 31:2, where no question of Messianic prediction is involved.

The RSV footnote reads: "Cn: The Hebrew of 11b and 12a is uncertain". Actually there is nothing uncertain about it. The RSV itself translates the very same word as "son" three times in Proverbs 31:2. The rendering "his feet" has no sound philological basis at all. It is only a guess on the part of the translators, and would seem to be the result of a prejudice against the idea that the Psalmist predicted that Christ would be the Son of God.

CONCLUSION

These and other instances of similar character lead me to feel that the RSV is a very harmful book, and is far from being a dependable translation of the Bible. It frequently departs from the original text, sometimes without even a footnote to indicate the change. Christians need a translation that they can depend upon, as giving what the original says, rather than what modernists think it ought to say.

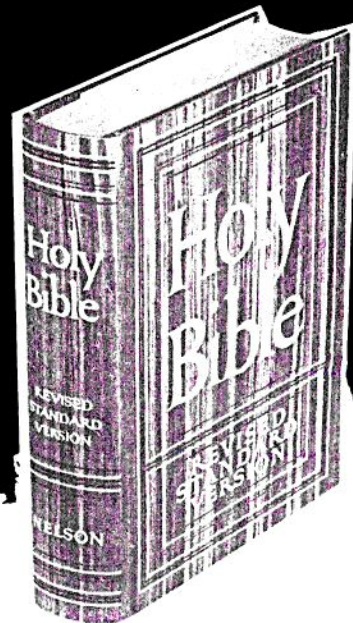
Nothing but harm can result from the use of a book that introduces needless contradiction and confusion into the relation between the two Testaments, and makes the Apostles seem to build their arguments in many cases on total misunderstanding of the Old Testament. Most readers are not trained to check the Hebrew original at every point, and even if so trained, would lack time to do it constantly. They need a more faithful translation of the original than the RSV, if their Christian lives are to grow as they should.

I am extremely sorry that the RSV is the sort of book it is, for our present generation needs a Bible in the type of English we speak today. The King James Version was the climax of nearly a century of Bible translation, and cumulatively represented the efforts of many consecrated scholars, to find the best way of expressing the thoughts of the original in English as it was then spoken. May God lead consecrated scholarly men to engage in a similar process now, so that eventually we may have a Bible in today's English that is equally good, and equally dependable.

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