

THE HISTORY OF OUR ENGLISH BIBLEWW  
Biblical Theological Seminary  
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## THE HISTORY OF OUR ENGLISH BIBLE

### I. Some Introductory Notes:

#### A. The Purpose of this Course

The purpose of this course is to sketch the history of the Bible in English to show the importance of the Bible to our culture, the need the church felt for having it in the language of the people, the difficulties in that process, and the particular steps involved leading up to the great availability of the Bible in English to almost all portions of our civilization.

#### B. A Book to Read?

Well, I don't have a text although I will ask you to do some comparative readings in different versions and I will recommend a lot of things you might read..some still purchaseable in our bookstore, some available in the Library, and some that may be harder to get. There is no shortage of literature in the field although much of it is written to prove some point or other and thereby the total value is lessened.

#### C. The Character of the class

It will, unfortunately, I think, be largely lecture although your comments and discussions will be welcomed at any time. It is just one of those classes that lends itself to endless talking by the teacher and that is likely what you will get. And on the character of these notes... they will be more or less full depending...and they may be printed with the computer sometimes and with the typewriter at others. One cannot expect to much in a course where the syllabus is just given out!

### II. Background Materials

#### A. Definitions-Popular:

1. Bible. Historically the term is from the word for papyrus, then book, then little book. Theologically it is the record of God's revelation of Himself and His will for the benefit of mankind. The term is broadly used and narrowly used as I will illustrate.