

most influential in the church of his day and his work was looked on as a mark or standard of acceptance for the life of the church. But only a part of the Bible was translated (and a small part) under his aegis or in his actual work.

e. Alfred the Great (d. 901)

This justly famous king had an interest in education, religion, culture, as well as in driving out the Danes and ending their raids on Britain. He had translated the Ten commandments, and apparently some other parts of the law, the Psalms and some portions of the New Testament. I am not sure how much he did on his own..he apparently, however, had a hand in the work and perhaps did the dominant part. (The historians are always rethinking these things.) As king he was concerned for the total welfare of the people and sought to make the spiritual matters of real significance.

f. Aelfric (1000 ca)

As far as I know we have nothing of his work although the Psalms were among the things he is reputed to have translated.

g. The glosses:

A gloss, in this discussion, is an interlinear document in which the Latin appears as the text and the English is written in between the lines of Latin. Glosses are not always planned that way...and you can imagine how scribbled some of the script written in them must have been.

(1) The Durham Book (about 700 +) Supposedly the property of Cuthbert, disciple of Bede and called the "Cuthbert Gospels" or the Lindisfarne Gospels...depending on whose sources you are studying. The Latin text was prepared by Eadfrith, I am told, (see figure c on page 9) and the English text was written in by Aldred about two hundred years later (700-900).

(2) The West Saxon Gospels (Wessex) 10th century?

(3) The Rushworth gloss...1000 AD covering part of the Scripture and in a note, purportedly done by an Irish scholar "MacRegal".

And although I am not enough of a scholar to be exhaustive in research that is about it for the pre-Norman period.

3. English Works: Post-Norman Period.

The Normans conquered England after 1066..the Battle of Hastings, and effectively brought the Saxon culture of a difficult point. We cannot say they ended it although that is virtually true. For two centuries the Normans worked against it and the result was a new synthesis of society that will be the society of England..a combination of Norman, Saxon, etc. (My own roots are Norman...Taylor in those days was spelled "Talleur".) The Normans, as a barbarian society, held much of France (Normandy), parts of north Africa, Sicily, etc. But they moved to England in droves and the rivalry between them and the Saxons was often hot and frequently led to bloodshed, (Ivanhoe, by Walter Scott, is an interesting fictional tale of this age...and probably embodies a lot of truth in its account as well.) The immediate result on Bible translation was that the Saxon mind did not do much of it for a couple of centuries..all civilization on that level virtually stopped.