

asked for some relief in the strictures of the required service orders. James, having feuded off and on with the presbyterians in Scotland, did not give many concessions and, in fact, proved very hard on dissenters in the next few years. But he did agree to meet this corps of persons in a civil conference and hear something of their case. The result was the Hampton Courts Conference in 1604.

The many details of this conference, as James heard but did not listen to the evangelical ideas, cannot be discussed in detail. James showed the evangelical minds a good grip of theology, which pleased them rather much, for he had a good education in that sort of thing. But there was general dismay at the clerical bent he manifested and it was apparent that having left the presbyteries he was going to insist on the episcopate. While few concessions were made, one giant step was enacted: the agreement to a new Bible translation for the English speaking people. The project in time produced the "King James Version" (the "authorized version") and as such would make one of the strongest steps in the western church.

The KJV

#### The King James Bible Translation

To appreciate this work we need to fill in the general background of our English Bible history along the following lines:

#### Precursors of the KJV

The Wycliffe Bible: 14th century, and translated from the Vulgate. You will have trouble reading it due to the fluxing orthography but it excelled in vernacular ideal. There were some fragmentary English works before Wycliffe, but for practical reasons we may discount these.

The Tyndale Bible: sixteenth century in the character of Tyndale as discussed earlier. It was a popular and faithful work in style and closeness to the text. New Testament and Pentateuch completed.

The Coverdale Bible: 1535 and the first entire Bible in English in the modern period. It was worked largely from the Latin text in close comparison with Tyndale. It was the Bible placed in the church by the edict of Henry VIII and was chained to the desk to prevent theft.