

the text of Bomberg. The work was completed in 1611 with a long, elaborate introduction and dedicatory essay.

The Reception of the Work

Exactly how King James felt about it, we are not sure. He did authorize the reading in a general sense but he did not lavish praise on the translators, etc. We are told that some Anglican scholars were not pleased in that it did not portray the institutionalized church in strong enough light and also that James felt the right of kings should have been more rigidly pressed in the governmental passages. Of these things we think both are probably true but neither greatly hampered the reception of the work. The new version quickly replaced the Bishop's Bible in church use but did not displace the Geneva Bible as the popular reading and preaching Bible for more than fifty years. By 1660 the KJV had become the standard English Bible and was hardly challenged in that role until about 1880. The KJV has had a very formative role in English and is still widely used and hotly debated. It was also given several corrective editions and apparently was never thought of as the end of all translations until rather recent times.

Those interested will find the book by Gustave Weigle:

THE ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANY (original title: THE MEN BEHIND THE KING JAMES VERSION) extremely interesting. A similar work is THE TRANSLATORS REVISITED and would you believe it I have forgotten the name of the author although I have the book on my shelf at the Seminary and was reading in it two days ago...but I will likely bring it to class. The view given in Weigle as to how the translators saw their own work and how they reacted to it in their own ministries is most interest.

James and the Dissenters

Dissent

Dissent moves were not popular with James at all and it is a bit hard to categorize them due to the number and variety. The major factors in dissent were these, however.

Radical Puritans

These persons favored an end of "catholic forms" as they understood them. This included vestments, altars, lights, services of special order,