OLD TESTAMENT QUOTATIONS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

The third volume in the series "Helps for Translators" has recently appeared under the above title. It has been published on behalf of the United Bible Societies by the American Bible Society, whose Research Associate, Dr. Robert G. Bratcher, edited the material in cooperation with the U.B.S. Subcommittee on Translation. The price is $0.85, but the book is available free to Bible translators on application to their Bible Society (Translations Department). In order to give translators an idea of the nature of the book we print below an extract from the Introduction.

This list of Old Testament quotations in the New Testament is designed to assist translators in the preservation of the right relationships between such quotations and their Old Testament sources. The problem of the way in which the sacred writers handled the Old Testament is of course a complex one, and one which it is really not the translator's task to unravel. In translating the Old Testament, the purpose is of course to reflect as accurately as possible the sense which the Old Testament originals conveyed to their readers; and in translating the New Testament, including the quotations contained therein, one must strive for an accurate representation of what the New Testament writings meant to their readers. It is not the business of the translator to "correct" the New Testament by introducing, for example, a translation from the Hebrew Masoretic text if the New Testament writer followed the Septuagint or some other rendering.

On the other hand, the present check list should help the translator to make the Old and New Testament materials agree in translation whenever they are truly parallel in their respective originals. In this regard, the use of this list is analogous to the use of the *Inter-Gospel Parallel Passage List,* in which the translator endeavors to have his translation of the different Gospel passages in substantial agreement when they are the same or closely similar in the different Gospel passages, and to preserve with equal faithfulness the differences between the same accounts. In terms of the Gospel parallels, the ideal is to have verbal identity in the translation when there is verbal identity in the originals, although the translator is encouraged not to extend such identity to the point of an artificial and wooden type of parallelism. But in the Old and New Testament parallels, exact verbal identity of the quotation with its Hebrew source is of course not the ideal in the same sense as in the Gospel passages, for the reason that such identity never existed in the first place —because of the very fact that the original passage was in Hebrew and the quotation in Greek, with the consequent shades of difference in meaning which are inevitable in any process of translation.

At the same time, it is desirable to strive for general meaning equivalents between the Old and New Testament passages insofar as they are parallel. A study of the corresponding Old Testament passages to determine what was the meaning conveyed to their readers, or more especially to the readers of the New Testament

times (whether in the Hebrew form or in the Septuagint translation as the case may be) will better enable the New Testament translator to produce a rendering of the quotations in terms of their meaning to the New Testament readers and writers.

This list of Old Testament quotations in the New Testament includes all formal quotations and some of the more obvious paraphrases and allusions which seem to reflect a conscious use of a specific Old Testament passage or of Old Testament phraseology. Paraphrases are indicated by (P) immediately following the NT chapter and verse citation of the passage, and allusions by (A). Naturally there will be differences of opinion over the exact number of such allusions: the present list has made use of the earlier compilation issued by the American Bible Society, plus the Greek texts of Westcott and Hort, Nestle, Merk and B.F.B.S. 2nd. edition (1958). Other works consulted include C. H. Toy *Quotations in the New Testament,* and H.B. Swete *An Introduction to the Old Testament in Greek* (pp. 381-405).

SECTION HEADINGS AND REFERENCE SYSTEM

Volume four in the series "Helps for Translators", also edited by Dr. Bratcher in cooperation with the U.B.S. Subcommittee on Translation, will be available early in 1962, published by the American Bible Society on behalf of the United Bible Societies, free to translators on application to their Bible Society (Translations Department).

This consists of three parts, which will each be available separately as well as bound together in one volume, namely:

Part 1. Section Headings for the Old Testament;

Part 2. Section Headings for the New Testament;

Part 3. Short Bible Reference System.

The section headings have been planned and prepared with a view to making their translation into other languages as easy as possible. For this reason, some of the section headings are given a more complete form than is necessary in English, since the syntactic requirements of other languages may make it necessary to treat independent phrases quite differently and to employ full sentences rather than phrase fragments, as in English.

The reference system includes references to: 1. Quotations; 2. Allusions; 3. Historical events mentioned in the text; 4. Similar passages (though these are only complete when used together with the set of parallel passages references included under the section headings in Parts 1 and 2 of the volume).

For a more extensive reference system see the notice on the Reference Work Book, *p. 38.*