

PRACTICAL PAPERS FOR THE BIBLE TRANSLATOR

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EDITOR: William D. Reymann

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT: Jean Dundas

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Introducing the Practical Series of "The Bible Translator"

For a very long time it has been felt that *The Bible Translator* has been trying to serve two masters: the scholarly reader with specialized background and the more general reader for whom English is often a second language. We took a long hard look at our list of readers, listened to the advice of many translators and staff colleagues, then set *The Bible Translator* on two new courses. The January issue was called *Technical Papers for the Bible Translator*. This issue introduces you to *Practical Papers for the Bible Translator*.

We believe the two series are fully justified. A review of our reader list shows that nearly 1500 readers use English as a second language. Moreover, there are nearly 300 libraries and other institutions outside English-speaking countries which subscribe to *The Bible Translator*. We could not, of course, from these figures alone base our decision to divide the journal. UBS translations personnel working in many parts of the world in close contact with some 600 translation projects have urged just such a policy.

Practical should not be taken to mean that we are only interested in "applications". We want articles appearing in these pages to be useful to translators. Our main objective will be to present translational ideas, and translational problems including points of linguistic, exegetical, historical and cultural interest as well as new developments that come to light, and all this in non-technical language. Where it is advisable to introduce occasional technical terms or "jargon of the specialist" we shall try to explain these in the context. See for example Dr. Nida's article on "Linguistics and Translators" in this issue.

Kindly indicate on your letters or articles "Practical" or "Technical" when writing to the editors.

Please note that No. 1 begins with page 101, No. 2 with page 201, No. 3 with page 301, and No. 4 with page 401. This is to simplify indexing.

Editor.