

Here and there, one misses points which would be useful for translators, and indeed other people too. To take just one example from the first verse: the author quotes TEV "our ancestors", and correctly adds "(lit., 'fathers')", but does not mention that an even more literal translation is "the fathers"—leaving open the possibility that not all the original readers were Jews.

The presentation is generally attractive, but the computer setting has produced what is technically called garbage on pages xxii and xxv.

P.E.

Bailey, Lloyd R. (ed.): *The Word of God. A guide to English versions of the Bible.* Atlanta: John Knox Press 1982. 228 pp., no price stated.

This is essentially an extended review of nine modern English translations of the Bible, together with an introductory chapter by Eugene A. Nida entitled "Why so many Bible Translations?" and a survey of study Bibles by Robert G. Bratcher. In all cases but one, the translations are analysed by people who were not involved in their preparation; the one exception, Bruce M. Metzger on RSV, is largely historical, and scrupulously objective.

Roger A. Bullard's account of NEB is critical of its approach to the Old Testament text, and suffers occasionally from a failure to appreciate nuances of British English; but it is otherwise generally positive: NEB's "marshalling of the vigorous resources of contemporary English idiom into such a forceful array makes it a triumph" (61).

Keith R. Crim finds the New Jewish Version faithful to the Massoretic text, and idiomatic in its use of contemporary English. By contrast, Barclay M. Newman finds the New American Standard Bible guilty of distortion, especially of "reading the New Testament into the Old Testament" (78), and of awkward style; he is particularly critical of its notes.

Bruce Vawter, C. M., judges the Jerusalem Bible "a monument", that is, "a faithful reproduction of some of the best biblical scholarship of the late 1950s". He also believes it to be too much tied to the French Jerusalem Bible, but this reviewer has found significant exceptions to this rule.

W. F. Stinespring concentrates almost exclusively on the Old Testament of TEV; his review contains interesting suggestions on points of detail, but no general assessment. The late James D. Smart disposes of the Living Bible, "this specious volume" (138) in about four pages.

Walter Harrelson believes that the New American Bible is in some respects the best available, but criticizes among other things its male-oriented language. Robert G. Bratcher pays tribute to the success of the New International Version. True, its aim to win "universal acceptance" (153) is unrealistic, but it "bids fair to establish itself as the Bible for evangelicals" (152). Nevertheless, it shows signs of doctrinally motivated harmonization (especially in Isa. 7.14); the exegesis breaks little new ground, it uses male-oriented language, and its style is close to that of RSV.

Roger Bullard has an appendix on the Authorized/King James Version, and the editor adds a concise comparison between the versions reviewed in the body of the book, illustrated by their treatment of particular texts. The editor also provides an eight-page bibliography, and there is an index.

This interesting book will be useful to most readers of *The Bible Translator*, and indispensable to anyone concerned in revising the translations discussed.

P. E.

Charlesworth, James H. (ed.): **The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha**. Vol. 1: Apocalyptic Literature and Testaments. Garden City, New York: Doubleday 1983. 1 + 995 pp., \$35.00.

Each book is presented in a new translation with an introduction, textual and other footnotes, and cross-references to biblical and other texts. The introductions include sections on text, original language, date, provenance, historical and theological importance, relation to biblical and other writings, and cultural importance. The style of the translations is modern but rather literal; sometimes more literal translations are given in footnotes. The second and last volume is scheduled for mid-1984.

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Tavares, Antonio Augusto: *Estudos da alta antiguidade* (Lisbon: Editorial Presenca 1983. 254 pp., no price stated) has a chapter (pp. 73–86) on the translation of ancient, especially biblical texts, including a survey of modern Portuguese versions and the principles which underlie them.

Readers may well be interested in work by a Ghana-based reader of *TBT*, Alan S. Duthie, who teaches in the Department of Linguistics at Legon. An article, "Semantic structure and translation", appears in the *SIL Notes on Translation*, no. 96, 6–83. A series of fourteen articles, "Translating the Bible into English", appeared in *The Harvester* (Paternoster Press) in 1982–83, and are now being revised for re-publication.

Dufour, Jean-Paul: *Tradition et Innovation. Recherches sur la traduction de la Bible, Version "Autorisée" par le roi Jacques I d'Angleterre 1611*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation (doctorat de III^e cycle) 1984. University of Saint-Etienne, France.

The American and British Committees of the International Greek New Testament Project (ed.): *The Gospel according to St. Luke*. Part One: Chapters 1–12. Oxford: Clarendon Press, and New York: Oxford University Press. xvi+299 pp., £55.00.

This virtually exhaustive edition of the Greek text of Luke 1–12 is the first definitive publication from a project founded in 1926 and reconstituted on an international basis in 1948. Though indispensable for specialists, it is too detailed for most translators, who should bear in mind that, since its aim is not to present a new text, its running text is the Textus Receptus. The executive editor is Dr J. Keith Elliott, a contributor to *The Bible Translator*.