

The Good News Bible: Past and Present

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Good News for Modern Man (NT) was published in 1966, and the entire *Good News Bible* (in what was known as “Today’s English Version”) in 1976. Since then it has been both widely acclaimed and excoriated. Perhaps the most sincere form of admiration is its use as a model translation, though the way in which this has been done has not always conformed to the very translation principles that GNB enshrines. At the 2017 Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting in Boston, the Nida Institute of the American Bible Society hosted a session at which three papers reflected on the half century since the first appearance of the New Testament:

- Philip C. Stine, “From *Good News for Modern Man* to *Good News Bible*: Origins and Early Issues”
- David G. Burke, “The 1992 Revision of the Good News Translation: GNB2”
- Phil Towner, “Translation, Localization, and Alterity in the *Good News Bible*”

The first of these dealt with the historical and organizational background to the appearance of GNB. The second examined, along with the subsequent history, the specific issues that led to the second edition of GNB (principally the issue of gender-inclusive language). The third treated more theoretical and ideological issues arising from GNB’s methodology, focusing on the early part of 2 Corinthians.

These three papers will be published in *The Bible Translator* as the core of a thematic issue in December 2018, dedicated to the topic “The *Good News Bible*: Past and Present.” Contributions are solicited that will supplement and build on the topics covered in these papers and offer a broad reflection on the role of GNB. Areas of interest would include (but not be limited to):

- Eugene Nida’s theory and its actualization in GNB
- Robert Bratcher as translator and advocate
- Annie Vallotton’s art
- Spanish and Portuguese translations of a similar type that preceded (Spanish) or followed (Portuguese) publication of GNB
- Translations in major European languages that followed the Good News model
- GNB-type translations in Asia and Africa—benefits and pitfalls
- GNB as a model translation—or as a quasi-source text
- Critique and denunciation of GNB—both popular and academic
- Why the CEV?
- Other “Easy Language” translations in English in subsequent times
- Will/should there ever be a third major edition of GNB?

Interested authors may submit their papers via the Journal’s website at <http://journals.sagepub.com/home/tbt>. Click on the “Submit Paper” tab. If you have any questions, please contact the Editor, Stephen Pattemore, at spattemore@biblesocieties.org.