

The Complete New Testament
and the Most Essential Passages
in the Old Testament

AV⁷

THE INVITATIONTM
BIBLE

Now it's easy!

AV⁷ The New Authorized Version of the Bible
in Present-Day EnglishTM

Question #1

Do you know

what the ultimate
mission & purpose
of your life is?

AV7 makes it easy
to discover the answer.

Question #2

Do you realize

that it is impossible to attain
fulfillment in life without knowing
what your ultimate mission & purpose in life is?

Money is not the answer.

Fame is not the answer.

Power is not the answer.

Security is not the answer.

Possessions are not the answer.

The pursuit of pleasure is not the answer.

Trying to find happiness is not the answer.

These are all passing fancies
that will all inevitably pass away.

AV7 makes it easy
to understand and assimilate the answer.

Question #3

Have you ever accepted
an invitation to receive the free gifts of

ישוע

AV7 makes it easy
to grasp the full meaning of ישוע and thereby
receive the greatest wisdom and blessings ever known.

You are Cordially Invited
to receive the greatest wisdom
and blessings ever known

Do you know that *God loves you*
and that He wants you and everyone you care about
to be filled with love, joy, peace,
patience, gentleness, goodness,
and faith that will encourage and inspire you?

All you need to do to receive
the greatest wisdom and blessings ever known
is *read or listen* to the Word of God and *believe*.

That is all.

You do not have to join any particular church
or follow any special religious doctrine
based on man-made rules.

You do not have to pay any dues or fees.
And you do not have to participate
in any mysterious ceremonies or secret rituals.

If you will *just read the most essential truths* in the Bible
you will see how easy it is to receive the free gifts
of wisdom, abundant life for today, and eternal life
after your temporary life on earth comes to an end.

But you must understand
that wisdom and God's greatest blessings are given
only to those who *choose* to believe in Him
and believe Him (*believe His Word*)
and who make a resolute decision
to join His family and follow Him.

The good news is that this is very easy to do.
God never intended for hearing and believing His Word
to be confusing or complicated.

All that is required is your ... **RSVP**

AV7 *The Invitation Bible*

... is distinctively different in many respects than any previous Bible that has ever been published.

AV7 is an easy-to-read, accurate literal translation ... not a paraphrase.

AV7 is unique in its focus on one of the key messages in Bible, which is simply to invite everyone to listen and hear the Word of God and then make a conscious decision of their own free will if they will choose to join His family and follow Him so that they can receive and enjoy all of His blessings.

AV7 prominently features the most essential truths in the Bible and presents these essential truths as the starting point and focal points for all the rest of the amazing wisdom that is found in the Bible.

So many Bibles and so many religions that are based primarily on man-made rules tend to make knowing God and joining His family needlessly complicated.

AV7 makes it easy.

The Bible has the answers

Have you ever read it?
How much of it have you read?
How often do you return to it for inspiration?

Now, **AV7** makes it easier than ever before to read and understand the Bible and gain daily inspiration from it.

The greatest wisdom, truth, and practical guidance for living a successful life are found within the pages of the Bible. It is the most inspiring, the most trustworthy, and the most widely published and distributed source of wisdom and truth ever compiled.

The Bible is the best-selling book of all time. No other best-seller has ever come even close to it. It is, without rival, the most widely read and studied, and the most extensively researched, verified, and validated document in the history of mankind.

And yet many people have still never read any part of it ... and many more are not yet receiving the wonderful inspiration and guidance that the Bible has to offer.

AV7 is a fresh new presentation of the Bible. It is a present-day English update of the time-honored English text that stood for more than 300 years as the most widely accepted, literally accurate English language translation of the Bible.

Therefore, you can now read, study, and rightly divide the Word of Truth with a trustworthy, literally accurate version of the Bible that is easy to read in present-day English.

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The Ten Commandments are the foundation of all truth

The Ten Commandments are the most readily recognizable of all truths. They are unique in many ways, one of which is that when God established these Ten Commandments, that was the first time that He is reported to have spoken directly to all of mankind, rather than to and through certain individuals one at a time.

The Ten Commandments are further distinguished by the fact that this was the only time in all of recorded history that God ever wrote a message to mankind by His own hand. And it is significant that He wrote this message as an engraving carved in stone.

Ever since that event some 3,300 years ago, the Ten Commandments have been almost universally acknowledged and accepted as the foundation of all truth by people who believe in God.

Very few people who acknowledge that there is a God will ever dispute the relevance, common sense, reasonableness, viability, practicality, and appropriateness of the Ten Commandments as wise words to live by and to govern and be governed by.

Some people have claimed that the Ten Commandments were given only to the Jews, or that they were only meant for the ancient time and place in which they were given. Consequently, they say that only Jews are required to obey them. Some others suggest that God's Ten Commandments are no longer applicable today.

However, as you read these Ten Commandments, it will surely be very apparent that God meant what He said and that He fully intended for these Ten Commandments to remain in effect for all people and for all time.

Please note: The **AV7** Bible text uses reduced-size italics to identify words that have been interpolatively added to otherwise literally translated words to improve clarity, readability, and understandability. For example, in the verse: "I *am* the Lord your God" (see #1 on the facing page), the word "am" is an interpolatively added word. The **AV7** text also uses key word flags to identify significant word revisions from the traditional English text. For example, the word "murder⁺" (see #6 on the facing page) is a more accurate translation than the traditional translation "kill."

The 10 Commandments

Exodus 20:1-17

- #1** ^{v1-3} God spoke ... saying: I *am* the Lord your God ... You shall have no other gods before me.
- #2** ^{v4} You shall not make for yourself any graven image or any likeness *of any thing* that *is* in heaven above or that *is* in the earth beneath or that *is* in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow yourself down to them nor serve them, for I the Lord your God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth *generation* of those who hate me ⁶ and showing mercy to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.
- #3** ^{v7} You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold those guiltless who take His name in vain.
- #4** ^{v8} Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days shall you labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the Lord your God. *In it*, you shall not do any work: You nor your son nor your daughter, your servant nor your maid, nor your cattle, nor your visitor⁺ who *is* within your gates. ¹¹ For *in* six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that *is* in them, and *He* rested *on* the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.
- #5** ^{v12} Honor your father and your mother *so* that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God has given *to* you.
- #6** ^{v13} You shall not murder⁺.
- #7** ^{v14} You shall not commit adultery.
- #8** ^{v15} You shall not steal.
- #9** ^{v16} You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- #10** ^{v17} You shall not covet your neighbor's house *and* you shall not covet your neighbor's wife nor his manservant nor his maidservant nor his ox nor his ass nor any thing that *is* your neighbor's.

Distilling the Truth

to focus on the most essential truths in the Bible:

Bible 790,391 31,089 66 ⁺ hours	New Testament 180,396 7,957 15 ⁺ hours	Gospels 83,885 3,779 7 ⁺ hours	Red letters 39,580 1,932 3.3 ⁺ hours
Red Teaching 26,849 2.3 ⁺ hours	Most Essential 11,486 249 _p 1 hour	VME 357 27 2 minutes	VVME 14 (x165) 2 4 seconds

The Most Essential Truth

All of the words and messages presented in the Bible are of great importance and great value, and no part of the Bible should be omitted, ignored, or disregarded. However, all of the words and messages in the Bible are not equal in importance.

Some words and messages, such as the Ten Commandments, establish never-to-be-changed laws as benchmarks of bedrock importance. Other portions include historical narratives, eye-witness accounts of supernatural events, genealogical records, biographical data, personal testimonies, prophetic allegories, and various other types and categories of content.

Interspersed among the 790,391 words in 31,089 verses in the 66 books in the Bible, there are certain key verses — **universal truths and declarative instructions** — that God communicates to mankind. Sometimes He speaks with His own voice, sometimes through the mouths of prophets, and in certain places, God specifically speaks as “**the Word of God.**” The first words in the Book of John identify and introduce the Word of God in this way:

“In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.”

(and then in verse 14)

“... and the Word became flesh and lived⁺ among us.”

Only one person in all of recorded history has ever qualified for that name and title, **ישוע**. The words that He spoke out of His own mouth are far more significant and more important than any other words ever spoken or written.

A book entitled *The Most Essential Truth in the Bible* (ISBN 978-0-935597-02-7) features 249 passages in which the Word of God proclaims the most essential of all universal truths and declarative instructions. In the 7 pages that follow, you can quickly read 98 of these key passages. While it takes more than 66 hours to read the entire Bible, you can read these key passages in less than 10 minutes. For more information visit: www.MostEssential.com

You can also enjoy refreshing inspiration and encouragement every day by frequently re-reading and meditating on these key passages from the incomparable wisdom of the Word of God.

Key verses from The Most Essential Truth in the Bible

*If anyone has ears
that can hear
let them listen.* Pg 88

#11 It is written:
Mankind shall not live
by bread alone,
but by every word that proceeds
out of the mouth of God. Pg 48

#12 Again it is written: You shall
not tempt the Lord your God. 48

#13 You shall worship
the Lord your God
and Him only shall you serve. 48

#14 Truly, truly, I say to you:
Unless a person is born again, they
cannot see the kingdom of God. 18

#15 Truly, truly, I say to you:
Unless a person is born of water and
of the Spirit, they cannot enter into
the kingdom of God. *Those* who are
born of flesh are flesh, and *those*
who are born of the Spirit are spirit.
Do not marvel that I said: You must
be born again. 18

#17 God so loved the world,
that He gave
His Only Begotten Son,
so that whoever believes in Him
should not perish,
but have eternal life. 18

#18 God did not send His Son into
the world to condemn the world, but
so that the world through Him might

be saved. *Those* who believe in Him
are not condemned, but *those* who
do not believe are condemned
already, because they have not
believed in the name of the Only
Begotten Son of God. 18

#20 *The Word of God* **ישוע** said:
Whoever drinks of the water that
I give will never thirst. Instead, the
water that I give will become a well
of water within them springing up
into eternal life. 19

#21 God *is* Spirit. *Those* who
worship Him must worship *Him* in
spirit and in truth. 19

#23 Repent. For the kingdom of
heaven is *very* near. 48

#24 Follow me and I will make
you fishers of men. 48

#25 Sin no more, lest a worse
thing come to you. 21

#27 Truly, truly, I say to you:
Those who hear my Word and
believe in Him who sent me have
eternal life and will not come into
condemnation, but *they* are passed
from death to life. 21

#28 *Those* who have done good
will come forth to the resurrection
of life, and *those* who have done evil
to the resurrection of damnation. 21

#29 Search the Scriptures.
For in them
you think you have eternal life,
and they testify of me. 22

#30 Blessed *are* the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

#31 Blessed *are those* who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁴⁹

#32 Blessed *are* the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁴⁹

#33 Blessed *are those* who do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled. ⁴⁹

#34 Blessed *are* the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. ⁴⁹

#35 Blessed *are* the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁴⁹

#36 Blessed *are* the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

#37 Blessed *are those* who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

#38 Blessed are you when *people* revile you and persecute *you* and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for my sake. ⁴⁹

#39 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad. For great *is* your reward in heaven. For so *likewise did* they persecute the prophets who were before you. ⁴⁹

#40 You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its savor, with what will it be salted? It is thereafter good for nothing but to be cast out and trampled under foot. ⁴⁹

#41 You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do people light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick *so that* it gives light to all who are in the house. ⁴⁹

#42 Let your light so shine before *people* that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. ⁴⁹

#43 Do not think that I have come to destroy the law or the prophets. I have not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For truly I say to you: Until heaven and earth pass, one jot or one smallest mark shall in no way pass from the law until all is fulfilled. ⁴⁹

#44 Whoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments and shall teach people *to do* so shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever shall do *them* and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

#53 You have heard that it has been said: You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you:

Love your enemies.
Bless *those* who curse you.
Do good to *those* who hate you.
And pray for *those*
who spitefully use you
and persecute you
so that you may be the children
of your Father in heaven. ⁵⁰

#57 Pray in this manner:

Our Father in heaven,
Holy is your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done,
on earth as *it is* in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us *for* our debts
as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us *so that we will* not
yield to temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom is yours,
and the power and the glory,
forever. Amen. ⁵¹

#58 If you forgive others *for* their trespasses *then* your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others *for* their trespasses *then* neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. ⁵¹

#61 Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth where moth and rust corrupt and where thieves break through and steal. Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust corrupt and where thieves do not break through or steal.

#62 Do not be afraid, little flock. For it is your Father's good pleasure to give the kingdom *of God* to you.

#65 No one can serve two masters. For either they will hate the one and love the other, or else they will hold to the one and despise the other. ⁵²

You cannot serve God
and *worldly* treasures. ⁵²

#66 Take heed and beware of covetousness. For one's life *is not to be found* in the abundance *of things* one possesses. ¹²⁸

#73 Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you. ⁵²

#75 Do not judge *so that you will* not be judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged. With what gauge you measure, it will be measured to you again. ⁵²

#76 Give and it will be given to you: Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over. Others will give to your innermost needs. For with the same gauge with which you measure it will be measured to you again. ¹¹⁷

#80 Ask and it will be given to you. Seek and you will find.
Knock and it will be opened to you.
For everyone who asks receives and *those* who seek *will* find and to *those* who knock it will be opened. ⁵²

#82 --- *The Golden Rule* ---

Therefore all things whatsoever you would that others should do to you, you do to them. For this is *the sum of* the law and the prophets. ⁵³

#84 Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are greedy wolves. You will know them by their fruits. ⁵³

#86 Not everyone who says to me: Lord, Lord, will enter into the kingdom of heaven, but *only those* who do the will of my Father in heaven. ⁵³

#91 Go and learn what *this* means: I will have mercy and not sacrifice. For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance. ⁵⁵

#92 Do not be afraid.
Only believe. ⁹⁰

#95 As you go, proclaim *the Word*, say: The kingdom of heaven is very near. ⁵⁶

#106 ... there is nothing covered that will not be revealed and *nothing* hidden that will not be known. ⁵⁷

#109 Whoever will confess me before people, I will confess before my Father in heaven. But whoever will deny me before people, I will deny before my Father in heaven. ⁵⁷

#114 Come to me
all *you* who labor
and are heavily burdened.
I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you
and learn of me.
For I am meek and lowly
in heart. You will find
rest for your souls.
For my yoke *is* easy
and my burden is light. ⁵⁸

#115 You are overly anxious and troubled about *too* many things. But one thing is necessary: *giving heed to the Word of God* ... ¹²⁵

#118 Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation. Every city or house divided against itself will not stand. ⁵⁹

#119 *Those* who are not with me are against me. *Those* who do not gather with me scatter. ⁵⁹

#122 ... out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good person out of good treasure of the heart brings forth good things. An evil person out of evil treasure brings forth evil things. ⁶⁰

#123 ... *for* every idle word that people speak, they will give an account of it on the day of judgment.

For by your words
you will be justified
and by your words
you will be condemned. ⁶⁰

#124 ... *blessed are those* who hear the Word of God and keep it. ¹²⁶

#125 ... whoever does the will of my Father in heaven, the same is my brother and sister and mother. ⁶⁰

#130 Be of good cheer. I am *with you*. Do not be afraid. ⁶³

#132 This is the work of God: That you believe in *the one* whom He has sent. ²³

#137 Truly truly I say to you:

Those who believe in me
have eternal life. ²⁴

#141 If anyone has ears to hear, let them hear. Out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, filthiness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, and foolishness. These are *the things* that defile a person ... ⁶⁴

#142 If anyone will come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever would save their life will lose it and whoever would lose their life for my sake will find it. For what is anyone to profit if they gain the whole world and lose their own soul? Or what shall anyone give in exchange for their soul? ⁶⁶

#143 If you can believe, all things are possible to *those* who believe. ⁹⁶

#156 If anyone thirsts, let them come to me and drink. As the Scripture has said *of those* who believe in me: Out of their innermost being will flow rivers of living water. ²⁶

#157 If you continue
in my Word *then*
you are indeed
my disciples.
You shall know the truth
and the truth
will make you free. ²⁷

#159 Truly, truly, I say to you: If anyone keeps my Word, they will never see death. ²⁸

#161 I am the door. If anyone enters in through me, they will be saved ... ³⁰

#162 ... I have come *so* that they *might* have life and have *it* more abundantly. ³⁰

#177 I am the resurrection and the life. *Those* who believe in me, though they were dead, yet shall they live.

Whoever lives and believes
in me will never die.
Do you believe this? ³¹

#182 Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning made them male and female and said: For this reason a man shall leave father and mother and cleave to his wife and they two shall be one flesh. Therefore they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together do not let anyone separate. ⁶⁸

#186 If you will enter into life, keep the commandments. You shall do no murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness. Honor your father and *your* mother. And, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁶⁹

#189 ... With God
all things are possible. ⁶⁹

#196 Truly I say to you: If you have faith and do not doubt, but say to this mountain: Be removed and be cast into the sea, it will be done. All things whatsoever you ask in prayer believing, you will receive. ⁷¹

#200 You err *by* not knowing the Scriptures or the power of God. ⁷³

#201 What is written in the law?
How do you read *it*?
You shall love the Lord
your God with all your heart
and with all your soul
and with all your mind.
Do this and you will live.
This is the first
and great commandment. ^{74, 124}

#202 The second *is* like it:
You shall love your neighbor
as yourself. ⁷⁴
On these two commandments
hang all the law and the prophets.

#204 Do not be called Rabbi. For one is your Master, Christ. All *of* you are family. ⁷⁴

#205 Do not call any *man* your father on the earth, for one is your Father, who is in heaven. Neither *should* you be called masters. For one is your Master, Christ. But one who is greatest among you shall be your servant. ⁷⁴

#206 Whoever exalts themselves will be humbled and *those* who humble themselves will be exalted.

#207 Take heed *so* that no one deceives you. ⁷⁵

#211 Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away. ⁷⁶

#223 A new commandment
I give to you:
That you love one another.
As I have loved you,
that you also love one another.
By this all *people* will know
that you are my disciples:
If you have love
toward one another. ³⁵

#225 Do not let your heart be troubled. You believe in God. Believe also in me. ³⁶

#226 I am the way,
the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father,
but by me. ³⁶

#229 If you love me,
keep my commandments. ³⁶

#230 *Those* who have my commandments and keep them are the ones who *truly* love me. *Those* who love me will be loved by my Father and I will love them and will reveal myself to them. If anyone loves me, they will keep my words and my Father will love them and we will come to them and live within them.

#232 Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled *and do not* let it be afraid. ³⁷

Key verses from The Most Essential Truth in the Bible

#235 I have spoken these things to you *so* that my joy might remain in you and *so that* your joy might be full.

#236 This is my commandment:
That you love one another
as I have loved you. ³⁷

#237 Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down one's *own* life for one's friends. ³⁷

#242 I have spoken these things to you *so* that in me you might have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But be of good cheer. I have overcome the world. ³⁹

#243 Watch and pray *so* that you do not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak. ⁸⁰

#244 Peace to you. As *my* Father has sent me, even so I *now* send you.

#245 Receive *the* Holy Spirit. ⁴⁴

#246 Follow me. ⁴⁵

#247 Go therefore
and teach all nations,
baptizing them
in the name of the Father
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe
all things whatsoever
I have commanded you.
Behold I am with you always,
even to the end of the world. ⁸⁴

#248 *Those* who believe and are baptized will be saved, but *those* who do not believe will be damned. ¹⁰⁷

#249

--- The Invitation ---

Behold, I stand at the door and knock.

If anyone *will* hear my voice
and open the door,

I will come in to them
and dine⁺ with them
and they with me. ²⁸⁷

The Complete AV7 New Testament *with the most essential passages highlighted.*

ישוע Jesus Christ is the most amazing person who ever lived and the central figure of the entire Bible. While the Old Testament is very important in setting the stage for and foretelling His arrival, we begin with the New Testament because it presents four accounts of His life on earth and a written record of the most important words that He spoke as the Word of God.

While most Bibles have traditionally presented the first four books of the New Testament (called “The Gospels”) in the sequence Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, this presentation begins with the book of John, followed by Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Some of the reasons for beginning with John should become apparent as you begin to read.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ *as written by John*

Chapter 1

¹ In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. *Genesis 1:1*

² He⁺ was, in the *very* beginning, with God.

³ Everything⁺ *came into* existence⁺ through Him. Without Him nothing *would have come*⁺ into existence.

⁴ In Him was life and the life was the light of men.

⁵ The light shines in darkness and the darkness does not overtake⁺ it.

⁶ Now there was a man sent from God whose name *was* John.

⁷ John came as a witness to testify⁺ of the Light *so* that through Him everyone might believe.

⁸ John was not that Light, but *was sent* to testify⁺ of that Light.

⁹ This was the true Light, that enlightens⁺ everyone⁺ who comes into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world and the world was made by Him and *yet* the world did not know Him.

¹¹ He came to His own and His own did not receive Him. *Isaiah 53:3*

¹² But to all⁺ who received Him, He gave authority⁺ and power to become the children⁺ of God, *even to those* who believe on His name,

¹³ *to those* who were born not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word was made flesh and lived⁺ among us

and we beheld His glory: Glory as of the Only Begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵ John testified⁺ about Him, and called⁺ out saying: This was He of whom I spoke. He who comes after me is preferred before me because He was before me.

¹⁶ Of His fullness we *have* all received, and grace *for everyone* instead⁺ of grace *for a favored few*.

¹⁷ For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ No one has seen God at any time. The Only Begotten Son who is in the bosom of the Father has declared *Him*.

¹⁹ This is the testimony⁺ of John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him: Who are you?

Do you know

what is the single most important word
in the entire Old Testament?

The single most important word
in the entire Old Testament is:

ישוע

The Old Testament is a treasure of history and prophecy, all of which points forward to that day when the Word of God Himself appeared in the flesh to speak directly to mankind.

The Old Testament describes God's creation of the world, declares His sovereignty, and documents His interaction with the human race from the creation of the first man and woman through the accounts of each individual that God appointed to communicate His messages to various target audiences over many centuries of human history.

While there is much wisdom encompassed within the 610,000 words in the Old Testament, most of it is revealed through illustrative case histories rather than by direct statements of declarative instructions and declarations of universal truth.

Other than the Ten Commandments, most of the other "commandments," "statutes," "ordinances," "laws," and "decrees" that the prophets declared as God's spokesmen were clearly intended for very specific target audiences and for very specific times, places, and circumstances.

The Most Essential Passages in the Old Testament

Key prophecies that predicted the coming of ישוע the Messiah

The Old Testament Prophecy:	OT reference:	NT fulfillment:
He will be a descendent of Abraham	Genesis 12:3	Matthew 1:1
He will be a descendent of Isaac	Genesis 17:19	Matthew 1:2
He will be a descendent of Jacob aka Israel	Numbers 24:17	Matthew 1:2
He will be a descendent of King David	Isaiah 11:1	Matthew 1:5-17
His time to be born is prophesied	Daniel 9:25	Luke 2:1-2
He will be born of a virgin	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:18-23*
He will be born in Bethlehem	Micah 5:2	Matthew 2:1-7*
He will be worshipped by kings	Psalms 72:10-11	Matthew 2:1-11
He will be taken to Egypt for a season	Hosea 11:1	Matthew 2:14-15
He will escape a slaughter of innocents	Jeremiah 31:15	Matthew 2:16-18
He will have His way prepared	Isaiah 40:3	Matthew 3:3
He will have the Spirit of God upon Him	Isaiah 11:2	Matthew 3:16
He will be decreed as the Son of God	Psalm 2:7	Matthew 3:17,17:5
He will be anointed to proclaim the Word	Isaiah 61:1-2	Luke 4:18-19
He will be a Galilean	Isaiah 9:1-2	Matthew 4:13-16
He will heal the blind, deaf, and lame	Isaiah 35:5-6	Matthew 4:24*
He will bear our griefs, sorrows, sickness	Isaiah 53:4	Matthew 8:16-17
He will bring forth righteous judgment	Isaiah 42:1-4	Matthew 12:17-21
He will use parables to illustrate	Psalm 78:2	Matthew 13:34-35
He will expose the hypocrisy of Pharisees	Isaiah 29:13	Matthew 15:7-9
He will enter Jerusalem as king on a colt	Zechariah 9:9	Matthew 21:5*
He will enter the temple with authority	Malachi 3:1-3	Matthew 21:12*
He will be the head cornerstone	Psalm 118:22	Matthew 21:42
He will be betrayed for thirty pieces silver	Zechariah 11:12	Matthew 26:15-16
He will be forsaken by His disciples	Zechariah 13:7	Matthew 26:31,56
He will be betrayed by a friend	Psalm 41:9	Matthew 26:48*
He will be accused by false witnesses	Psalm 27:12*	Matthew 26:60
He will be silent before his accusers	Isaiah 53:7	Matthew 26:63*
He will be hated without cause	Psalm 35:19	John 15:25
He will be spat upon and beaten	Isaiah 50:6	Matthew 26:67*
His betrayal price will buy Potter's field	Zechariah 11:13	Matthew 27:3-10
He will be struck on the cheek	Micah 5:1	Matthew 27:30
He will be laughed at, scorned, mocked	Psalm 22:7	Matthew 27:31
He describes details of His crucifixion	Psalm 22:12-18	Matthew 27:28-54
His hands and feet will be pierced	Psalm 22:16	John 20:25-27
He will be thirsty during His execution	Psalm 22:15	John 19:28
He will be given vinegar and gall	Psalm 69:21	Matthew 27:34
His bones will not be broken	Psalm 34:20	John 19:33-36
His garments will be divided by cast lots	Psalm 22:18	Matthew 27:35*
His side will be pierced	Zechariah 12:10	John 19:34,37
He will be crucified ⁺ with criminals	Isaiah 53:12	Matthew 27:38
He will be reviled	Psalm 109:25	Matthew 27:39,44
He will be mocked by the chief priests	Psalm 22:7-8	Matthew 27:41-43
He will be buried in a rich man's tomb	Isaiah 53:9	Matthew 27:57-60
He will be resurrected from the grave	Psalm 49:15*	Matthew 28:6
He will ascend to the right hand of God	Psalm 68:18	Mark 16:19*

* See additional references from other corresponding New Testament books here: www.AV7.org

The Most Essential Passages in the Old Testament

A few examples of the hundreds of prophecies fulfilled by ישוע

Old Testament Prophecies

In the Old Testament, God spoke to mankind primarily through prophets. 802 of those messages from God are identified and set apart by these defining words:

“Thus saith the Lord”
or just “saith the Lord”

Every instance in which God Himself speaks to us certainly deserves greater attention than all other types or categories of content found in the Bible (or anywhere else). A list of different types or categories is explained at the website: www.AV7.org

Below are a few excerpts from Old Testament prophecies in which God described and foretold of the coming Messiah:

1,800 years before Jesus was born, God spoke to Abraham, the father of the nation of Israel, and said:

Genesis 12:3 ... in you, all families of the earth will be blessed.

750 years before Jesus was born, God spoke to the prophet Isaiah:

Isaiah 7:14 The Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son and you shall call his name Emmanuel.

fulfilled in the New Testament

In the New Testament, God speaks to us as the one who is identified in the first verse of the Book of John as the Word of God.

Below are excerpts from New Testament verses that show Old Testament prophecies fulfilled in the person of ישוע Jesus Christ who was the promised Messiah and the very Word of God.

It would have been impossible to have artificially contrived all these detailed prophecies that were set forth over hundreds of years, and for them all to be so perfectly fulfilled by one man.

The amazing fulfillment of all these prophecies is compelling proof of the truth of the Bible:

The complete genealogy of Jesus Christ is summarized in **the very first verse in the New Testament:**

Matthew 1:1 This book lists the generations of Jesus Christ the son of David the son of Abraham.

In 4 BC, the fulfillment came:

Matthew 1:18-23 ... so that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet who said: Behold a virgin shall be with child and shall bring forth a son and they shall call His name Emmanuel which is interpreted: God with us.

Old Testament Prophecies

Micah 5:2 You, Bethlehem Ephratah, even though you are small among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you he shall come forth ... the ruler of Israel

Psalms 2:7 I will declare the decree: The Lord has said to me: You are my Son. This day I have begotten you.

Isaiah 61:1-2 - The ancient prophecy: The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good tidings to the meek. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord ...

Isaiah 35:5-6 The eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as a deer and the tongue of the speechless sing ...

Isaiah 53:4 Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. Yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

Zechariah 9:9 Behold, your King comes to you. He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding upon a donkey ...

Zechariah 11:12 The prophecy declares: If you think good, give me my price and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver.

fulfilled in the New Testament

Matthew 2:1-6 Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea ... and behold, wise men came from the east asking where is the King of the Jews ... we have come to worship Him.

Matthew 3:17,17:5 And a voice from heaven said: This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.

Luke 4:18-19 - Jesus announced: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because He has anointed me to proclaim the Gospel to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim deliverance to the captives, recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are bruised, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord ...

Matthew 4:24 The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the Gospel proclaimed to them.

Matthew 8:16-17 ... they brought to Him many who were possessed with demons and He cast out the spirits with His word and healed all who were sick ... so that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet saying: He took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses.

Matthew 21:5 Behold your King comes to you meek and sitting upon a donkey ...

Matthew 26:15-16 Judas the betrayer said: What will you give me and I deliver Him to you? They agreed with him for thirty pieces of silver.

AV7

Features & Benefits

- AV7** is an accurate literal translation, not a paraphrase. This is important because non-literal Bible versions often incorporate interpretive words and paraphrasing that may not be accurate but may instead reflect subjective ideas, opinions, and doctrinal distinctives.
- AV7** uses easy-to-read present-day English. It was compiled by a computerized system that uses seven levels of processing to translate original language sources into grammatically correct English, preserving the literal translation accuracy of the trustworthy sources.
- AV7** replaces the obsolete and archaic words and phrases that are used in the traditional 1611 English text with direct-equivalent present-day English words and phrases, using translation tables that identify and explain compilation details, word-for-word and phrase by phrase.
- AV7** corrects previous grammatical and translation errors and provides exhaustive documentation to explain the corrections.
- AV7** uses *reduced-size italics* to identify words that have been added interpolatively to improve the readability and clarity of the text.
- AV7** uses superscript pluses ⁺ as key-word flags to unobtrusively identify significant word revisions and to prompt readers to investigate corresponding word-studies.
- AV7** replaces non-essential masculine gender presentation style with more accurate gender-inclusive wording. For example, inaccurate wording such as “he that” is revised to “those who” where applicable.
- AV7** uses identity clarification revision to replace confusing pronoun sequences with proper nouns or descriptive titles in italics to clarify who is speaking with whom: For example, “he said to him” might be replaced by “*Jesus* said to him” where applicable.
- AV7** is supported by exhaustive documentation to explain every aspect and detail of its compilation and presentation.

How the AV7 text was compiled

AV7 = Authorized Version + 7

AV7 is a computer-generated, updated, and enhanced presentation of the Bible that closely follows the traditional 1611 English text commonly known as “The Authorized Version” or “King James Version” or “KJV” but with acknowledged errors corrected and with thousands of archaic words and phrases replaced by their direct equivalent, present-day English words and phrasing.

The 1611 English compilation stood, virtually unchallenged, as the most widely accepted English translation of the Bible for more than 300 years. It acquired the title “Authorized Version” by acclaim, although it was never formally authorized by any official body. Today, the 1611 text continues to be a valuable benchmark against which to test and compare the accuracy of other versions of the Bible.

AV7 gives new meaning to the title “Authorized Version” because, unlike the many “All Rights Reserved” copyright restricted Bible versions and paraphrases in print today, AV7 is authorized to be freely copied and distributed for any non-commercial purpose.

AV7 is compiled without using any paraphrasing or so-called “dynamic-equivalent” or “thought-for-thought” renderings such as have become common in many Bible versions. Instead ...

AV7 is compiled by an automated system that is able to perform translations directly from Greek and Hebrew original language sources into word-for-word, direct equivalent English. The resulting literal translation is then fine-tuned through seven levels of processing to produce an accurate yet easy-to-read, present-day English text.

In the example below, on line 1 is the Greek source text for John 3:8. On line 2 is an interlinear transliterated representation of the Greek. On line 3 is a literal, word-for-word English translation of each Greek word using mostly 1611 English words and spellings:

1. το πνευμα οπου	θελει	πνει	και	την	φωνην	αυτου
2. to pneuma orou	qelei	pnei	kai	thn	fwnhn	autou
3. the wind where [it]	will*	bloweth	and	the	sound [of]	it*

1. ακουεις αλλ ουκ	οιδας	ποθεν	ερχεται	και	που	υπαγει
2. akoueiV all ouk	oidaV	poqen	ercetai	kai	rou	uragei
3. hearest but not	know*	whence	cometh	and	where	goeth

1. ουτως εστιν πας	ο	γεγεννημενος	εκ	του	πνευματος
2. outwV estin paV	o	gegennhmenov	ek	tu	pneumatov
3. so is every[one]	who [is]	born	of	the	spirit

Limited space here does not permit a complete explanation of all of the sophisticated processing used in AV7 compilation. The words shown with asterisks in the example above have alternate renderings that AV7 processing uses to replicate the following traditional “KJV” text:

The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Multiple additional translation tables include the following:

BEFORE	AFTER
bloweth	blows
listeth	will+
thou	you
hearest	hear
thereof	of it
canst not	[you] cannot
whence	from where
cometh	comes
whither	where
goeth	goes
so is	So [it] is [with]
every one that	everyone who

When all seven AV7 translation tables are applied, this is the result:

The wind blows where it will+ and you hear the sound of it, but you cannot tell from where it comes and where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.

AV7 compilation is much more complex than indicated in this overview, but this provides a brief description of the process. Following are the seven stages of computer processing AV7 uses to convert the Bible’s original language source texts into the result shown above:

- Stage 1 translates Greek and Hebrew to the literal English equivalent
- Stage 2 converts literal English to a traditional 1611 English equivalent
- Stage 3 converts archaic Olde English text to present-day English, replacing obsolete and archaic words, spelling, and syntax
- Stage 4 corrects known grammatical and translation errors
- Stage 5 adds technical enhancements into the master source files
- Stage 6 incorporates many textual refinements to fine-tune the presentation
- Stage 7 encodes the text for print font styles, sizes, and custom features

Additional information about the AV7 translation and compilation system can be found at this Internet address: www.AV7.org

The case for literal accuracy.

Prove all things.
Hold fast what is good.
1 Thessalonians 5:21

People often ask: “Why are there so many different versions of the Bible, and which one is the best and most trustworthy?”

There are four basic answers to the first part of this question — two good reasons and two reasons that can be a cause for concern.

Reason #1: To translate the Bible into common languages. Since the Bible was originally written in Hebrew and Greek, it has been necessary to translate it into contemporary languages that people understand. The Bible has been translated into more languages than any other book.

Reason #2: To update obsolete and archaic language. The English language has undergone significant changes over centuries of time, and so it is beneficial to replace outdated words, grammar, and phrasing with literally accurate, direct equivalent words and grammatically correct phrasing in order to make the Bible easier to read and understand.

Reason #3: To promote private interpretations. Regrettably, some versions of the Bible have been compiled to promote the private interpretations and doctrines of various groups.

Reason #4: For commercial objectives. Some proprietary versions of the Bible have been sponsored and published by various commercial firms.

Since there can never be more than one version of the truth, ideally there should be only one version of the Bible in any given language. And yet, non-literal-translation paraphrases of the Bible can sometimes be helpful to first time readers. Any version of the Bible that helps people to know God and encourages them to learn and understand more about God’s purpose and plan for their lives, serves a useful purpose.

However, it is important to make a very clear distinction between literal truth and subjective interpretation. Everyone who would like to understand God’s Word better and grow in faith will do well to compare whatever version they consider using to an accurate literal translation.

Just as a ship or airplane that is only a fraction of a degree off course can end up hundreds of miles away from its intended destination, so also following interpretations that are not literally accurate can lead to serious error. The following explanation includes a few examples:

First, it is important to note that **AV7** is *not* a new version of the Bible. Rather, **AV7** is a new *presentation* of the traditional English translation that has stood the test of time for nearly 400 years.

The first English translation of the Bible was completed by John Wycliffe in 1382 A.D. and improved by William Tyndale in 1526 A.D. Between 1603 and 1611 A.D., a team of 50 scholars compiled a further developed English text based largely on Wycliffe’s and Tyndale’s work. But even after that, the English text first published in 1611 was further revised and improved many times between 1611 and 1769 A.D. That text became almost universally recognized as the most trustworthy English translation.

Even so, while there are few significant errors in this traditional English text, there are some renderings that are curious and not literally accurate. For example, in Acts 12:4, the Greek word *πασχα*, which is correctly translated as “passover” in 26 other places, is incorrectly translated as “Easter” in this verse. Another translation error is the colloquial expression “God forbid” that appears, incorrectly, 15 times in the traditional English text. The correct translation of the Greek source, *μη γεινοιτο*, is “not be” or “*may it not be.*” So, these are a just a few examples of errors in the traditional English translation that are corrected in **AV7**.

More serious problems occur when paraphrases take great liberty in changing the literal Word of God to say something quite different than an accurate literal translation. Compare the Greek, literal, 1611, **AV7**, and three currently popular versions below for the verse Luke 21:19:

Greek	εν	τη	υπομονη	υμων	κτησασθε	τας	ψυχας	υμων
literal	in	the	patience	you	possess	the	souls	you
1611	In	your	patience		possess	ye	your	souls
AV7	In	your	patience,		possess	your	souls	
(x)	By	standing	firm	you	will	save	yourself	selves
(y)	By	standing	firm	you	will	gain	life	
(z)	By	your	endurance	you	will	gain	your	lives

As you can see, the **AV7** rendering exactly follows the literal word-for-word and the traditional 1611 English translation. Version “x” is a radically different interpretation. One must ask, is it really possible for anyone to “save themselves”? Versions “y” and “z” are paraphrases that suggest a very different interpretation and understanding than the literal. These same versions (x, y, and z) all translate *υπομονη* as “patience” in dozens of other places, but here change the meaning to “endurance” or “standing firm.” One must question why.

Study to show yourself approved to God,
a worker⁺ who does not need to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the Word of Truth.

2 Timothy 2:15

You are Cordially Invited

*to receive the greatest wisdom
and blessings ever known*

All you need to do
is read or listen
to the Word of God
and believe.

But you must understand
that wisdom
and God's greatest blessings
are given *only*
to those who *choose* to believe
and then make a resolute decision
to accept His invitation
to join His family
and follow Him.

God never intended for this
to be confusing or complicated.

All that is required
is your ... **RSVP**

It is your choice.