

## Conclusion

Thus the Authorized Version became a widely read and most frequently quoted book in English.

C. L. Wrenn comments:

... the Authorized Version has remained a dominant influence on the literary language through it at times even on the language of ordinary talk.



# The Influence of the King James Bible

## (The Authorized Version) on English.

### Introduction:

The English Bible Translations were largely the outcome of the Reformation movement. William Tyndale and Miles Coverdale translated the Bible into English while they were in exile in Germany.



exile in Germany.

## **The Importance of the King James Bible:**

The King James Bible or the Authorized Version appeared in **1611**. It was an astonishing achievement of scholarship. It was the culmination of all previous English translations of the Bible. For the next four centuries, the King James Bible was read in the **Church of England** every **Sunday**.

## **The Influence of the Authorized Version:**

The Authorized Version had the greatest influence on the development of the English language.



development of the English language.

**John Piercy** comments:

The King James Bible is often described as the most important book in the English language and the one single source that has had the deepest influence on the way English evolved over the last four hundred years.





## **The Demand of Puritans:**

The Puritans demanded a state authorized version of the Bible for the sake of uniformity in the Church service. The Geneva Bible was then used widely in the Church of England. In 1604, King James I convened a conference and a team of 54 scholars was selected to undertake the translation.



## The Translators of the King James Bible

All scholars, except one, were clerics (priests). All of these translators belonged to the universities of Oxford, Cambridge and Westminster. The team of the scholars was divided into six committees, with each committee having eight members. It was a difficult task as the translators used multiple Bible versions available in different languages. The Authorized Version used the Bishop's Bible (1568) as a model for the translation. It was produced as a result of seven years of painstaking team work.



## **An Imitation of Tyndale's Translation**

The Authorized Version copied a vast deal of phrases from Tyndale's translation. Many phrases, in spoken and written English, derive from the Authorized Version, for example- a broken reed, the fatted calf, the skin of the teeth, to wash one's hands, the writing on the wall etc.



## The Use of Archaic Words

For the sake of dignity, the Authorized Version used words that were archaic even at that time.

Words like - apparel, damsel, fragrant, raiment, travail etc. – were thus preserved in English.



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