

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS
(for Affirmation, not for Decision)

Inasmuch as many Bible translations give conflicting views with regard to the doctrine as taught by the Church, we recommend that this Assembly give voice of approval of the English King James version of the Bible as being the authority for our Church doctrine and teaching.
SECTION 4- General Assembly 56 - 09/18/1961 | Page Reference 131-132.

Inasmuch as many Bible translations give conflicting views with regard to the doctrine as taught by the Church, we recommend that this Assembly give voice of approval of the Spanish Antigua Version de Casiodoro de Reina of the Bible up to 1909 A.D. as being the authority for our Church doctrine and teaching in the Spanish language. These citations are the historical rulings of the Church of God of Prophecy concerning Bible Translations.
SECTION 9- General Assembly 66 - 09/13/1971 | Page Reference 143.

In recent years, there has been a tremendous advance in scholarly work concerning biblical translations that have utilized the increased knowledge of the original languages of Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic. Additionally, cultural understandings of the modern English, Spanish and French languages have made the archaic words of past translations more difficult for the average reader to comprehend and respond appropriately. Furthermore, the message of the gospel is now infiltrating scores of other global languages beyond the limited languages of the past (i.e. English, Spanish, French and Russian). Daily we are now challenged to face the need to present the gospel in the most dynamic method possible to reach all nations. The Church of God of Prophecy has become an international movement encompassing many languages and cultures. As such, we must affirm the diversity of appropriate translations needed for the ever-widening harvest throughout the nations. All mankind needs to hear the “good news” in the language that speaks to their understanding and native tongue.

In light of this urgent need of the harvest, we encourage our ministers to use appropriate translations in their preaching that will bring all people to the saving light of Jesus Christ. While we embrace the earlier translations referenced in the 1961 and 1971 Assembly rulings, we also want to encourage our ministers to use other legitimate and reliable translations to plant the seed of the gospel of Jesus into every hungry heart and nation of this world.

Wallace Pratt, Chairman

Antonios Charalambou

Tedroy Powell

Enos C. Gardiner

Elías Rodríguez

Tim McCaleb

H. E. Cardin, Secretary

Version: Final Draft, January 2010. With questions or comments related to this Recommendation, please contact the Biblical Doctrine and Polity Committee by e-mail at bdp@cogop.org .
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