

FAQ

FROM THE MESSIANIC APOLOGETICS ARCHIVES (2000-2018)

J.K. McKee

MESSIANIC APOLOGETICS
messianicapologetics.net

Frequently Asked Questions

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Abbreviations and Special Terms

The following is a list of abbreviations for reference works and special terms which are used in publications by Outreach Israel Ministries and Messianic Apologetics. Please familiarize yourself with them as the text may reference a Bible version, i.e., RSV for the Revised Standard Version, or a source such as TWOT for the *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament*, solely by its abbreviation. Detailed listings of these sources are provided in the Bibliography.

- ABD: *Anchor Bible Dictionary*
 AMG: *Complete Word Study Dictionary: Old Testament, New Testament*
 ANE: Ancient Near East(ern)
 Apostolic Scriptures/Writings: the New Testament
 Ara: Aramaic
 ASV: American Standard Version (1901)
 ATS: ArtScroll Tanach (1996)
 b. Babylonian Talmud (*Talmud Bavli*)
 B.C.E.: Before Common Era or B.C.
 BDAG: *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (Bauer, Danker, Arndt, Gingrich)
 BDB: *Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*
 C.E.: Common Era or A.D.
 CGEDNT: *Concise Greek-English Dictionary of New Testament Words* (Barclay M. Newman)
 CGL: *Cambridge Greek Lexicon* (2021)
 CHALOT: *Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* (Holladay)
 CJB: *Complete Jewish Bible* (1998)
 CJSB: *Complete Jewish Study Bible* (2016)
 DRA: Douay-Rheims American Edition
 DSS: Dead Sea Scrolls
 EDB: *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible*
 EJ: *Encyclopaedia Judaica*
 ESV: *English Standard Version* (2001)
 Ger: German
 GNT: *Greek New Testament*
 Grk: Greek
 HALOT: *Hebrew & Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* (Koehler and Baumgartner)
 HCSB: *Holman Christian Standard Bible* (2004)
 Heb: Hebrew
 HNV: Hebrew Names Version of the World English Bible
 IDB: *Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*
 IDBSup: *Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible Supplement*
 ISBE: *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*
 IVPBBC: *IVP Bible Background Commentary (Old & New Testament)*
 Jastrow: *Dictionary of the Targumim, Talmud Bavli, Talmud Yerushalmi, and Midrashic Literature* (Marcus Jastrow)
 JBK: *New Jerusalem Bible-Koren* (2000)
 JETS: *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*
 KJV: *King James Version*
 Lattimore: *The New Testament by Richmond Lattimore* (1996)
 LITV: *Literal Translation of the Holy Bible* by Jay P. Green (1986)
 LES: *Lexham English Septuagint* (2019)
 LS: *An Intermediate Greek-English Lexicon* (Liddell-Scott)
 LSJM: *Greek-English Lexicon* (Liddell-Scott-Jones-McKenzie)
 LXE: *Septuagint with Apocrypha* by Sir L.C.L. Brenton (1851)
 LXX: *Septuagint*
 m. Mishnah
 MT: *Masoretic Text*
 NASB: *New American Standard Bible* (1977)
 NASU: *New American Standard Update* (1995)
 NBCR: *New Bible Commentary: Revised*
 NEB: *New English Bible* (1970)
 Nelson: *Nelson's Expository Dictionary of Old Testament Words*
 NETS: *New English Translation of the Septuagint* (2007)
 NIB: *New Interpreter's Bible*
 NIDB: *New International Dictionary of the Bible*
 NIV: *New International Version* (1984)
 NJB: *New Jerusalem Bible-Catholic* (1985)
 NJPS: *Tanakh, A New Translation of the Holy Scriptures* (1999)
 NKJV: *New King James Version* (1982)
 NRSV: *New Revised Standard Version* (1989)
 NLT: *New Living Translation* (1996)
 NT: *New Testament*
 OT: *Old Testament*
 REB: *Revised English Bible* (1989)
 RSV: *Revised Standard Version* (1952)
 t. Tosefta
 Tanach (Tanakh): the Old Testament
 Thayer: *Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*
 TDNT: *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*
 TLV: *Messianic Jewish Family Bible—Tree of Life Version* (2014)
 TNIV: *Today's New International Version* (2005)
 TWOT: *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament*
 UBSHNT: *United Bible Societies' 1991 Hebrew New Testament revised edition*
 v(s). *verse(s)*
 Vine: *Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words*
 Vul: *Latin Vulgate*
 YLT: *Young's Literal Translation* (1862/1898)
 WMB: *World Messianic Bible* (2020)

Apocrypha, Versions of

I know that the Apocrypha is not considered canonical Scripture by Jews or Protestants, but I am interested in finding a suitable modern English translation to use for reference. Which one(s) can you recommend?

There are five main versions of the Apocrypha included with some major Bible versions, which our ministry widely employs in our research. These include the following in the order of their publication, along with a brief description of the Bible they are included with. This same order happens to be the order in which we generally use them for study:

1. **Revised Standard Version** (1952): This is considered today to be a Centrist-liberal Bible version, even though around 85-95% of it is widely reproduced in the more conservative New American Standard. Its Apocrypha translation is somewhat literal, and true to the Septuagint Greek text behind it. It represents an ecumenical Protestant perspective, with some Anglican and Catholic influences.
2. **New English Bible** (1970): This was the first modern Bible translation produced for Christians in the United Kingdom, and represents an ecumenical perspective including the Church of England, British Protestant denominations, and British Catholicism. Its Apocrypha translation represents a more “dynamic equivalency” translation, than the RSV Apocrypha. Overall, the translation is Left of Center.
3. **New Revised Standard Version** (1989): This is the revised edition of the RSV, which primarily updated the RSV to include new scholarship unavailable when the RSV was produced. The NRSV represents a liberal ecumenical perspective, and employs a concept known as inclusive language, whereby terms relating to “man” or “mankind” are replaced with the more neutral “human” or “humanity.”
4. **Revised English Bible** (1989): This is the revised edition of the NEB, produced primarily for Christians in the U.K. It employs inclusive language, and represents a liberal ecumenical perspective.
5. **New Jerusalem Bible** (2000): This is a Catholic Bible translation which is Catholic-conservative in its approach, but employs dynamic equivalence. Its Apocryphal books are not organized between the Old and New Testaments, but instead are sorted in with the Old Testament books.