

F. Y. C.

For Your Consideration

JANUARY 2015

'NEW'

The word "new" has appeal. It presents something that was not avail before. The month of January is the beginning of a new year, but it's newness pales by comparison to the New Testament. It contains the good news of salvation. It makes it possible to have a new life in Christ Jesus.

NEW COVENANT

For this reason He is the mediator of a **new covenant**, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

Hebrews 9:15

NEW LIFE

Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in **newness of life**.

Romans 6:4

NEW CREATURE

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creature**; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

2 Corinthians 5:17

NEW SELF

... and have put on the **new self** who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him.

Colossians 3:10

NEW COMMANDMENT

"A **new commandment** I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another." By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 13:34-35

NEW HEAVEN AND EARTH

But according to His promise we are looking for **new heavens and a new earth**, in which righteousness dwells.

2 Peter 3:13

BIBLE WORDS

In every written language, the meaning of the recorded words must be determined by the context. This is very important because many words have a variety of definitions and some have changed in meaning over the years.

WORDS WHICH HAVE MORE THAN ONE MEANING

"Tempt" has two meanings in the Bible:

To try (prove) in a good sense. Gen.22:1

To try (by soliciting to do evil). Jam.1:13, Mat.4:3

"Judge" has several uses in the Bible:

To estimate, examine evidence, 1Cor.15:2

To distinguish, decide. Joh.7:24

To condemn, sentence. Jam.4:11

"Hate" is used in two ways.

Despise, wish evil. 1Jo.3:15

To love the less (by comparison). Luk.14:16 (cf. Mat.10:37)

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

In **Daniel** and **Revelation** where figurative words are used, a literal meaning presents an absurdity.

Herod is called a "fox" in Mat.13:22.

"Let the dead bury the dead," Mat.8:22, is surely figurative.

"This is my blood," Mat.26:28, can only be understood in a figurative sense.

A good "rule-of-thumb" – When a literal meaning presents an absurdity, it must be understood figuratively.

UNDERSTANDING WORDS

Abstract and inanimate objects are frequently personified.

Blood crying out. Gen.4:10

Love personified. 1Co.13

Words are sometimes used in an ironical manner.

"You are rich and reign as kings" 1Co.4:8

"Reap where you did not sow" Mat.25:26

Some people and places have more than one name.

Bartholomew (in John) is also called Nathaniel. (Matthew, Mark, Luke and Acts)

Matthew is also called Levi. (Mar.2:14; Luk.5:27)

Peter is also called Cephas, Simon, Simon bar Jonah, Simeon.

The Apostle Paul is also called Saul of Tarsus. Act. 13:9

Several people share the same name.

James, John, and Mary refer to a number of different people.

Simeon: (1) Second son of Jacob by Leah; (2) a man in Jerusalem described as "righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel." Luk.2:25,34; (3) ancestor of Jesus.

Luk.3:30; (4) prophet and teacher at Antioch. Also called Niger. Act.13:1-2

Many rulers were called Pharaoh or Herod.

TO HELP DETERMINE THE PROPER MEANING, USE SYNONYMS

Baptism (Act.8:38, Rom.6:4, Joh.3:23) literally means to "dip, plunge or immerse." Substitute synonyms and see the results. Words such as "sprinkle" won't work.

Cup (Luk.22:17,20; 1Co.11:25-26) refers to the contents. Substitute "container" for cup and note the results.

USE OF IDIOMS

Some current idioms:

"go fly a kite", "drives me up a wall", "catch a plane (or a cold)," "tickled pink," "spill the beans," "red herring," "deep pockets," "ham it up," "play it by ear," "good grief."

Some idioms in the Bible:

"lift up the face" means to accept. Job 22:26

"flesh and blood" refers to human beings Mat.16:17 KJ)

"Abraham's bosom" describes blessedness after death. Luk.16:22

"bowels of mercy" (KJ, Col.3:12) refers to compassion.

Often the confusion presented by idioms is cleared up in newer translations.

Obsolete words found in the King James Bible can be understood by comparing it with some of the newer translations.

USE OF DICTIONARIES

Modern dictionaries give current and generally accepted definitions, which may or may not reflect the meanings of the words as used by the writers of the Bible.

Bible word dictionaries (such as Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words) can be very helpful.

USE OF ITALICS IN TEXT

Words printed in *italics* are supplied by the translators when there is a perceived difficulty in a strict word-for-word translation. Many times the verse may be understood without the added words. (Luk.5:33,39; 6:1)

Italicized words may also contribute to confusion. (E.g., The added "He" in John 8:24: "I am" $-\varepsilon i\mu i$ (eimi) i-mee=I exist.

NOTE: CHAPTER AND VERSE NUMBERS

They are helpful for finding certain passages, but there are times when they break a line of thought or reasoning. An isolated verse has often been used as a basis for an erroneous belief.



Sharing

Often we think of sharing in terms of giving something that we have to another. However, we can share in other ways.

A burden shared is only half a burden. A joy shared is double joy.

Note the following Bible references:

SHARED JOY

But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all. And you too,I urge you, rejoice in the same way and share your joy with me.

Philippians 2:17-18

SHARED BURDENS

Bear one another's burdens, and thus fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2

SHARED EMOTIONS

Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

Romans 12:15

SHARED SUFFERINGS

And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.

1 Corinthians 12:26-27



Paradise

(Hebrew: pardes; Greek: paradeisos) From old Persian term which means literally "enclosure" or "wooded park," used in the Old Testament to speak of King Artaxerxes' forest (Neh.2:8), and twice of orchards (Ecc.2:5; SoS.4:13).

All three New Testament occurrences (Luke 23:43; 2 Corinthians 12:4; Revelation 2:7) refer to the abode of the righteous dead.

The Greek Old Testament (Septuagint) used "paradise" to translate the Hebrew words for the Garden of Eden in Genesis 2-3. Over the years, the terms because synonymous, and eventually paradise came to refer to heaven.

- Holman Bible Dictionary

New Testament References

And He [Jesus] said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise."

Luke 23:43

And I know how such a man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows—was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak.

2 Corinthians 12:3-4

'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.'

Revelation 2:7

F.Y.C. is a monthly publication by Ron Adams.

Bible references are from the NASB except where another translation is referenced.

Past Issues are archived at http://ra10ar.com
All rights reserved. © 2015