

utterance; was never offensive; could be silent where not wanted; and who was more satisfactory in the presentation of truth than any other. That missionary was the Bible as given in the native tongue by the Bible societies. The book of all books, the book whose teaching has changed the face of the earth, and which is the true palladium of liberty wherever it is an open page for the people to read, i.e., where men have it in their homes and in their own tongue. Therefore, for us English-speaking peoples the English Bible is our Bible, the Bible we must read, by which we, through patience and comfort, have hope.

This applies not only to the merely English reader, but to those who in after years may become familiar with the original Hebrew and Greek; for their first impressions in childhood, which largely mould all after judgments and feelings, are made by the truths as taught in English words; the prayers lisped in earliest life are English prayers, after the English Bible's model. Therefore, for learned and unlearned, prince, peer and peasant, how to use aright the English Bible is a question of no small import, not only to the teacher, but also to the parent and the friend. As the subject opens up it is so wide that we must crave pardon for what we do not say which is important to say, and to present mere hints on some few points so far as our time limit will permit. Take what we do say as merely introducing a study your lifetime will leave incomplete.

For practically giving the Bible to his countrymen in an English dress, Wycliffe has been called the Morning Star of the Reformation; our chief interest lies in the version generally used and known as the Authorized, and which is almost a lineal descendant of the Wycliffe Bible. The stately yet simple grandeur of the Authorized Version's style has woven it into the very texture of Anglo-Saxon life wherever found. Moreover, its general faithfulness to the spirit of the originals has given it an unquestioned superiority. It must, however, be remembered that no translation, however faithful, can exactly reproduce. We cannot give another tongue the music of our own. In all the richness of classic languages there is no word that exactly represents the mel-