

Some Observations on the Authorized Version

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This article can be found on www.FarAboveAll.com.

The list below is not the result of a systematic comparison of the AV versus the TR. These are cases we have been alerted to or have noted ourselves.

Our purpose is not to denigrate the AV. The AV is a good translation based on manuscripts in the Majority Text tradition, although, apparently like all manuscripts, these manuscripts have a few idiosyncrasies. Rather, we alert the AV reader to verses where there is a textual issue – in this article, mainly an issue with respect to the Received Text itself.

Where the AV differs from the Greek that is claimed to underlie it¹.

	TR Greek	AV	Vulgate	AV from Vulgate?
Mark 7:3	πυγμῆ, <i>with the fist</i>	oft	crebro (=πυκνά) <i>often</i>	Yes
John 10:16	αὐλή <i>flock</i>	fold	ovile <i>fold</i>	Yes
John 11:19	πρὸς τὰς περὶ Μάρθαν <i>to the women connected with Martha</i>	to Martha	ad Martham <i>to Martha</i>	Yes
Acts 19:20	ὁ λόγος τοῦ κυρίου <i>the word of the Lord</i>	the word of God	verbum Dei <i>the word of God</i>	Yes
Rom 2:9	Ἕλληνας <i>of the Greek</i>	of the Gentile	Graeci <i>of the Greek</i>	No
Eph 2:1	νεκροὺς τοῖς παραπτώμασιν καὶ ταῖς ἁμαρτίαις <i>dead to transgressions and sins</i>	dead in transgressions and sins	mortui in delictis et peccatis vestris <i>dead in your transgressions and sins</i>	Yes
Eph 2:19	συμπολιταὶ τῶν ἁγίων <i>fellow citizens of the holy places</i>	fellow citizens with the saints	cives sanctorum <i>citizens of the holy places</i>	No
Eph 4:18	πώρωσιν τῆς καρδίας αὐτῶν <i>hardness of their heart</i>	blindness of their heart	caecitatem cordis ipsorum <i>blindness of their heart</i>	Yes
Phil 2:21	χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ <i>of Christ Jesus</i>	Jesus Christ	Jesu Christi <i>of Jesus Christ</i>	Yes [VulgC]

¹ Scrivener's 1894 edition, published by *The Trinitarian Bible Society*.

2 Tim 1:18	διηκόνησεν <i>he ministered</i>	he ministered unto me	ministravit mihi [VulgC] <i>he ministered to me</i> ministravit melius [VulgS] <i>he ministered better</i>	Yes [VulgC]
Heb 2:1	μήποτε παραρρῶμεν <i>lest we drift away [aorist subjunctive passive, so passive or intransitive in meaning]</i>	lest at any time we should let them slip away	ne forte pereffluamus <i>lest we flow through / forget</i>	No
Heb 10:23	τὴν ὁμολογίαν τῆς ἐλπίδος <i>the confession of hope</i>	the profession of our faith	spei nostrae confessionem <i>the confession of our hope</i>	No

We suggest also

Rom 9:19	ἀνθέστηκεν <i>is withstanding [perfect in form, present in meaning]</i>	hath resisted	restitit he resisted	Yes
Acts 8:11	διὰ ... τὸ ἐξεστακέναι <i>because ... he had been astounding [perfect in form, present in meaning]</i>	because ... he had bewitched	quod ... dementasset <i>since he had bewitched [pluperfect]</i>	Yes
2 Tim 4:15	ἀνθέστηκεν <i>is opposed [perfect in form, present in meaning]</i>	he hath withstood	restitit he resisted	Yes

In the following cases, the AV follows some edition(s) of the TR, but not Scrivener

Eph 6:24	{RP P1904 S1550 E1624: Ἀμήν.} [S1894: -] <i>Amen</i>	Amen	Amen [VulgC] <i>absent</i> [VulgS]	No
1 Cor 14:10	οὐδὲν {RP P1904 S1550 E1624: αὐτῶν} [S1894: -] <i>none of them</i>	none of them	nihil <i>none</i>	No (but Scrivener = Vulgate)

Other issues with the AV are

- Where there are variations between various editions of the TR. We take Scrivener's 1894 edition as the reference, so all departures from it in Stephanus 1550, Elzevir 1624 etc. are cases where a specific TR edition is liable to be inconsistent with the AV.
- Where the AV is grammatical enough, but where we take a different view on the translation, e.g. word meaning, word grouping or pronoun reference.
- Where the TR+AV are significantly different to the Majority Text

Examples:

	Greek	AV	Vulgate
Eph 3:9	ἡ {RP P1904: οἰκονομία} [TR: κοινωνία] τοῦ μυστηρίου	the {RP P1904: dispensation} [TR: fellowship] of the mystery	dispensatio sacramenti <i>the dispensation of the mystery</i>
1 Jn 5:7b -8a	{RP: - } [P1904 TR: ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ, ὁ Πατήρ, ὁ Λόγος καὶ τὸ Ἅγιον Πνεῦμα, καὶ οὗτοι οἱ τρεις ἐν εἰσι· καὶ τρεις εἰσιν οἱ μαρτυροῦντες ἐν τῇ γῆ,]	{RP: - } [P1904 TR: in heaven: the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth,]	absent in [VulgS] present in [VulgC]
Rev 22:19	{RP P1904: τοῦ ξύλου} [TR:βίβλου] τῆς ζωῆς	{RP P1904: the tree} [TR: <i>the book</i>]of life	libro vitae [VulgC] <i>book of life</i> ligno vitae [VulgS] <i>tree of life</i>

All verses we have commented on can be found by viewing our translation
<http://www.faraboveall.com/050 BibleTranslation/NTinHTML.html>
 in Firefox, and searching case-sensitively for *RP* and *AV*.

Sources

- Acts 19:20 and Heb 10:23 - somewhere on the internet many years ago
- Eph 2:1 and Eph 2:19 - Charles Welch's sermons
- 1 Cor 14:10, Eph 6:24, 2 Tim 1:18 , - http://www.kivonly.org/jamesp/idprice_greek_text.htm
- Others - own observation

References

- [VulgS] *Biblia Sacra Vulgata*, the Latin Vulgate edition of the Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft Stuttgart, 1983.
- [VulgC] The Clementine Vulgate: *Biblia Sacra juxta Vulgatam Clementinam*, M.Tweedale (ed.). Available at <http://vulsearch.sf.net/html>.

Other symbols and references are as for our translation of the Robinson-Pierpont text.