

"I WILL REPAY, SAITH THE LORD"

I. Tyndale's early life.

Born 1491-2 on borders of Wales. Family had double name but Hutchins dropped about 1525. Well-to-do family. To Oxford 1506 when 15. B.A. 1512 and M.A. 1515. Ordained. 1519-22 to Cambridge tho Erasmus had been there 1510-14. Met Bilney, Latimer. Then to village of Sodbury to be tutor of children of Sir John Walsh. Independent ideas developing. In 1522 said "I will cause boy that drives plough to know more of Scriptures than you" (said to some learned man who had said to Tyndale "we had better be without God's law than without the Pope's." Same year as Luther's NT appeared and 1 yr after Henry's Defense of 7 Sacraments. Climate not favorable for trans into vernacular. ①

II. Tyndale's Bible.

1523 went to London to seek patronage of London Bishop Cuthbert Tunstall. No sale. Cloth merchant, Humphrey Monmouth took him in and met John Firth there who helped him with the translating. In 1524 about age 32 left England forever. Said: "Not only was there no room in my Lord of London's palace to translate the NT, but also there was no place to do it in all England." Sad words. From 1524-26 his name connected with Hamburg, Wittenberg, Cologne, Worms. Prob Wittenberg first and William Roye, a friar who had left his monastery, helped in the translation. Spring 1525 NT ready but safer to print at Cologne. Peter Quentel started printing it in quarto. Matt and Mark done when ordered to stop by Senate. Fled to Worms where octavo ed printed in Feb 1526 and copies reached England 1 month later. 6000 copies printed by Peter Schoeffer. Only 64 ppp. of quarto and 2 copies of Octavo survive. Indeed this is all that has survived (except a few unidentified fragments) of 15000 copies printed up to 1530. Smuggled into Eng under bales of cloth, flour and other merchandise and could be bought in 1526 for \$5-10. 1534 is the "authorized" Tyndale. Knew Heb and Grk but probably did not use Wycliffe.

III: Opposition and Continuing Efforts of Tyndale.

1. Tunstall. ② Conclave of bishops in 1526 appt him to strike at center of distribution, London. Tunstall burned them at St. Paul's Cross after buying them up. This just fed the printers with more demand. ③ 350 copies were discovered at Oxford. Tunstall put sympathizers in prison. Inmeantime Tyndale writing other works. In 1529 Tunstall found himself in Antwerp and made friends of Augustine Packington, a London merchant who offered to get the forbidden literature to Tunstall if he would be paid for it. Actually Packington was friend of Tyndale so told him he had a buyer for his works. Who, said Tyndale. The Bishop of London. So Tyndale agreed to sell him Bibles and books to get out of debt and have money for OT trans. So Tunstall got books, Packington, thanks, Tyndale money. Story may be apocryphal tho broad outlines seem to be true.

2. Pentateuch. Published by Hans Lufft of Marburg on Jan 17, 1530. Not as exciting a feat as NT was, but as fine a piece of work and difficult an undertaking. Mostly done from Jerome's Latin tho referred to Hebrew. Wrote more controversial works as Practice of Prelates. Sir Thomas More wrote against Tyndale in 1529 which Tyndale answered in 1530. More did this at instigation of Tunstall whose permission More had to have in order to read Tyndale's works which he was answering!! Genesis revised and authorized NT by 1534.

3. Capture and death. Betrayal in home of Poyntz by Henry Phillips May 23, 1535. ④ Put in Vilvorde castle 6 mi N Brussels. Attempts made to rescue him. 16 months before trial and T. defended self. ⑤ Died by strangulation then burned on Oct. 6, 1536.

IV. "I will repay, saith the Lord"

King and Bishop of London forbade Tindale's N.T. Last words: "Lord, open the Kind of England's eyes!"

1. At instigation of Cromwell, Coverdale produced and circulated Bible 1535.

Still while Tindale was in prison. Used Tindale's NT as basis for his. Beginning of great surge of Bible trans, circ, and reading in England.

2. Matthew Bible, 1537. Name was a blind for John Rogers. Knew Tindale in Antwerp. The Bible was composed of Tindale and Coverdale in 3:1 ratio.

Kept anonymous so to keep Tindale's name off it. Cranmer recommended the trans to Cromwell who took it to Henry for approval. He must not have looked at it for it bore in large letters the initials W.T. at end of O.T. Matt Bible is Tindale's Pentateuch, Tindale to 2 Chron which he had in mss form but never published. Coverdale for rest of OT and Apocrypha, and Tindale's N.T. of 1535. Order of NT books = Tindale and Luther; i.e., Heb, Jas, Jude, Rev at end.

3. Great Bible. Cromwell apparently decided to issue revision of Matt. and

entrusted work to Coverdale. Cromwell ordered in 1538 that a large Bible be placed in every church. It was being printed in Paris for this purpose tho 1st ed April 1539 and most of work done in Eng. bec French inquisitor-general held up and confiscated what was being printed in Paris. Coverdale's revision of Matt's use of Tindale. 2nd ed in April 1540 and contained Cranmer's preface to reader. In 4th and 6th ed (Nov. 1540 and Nov 1541) title page changed. Had been Henry from throne delivering Word of God to Cranmer with rt hand and to Cromwell with left hand who in turn deliver Word to laity and clergy. Motley crowd below crying God save the King. Cromwell fell from power in 1540 so new title page has his place blank and in title "Oversene and perused at the commaundment of the Kynge's Hyghnes, by the ryghte reuerende fathers in God Cuthbert Byssshop of Duresme, and Nicolas Bisshop of Rochester." This is the same Cuthbert Tunstall who was bishop of London when Tindale appealed to him for help at beg of translating and who bought and burned as many as he could. Now he gives the authority of his office to spread of Tindale's Bible (Great). He undoubtedly knew how much of it was Tindale but the King approved and he fell in line.