

“Interesting Facts about Christian Stewardship” was posted on YouTube by Seventh-day Adventist Church on 7/24/20. Pastor Chris Holland an “International Speaker, Adventist World Radio” was the speaker.

During this presentation the verses for all to read that Pastor Chris Holland used were from the New King James Version (NKJV), but he did at times refer to the King James Version (KJV). Though he mainly used the NKJV he expressed dissatisfaction with it at times. Around 5:32 he noted that the “the King James and the New King James” used the phrase “kingdom of heaven” in Matthew 25:14. Chris believes that phrase should be replaced with “it.” Some bibles do have “it” in that verse like the New International Version (NIV) and the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) both of which are worse than the NKJV. He believes “it” does a better job with linking the parable to the previous two parables and thinks “it” is quite important. Actually, “kingdom of heaven” works just as well.

Around 8:21 Chris demonstrates his excellent knowledge of Greek and his ability (remember the word ability) to edit the Word of God. Chris believes his mastery of Greek is superior to that of the translators of the KJV, the NKJV, the NIV, the New English Translation, the American Standard Version, the Amplified Bible, the Christian Standard Bible, the God’s Word Translation, the Modern English Version and the NRSV because they unadvisedly used the word “ability” in Matthew 25:15. Chris believes he is more qualified to translate Greek than the fifty plus translators of the KJV and the multiple additional scholars employed in the translation of the other versions. That probably amounts to several hundred biblical scholars Chris believes he is superior to. He believes the Greek work *dunamis* should have been translated “strength” or “power” rather than as the “ability” the less knowledgeable scholars used.

Around 10:32 Chris talks about the “slave” who received one talent. I believe this was a slip of the tongue as his bible doesn’t say “slave” but instead says “servant.” As he continues discussing the passage he does say “servant.” The NRSV does have “slave” in that verse. Chris is trying to make the point that a talent is equivalent to about twenty years wages and probably got mixed up because of too much study of bibles that are worse than the NKJV.

Around 20:30 Chris demonstrates that although he knows Greek, he needs a little work on English.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9 from the NKJV.

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9 from the KJV.

Remember how Chris thought “it” should be in Matthew 25:14 rather than “kingdom of heaven?” Well, unless Chris ascribes to the “once saved always saved” doctrine, he should have edited his bible of choice in this verse. Better yet, if he had used the KJV he wouldn’t have had to change anything. Notice that the NKJV says, “you have been saved.” That means salvation is

a done deal after you say, “Lord, Lord,” just like some Protestant churches teach. The KJV says “by grace are ye saved.” That means grace is the means by which we are saved but doesn’t mean that we are irrevocably saved irrespective of our further decisions in this life.

There is another item of interest in the NKJV. Rather than saying “man” as in the KJV it says “anyone.” The purpose of this is to remove gender. Some other new versions have gone even further in removing gender than has the NKJV. I once went through 2 Corinthians in the KJV, the NKJV, the New International Version Inclusive (NIVI), the 2011 edition of the NIV and The Clear Word for Kids (CWK). I counted the number of places where certain words designating the male gender were used in 2 Corinthians and the numbers were as follows:

KJV – 39  
NKJV – 20  
NIV (2011) – 8  
CWK – 6  
NIVI – 4

When the NIVI was first published there was a great uproar from evangelicals in the United States so it was only distributed in Europe. As you can see, progress has been made. Other bibles have been removing gender distinctions and there is hardly a peep from anyone. I find it interesting that a transgender person will insist on being addressed by the pronoun of whichever sex they have chosen and at the same time bibles have been changed to remove gender distinctions.

Around 21:12 it says a verse was taken from 1 Timothy 1:9 when it was actually taken from 2 Timothy 1:9. That’s an easy mistake to make.

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[AdventistsToday.com](http://AdventistsToday.com)  
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