

L607 History of Bible Translation

Recommended Reading

Pelikan, Jaroslav. *Whose Bible Is It? A Short History of the Scriptures*. (Penguin, 2006) Sterling professor emeritus of history at Yale University and author of a number of respected books in the area of Christian belief and tradition, presents an outstanding introduction to the development, use and acceptance of the biblical canon over the centuries. This is the book that inspired this course. Available on Kindle.

Nicolson, Adam. *God's Secretaries: The Making of the King James Bible*. (Harper-Collins, 2003). Eminently readable popular history with lots of background about the players in and the politics of the process that created the "Authorized Version." Accurate without being daunting. Available on Kindle.

Shoskis, Janet. *Sisters of Sinai: How Two Lady Adventurers Discovered the Hidden Gospels*. (Vintage, 2009). Award winning story of the Victorian hunt for ancient manuscripts and the surrounding controversies. Available on Kindle. (Fans of Amelia Peabody will be especially enlightened and amused.)

Satlow, Michael L. *How the Bible Became Holy*. (Yale University Press, 2014). Scholarly but readable account of how the Bible evolved as a text and as the fundamental authority among Jews and Christians, based on newest available evidence. Available on Kindle.

Armstrong, Karen. *The Bible, A Biography*. (Atlantic Monthly Press, 2007). Excellent summary of the writing and compiling of the Bible and ensuing centuries of biblical interpretation. Available in Kindle.

Hendel, Ronald. *The Book of "Genesis": A Biography*. (Princeton University Press, 2012). A little more scholarly than Armstrong's book, with greater focus on how Genesis has influenced Western thought and literature. Available on Kindle.

Christie, Alix. *Gutenberg's Apprentice*. (Harper-Collins, 2014). Fiction, but lots of historical detail. A really fine description of the technical and political complexities of Gutenberg's achievement. Available on Kindle.

You also might like to take a look at Biblical Archaeology Review's 2013 review of 27 different bible versions currently available, free in ebook format:

<http://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/free-ebooks/the-holy-bible-a-buyers-guide/>