

The Bible and the Reformation

1. Peter Waldo: France 1200.
Came across a Bible in French Provincial. Began to preach against Catholic doctrine..

2. John Wycliffe: England 1375
Scholar and theologian. He was responsible for hand-written translation of the entire Bible in **Middle English**, 1382, from Latin. He opposed Catholic doctrine.

Wyciffe: had 3 papal letters sent against him. Tried 3 times by the Catholic church in England, summoned by 2 popes yet **never imprisoned**.



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3. ***John Huss: Prague, Czech AD 1400. Discovered a Bible and Wycliffe's teaching against Catholic church. Huss is burned at stake for "heresy."***

4. ***Ulrich Zwingli: Zurich, Switzerland. AD 1500. Brilliant scholar, Pastor, read Bible in Greek, and opposed Catholic doctrine. He died in a religious battle.***

Rev 2:10 ***Do not fear*** what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. ***Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.***

The Bible and the Reformation

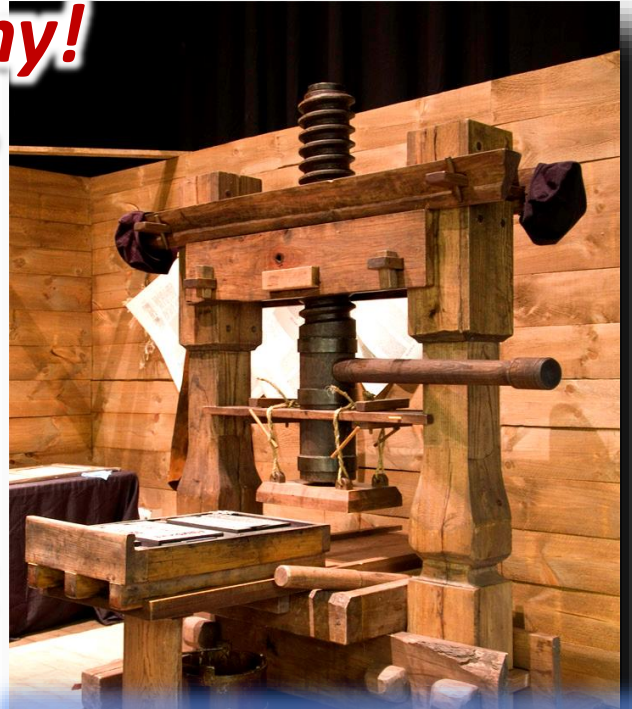
Gutenberg Printing Press: Germany!

Johannes Gutenberg , engraver,
goldsmith, blacksmith, printer.

Created 1st ~**EUROPEAN**~ metal
movable type for a Press, 1455.

1040 **Chinese** innovator Bi Sheng
first used ceramic movable type.

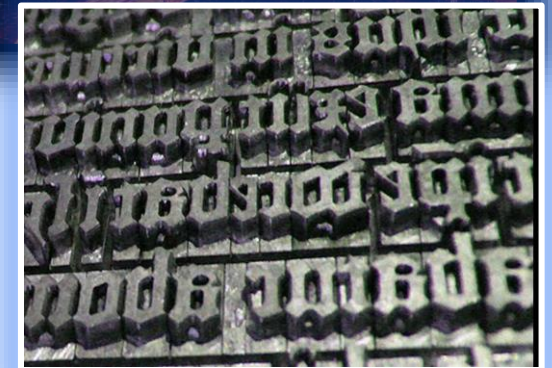
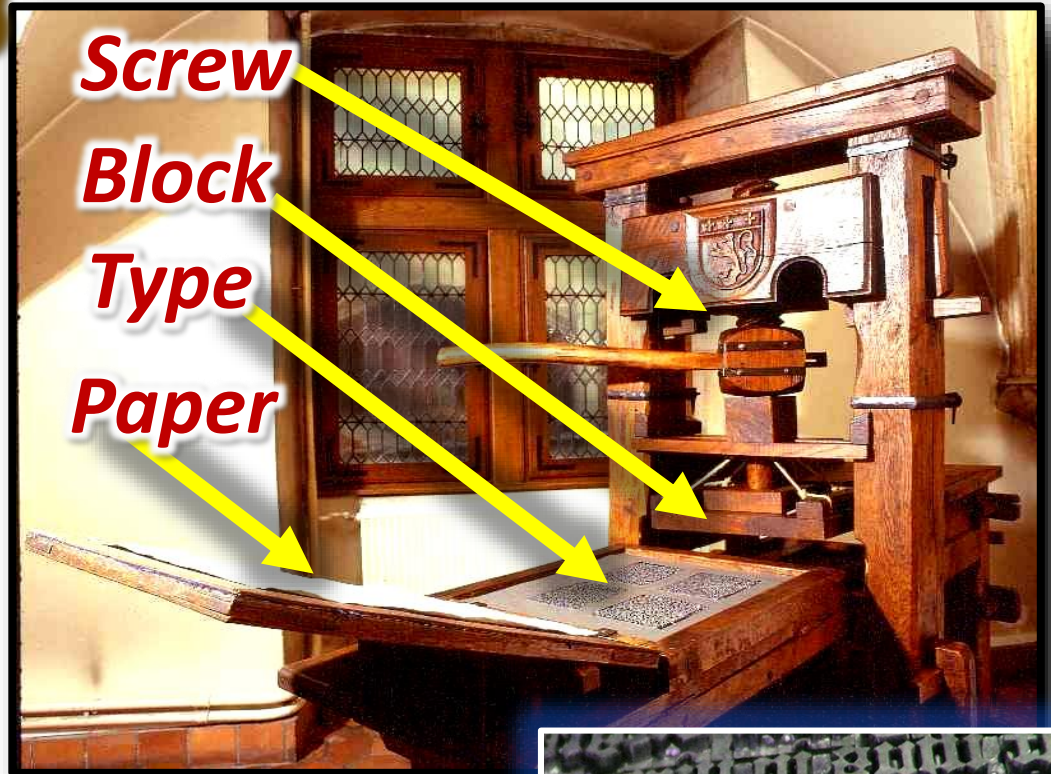
In 1377 **Korean**, bronze, mov-
able type used to create the
Buddhist document, Jikji.



They were little used because of the difficulty of
making over 3,000 characters & 1,000's of tablets.

The Bible and the Reformation

Gutenberg Bible 1455



Printed 1455, in *Latin*, the “Legal” Catholic Bible as an edition of the *Vulgate*, by Gutenberg in Germany.

Most common folks didn't read *English* much less *Latin*.

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1 Peter 1:25 “But the word of the Lord
abides forever.”

Matt 24:35 “Heaven and earth will
pass away, but *My words shall not
pass away.*”



The Bible and the Reformation

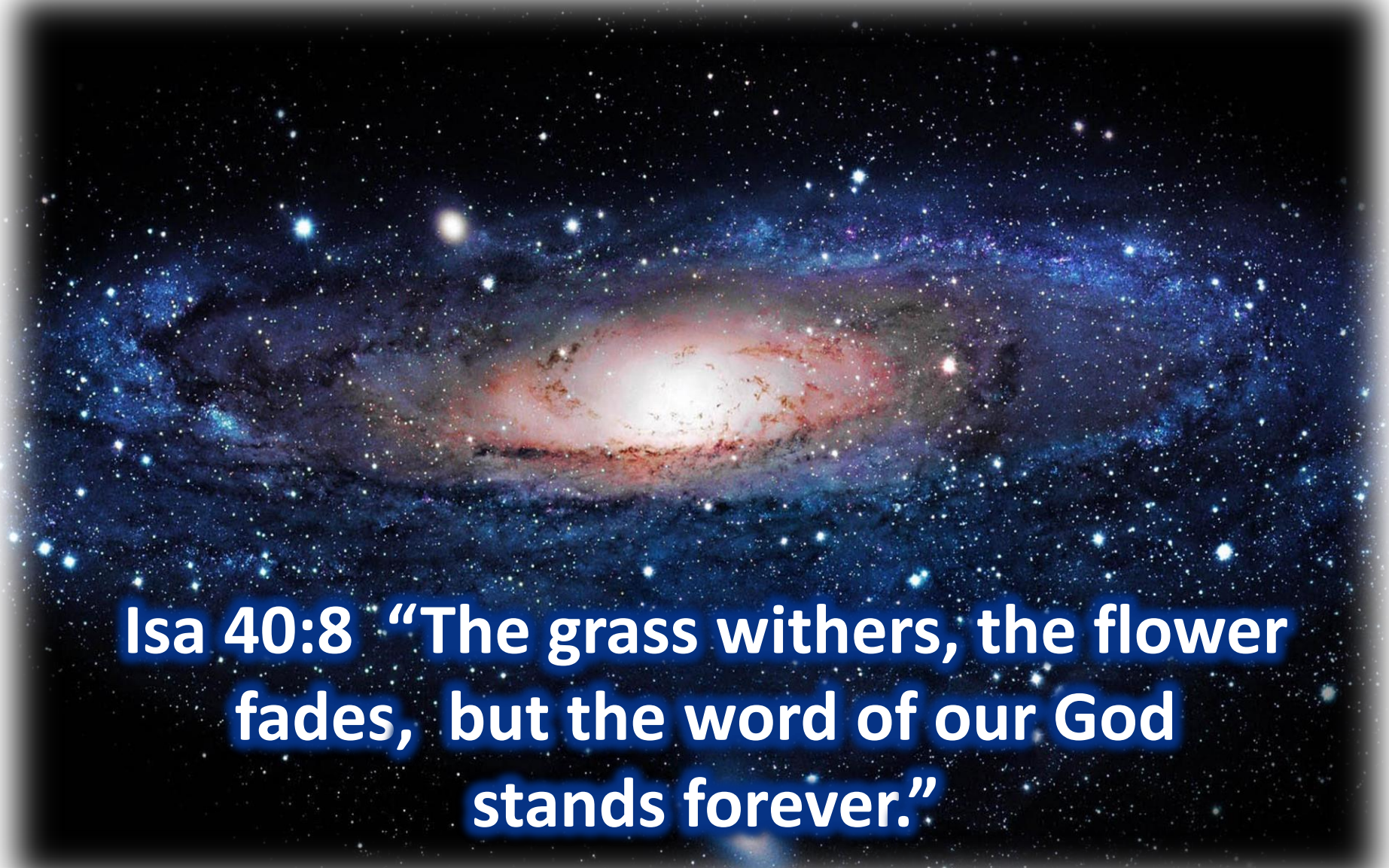
Impact of The Gutenberg Press AD 1455



“By AD 1500, a thousand printing presses were in operation throughout Western Europe and had produced 8 million books.”

Elizabeth Eisenstein: "The Printing Revolution in Early Modern Europe"; 1993 p. 13–17

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Isa 40:8 “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.”

The Bible and the Reformation

Erasmus Roterodamus: A Dutch, Catholic priest, social critic, scholar. He remained a Catholic all his life.



Erasmus 1516
Parallel Greek-Latin Bible.



“Often through the translator’s clumsiness or inattention *the Greek has been wrongly rendered*; often the true and genuine reading has been corrupted by ignorant scribes, which we see happen every day, or altered by scribes who are half-taught & half-asleep.” Erasmus epistle 337.

Erasmus dedicated his work to patron, *Pope Leo X*. It helped reformers’ cause showing *errors in Latin!*

The Bible and the Reformation

Luther nailed his 95 Theses on “All Saints”
Cathedral Door at Wittenberg, Germany
Oct 31st, 1517 & ***started the Reformation !***

He published a German language NT translation
from the Greek in **1522**.

“The ***most important and useful work of his whole life***, is the translation of the New Testament.”

Phillip Schaff's: History of the Christian Church.

He published the whole Bible in the ***German*** that
a common German could understand in **1534**.

At last the whole Bible, including the ***Apocrypha***
as "books not equal to the Holy Scriptures, yet
useful and good to read," ***Martin Luther***.



The Bible and the Reformation

WM Tyndale: Genius. A giant in the Reformation.
He spoke 8 languages fluently.

1522 Tyndale came across Luther's Bible in *German language* and decided to translate one *into English!*

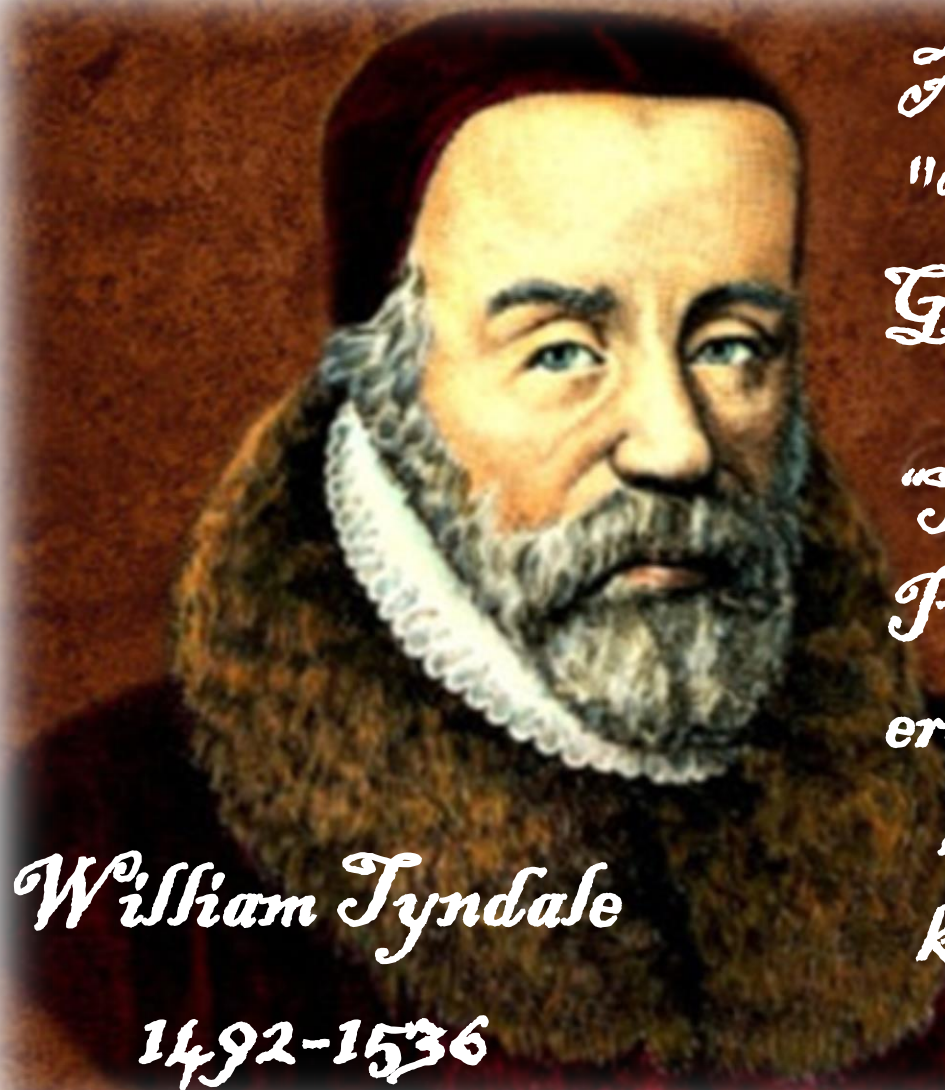
Tyndale asked permission of the Bishop in London who refused to permit this "*heretical text.*"



He visited Luther in Germany then by 1525 then translated *first* NT *from Greek to* **ENGLISH**, 1526.

He was arrested & *jailed* near Brussels for 500 days. He was *strangled* then *burned* at the stake—1536 for *heresy*. He prayed "*May the Lord open the king of England's (Henry VIII) eyes.*" Who endorsed Rome.

The Bible and the Reformation



*A Catholic clergyman said,
"We are better to be without
God's laws than the Pope's".*

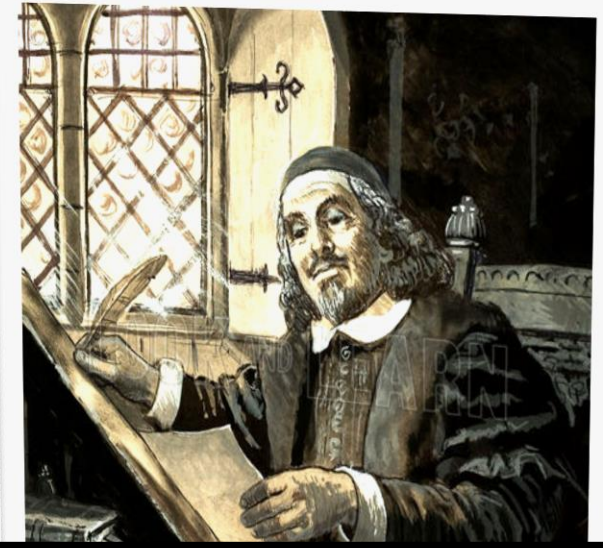
*Tyndale replied: "I defy the
Pope. If God spare my life,
ere many years I will cause a
boy who drives the plow to
know more of the scriptures
than you do."*

The Bible and the Reformation

Miles Coverdale: Reformer, translator, preacher, bishop.

He finished the ***FIRST COMPLETE English Bible*** in 1535.

(Tyndale did New Testament but only part of Old.)



1539 Archbishop of Canterbury hired Miles Coverdale (by funding from Henry VIII) to publish the ***GREAT BIBLE to be READ in the services of the Church of England.***



The Bible and the Reformation

Henry VIII (born 1491 – died 1547)

1. Katherine of Aragon - Divorced



1533 Catholic Church disfellowshipped Henry over divorce.

1536 Assumes head of church of England & takes property.

2. Anne Boleyn - Beheaded

3. Jane Seymour - Died

4. Anne of Cleves - Divorced

5. Catherine Howard - Beheaded

6. Kateryn Parr – Survived Henry.



The Restoration *Principle*

Isa 8:20 ***"To the law and to the testimony!"***
If they do not speak according to this word,
it is because there is no light in them." NKJV

Jer 6:16 "Stand in the ways and see , ***and ask for the old paths, where the good way is,*** and walk in it. Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'" NKJV

1 Peter 4:11 "If anyone speaks, let him ***speak as the oracles of God.***" NKJV

Speak Where the Bible Speaks