

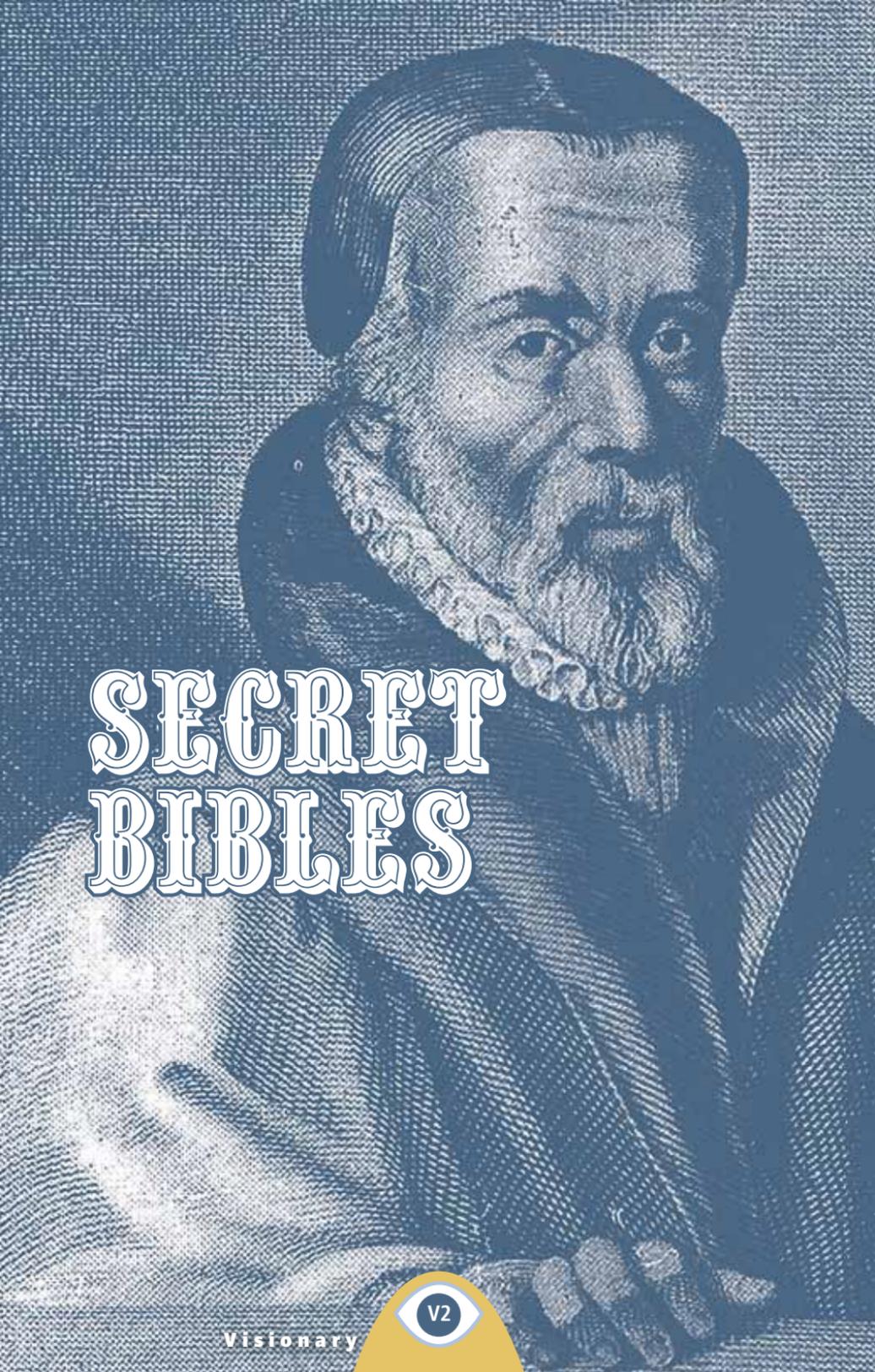


Ellen White.
Visionary
Fourth Quarter 2011
for Kids

God's Letter to You

The Bible is
packed with
messages for
life.

In this issue:
Secret Bibles
A Sound Message
Which Bible should I read?



SECRET BIBLES

Visionary

V2



he word spread quickly through town. A man named William Tyndale was preaching from the Bible. He was also claiming that every one of the common people could read the Bible for themselves and find these same truths that he'd discovered.

Could this be true? Could it be that the Bible was meant for common folks like them as well? The people in town were excited about this new idea. Why shouldn't they study the Bible for themselves? After all, wasn't William Tyndale reading the Bible? Most important, he wasn't a priest!

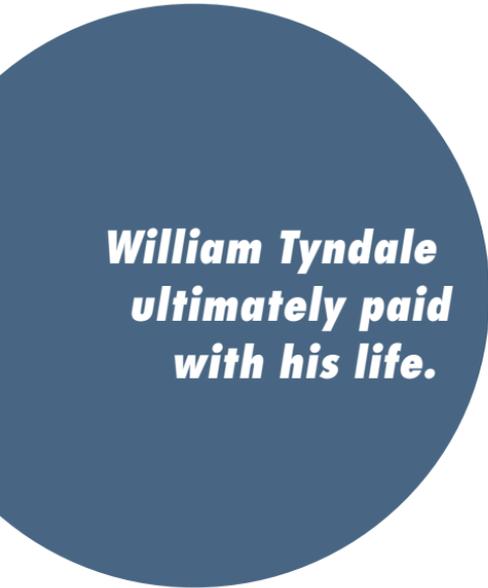
To the townsfolk of Bristol, this was startling news. At that time most people did not own a Bible. In fact, only the priests and a few wealthy people had direct access to it, and most of the time it was in Latin, which only the priests could read.

The people's excitement lasted only a little while, because soon after Tyndale left town, the priests stormed in. They were furious that this man was going around telling the people that they could understand the Bible for themselves without the church interpreting it for them.

"Tyndale is a heretic!" they claimed. "He is teaching you falsehoods. Only the church has the authority to explain the Word of God."

"What is to be done?" Tyndale exclaimed when he heard about what the priests were doing. "While I am sowing in one place, the enemy ravages

Printing the Bible in English was a crime punishable by death, but William Tyndale took the risk.



**William Tyndale
ultimately paid
with his life.**

the field I have just left. I cannot be everywhere. Oh! If Christians possessed the Holy Scriptures in their own tongue . . .” *

Maybe that was the answer. The more Tyndale thought about it, the more convinced he became that the people of England needed the Bible in their own language. So Tyndale began translating the Bible into English, and soon Bibles were being printed and smuggled into different parts of the country.

“We must stop this madness!” the priests declared. They did everything they could to stop Tyndale’s work, but the English Bibles kept rolling off the presses and into the hands of the people.

The bishop of Durham even bought a large quantity of English Bibles in order to destroy them. He thought that this would seriously harm Tyndale’s work. Instead, the money from the sale of the Bibles allowed Tyndale to print an even better edition of the English Bible.

Finally, in the year 1535 Tyndale was captured and imprisoned. After many months as a captive he was charged with heresy and sentenced to death. Although William Tyndale ultimately paid with his life, his perseverance and sacrifice allowed the people of England to read the Bible in their own language. And thanks in part to his work, we too can read the Bible for ourselves.

*In *The Great Controversy*, p. 246 (taken from J. H. Merle D’Aubigné, *History of the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century*, book 18, chap. 4).

A Sound Message

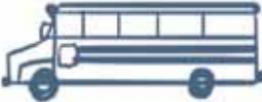
Do you know what makes the Bible so special? Sound out the message below to discover the answer found in Ellen White's writings.

The  -ke+ble

 -k G+ ^{1, 3, 5,} + 's
_{7, 9}

v+  -b+ce

s+  + 

2  -b

?

You've
Got
Issues

How can I be consistent in my devotional life? I've tried several times, but I always stop after a while.

You don't remember this, but when you were about a year old—give or take a few months—you learned to walk. Your caregivers could tell you that you didn't just one day stand up and jog around the living room! There was lots of falling down, and probably your parents or others kept encouraging you to try again. I suspect you're glad you're not still on all fours, crawling to school and everywhere else you want to be!

It's the same way with other habits or skills we develop over time. We learn



What is this baby saying?

to do them by practice, practice, practice—but also by trial and error. Sometimes we falter. But if we really want to develop a good habit, we keep at it.

Bible study has great benefits. God is eager to spend time with us. He created us for companionship, so He is always glad when we take time to read His “journal” and tell Him whatever is on our hearts. Spending time with God helps us know the good news about how much He loves us (enough to *die* for us!), how we can live our lives to the max and avoid regrets, how to cope with discouragement and loneliness, how to be ready to meet Jesus with joy—and so much more!

Sometimes young people enjoy listening to the Bible or such devotional books as Ellen White’s writings on MP3 players as part of their worship-of-God time. On the **whiteestate.org** Web site you will find free audio downloads of young people reading easier-English versions of Ellen White’s writings.

Just open up your heart to God as you would to your best friend. Remember to thank Him for the good things in your life. Ask Him for help in managing the stressful stuff and difficult relationships. Soon your special time with God will become so important that you won’t ever want to miss it. You might even find yourself talking with God in your heart all through your day!



Give a Bible Study: Why Should I Read God's Word?

Having trouble getting motivated to study the Bible? These texts can help!

1. 2 Timothy 3:16, 17. Scripture (the Bible) teaches doctrine, reproves, corrects, instructs, equips for service, makes the Christian complete.

2. John 5:39. Scripture tells us about Jesus.

3. Matthew 7:24, 25. Scripture study gives a solid foundation for the storms of temptation.

4. John 5:24. Scripture study leads to Jesus and eternal life.

5. Hebrews 4:12. Scripture study pierces our very thoughts and cuts away the trash from our minds.

6. Romans 15:4. Scripture study gives hope and comfort.

7. Proverbs 3:1, 2. Scripture study helps you live longer!

8. Joshua 1:8. Scripture study helps bring success. (It makes you wiser, too—Psalm 19:7.)

9. 1 Peter 1:23. Scripture study leads to rebirth (conversion).

“Whoever will study the Bible with a willingness to learn from it will find a sure guide, pointing out the way to eternal life with perfect accuracy. But what good does your Bible study do unless you actually do what it says to do? The Holy Bible helps us with our actual lives. The deeper our love for Jesus, the more we will consider the Bible to be as the voice of God speaking directly to us” (adapted from Testimonies for the Church, vol. 5, p. 303).

This Bible study was made especially for young people. You can find more Bible studies for young people at www.AdventSource.com, including the *41 Bible Studies* set by Cindy Tutsch.

Name That Book



How well do you know the books of the Bible? Write down the book that comes after each one listed below. Then copy the letters from the colored boxes to the blank lines at the bottom of the page to discover what Ellen White wrote about the Word of God.

2 Timothy	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Genesis	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Joel	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	2 Thessalonians	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
2 Corinthians	<input type="text"/>	1	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
3 John	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Ezra	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Ezekiel	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Exodus	<input type="text"/>
Joshua	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Mark	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
		Acts	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>

Understanding the Bible’s teachings is essential for every child, for it is the Word of God, given

(Adapted from *Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, p. 427.)

Answer on p. V10





I've heard that the King James Version (KJV) is the only Bible I should read. Is that true?



Answers: *A Sound Message*, p. V5; "The Bible is God's voice speaking to us" (*My Life Today*, p. 283); *Name That Book*, p. V9; Thus, Amos, Galatians, Jude, Daniel, Judges, Exodus, 1 Timothy, Nehemiah, Leviticus, Luke, Romans. Phrase: "to guide us to heaven."

Some people believe that the King James Version is the "original" Bible. Some might even say, "If the KJV was good enough for Paul, then it's good enough for me!"

But did you know that the original Scriptures were not written in English at all? The Old Testament was written in Hebrew (with a tiny bit in Aramaic) and the New Testament in Greek. John Wycliffe, William Tyndale, and others were the first to translate the Scriptures into English. People who had never had the Bible in their own language were excited to finally be able to read God's Word.

This year we celebrate the 400th anniversary of the King James Version of the Bible. The majestic expression and grand language of the KJV have blessed millions of people. However, we do not read the original KJV—that language would not be understood by us today. For that reason the KJV has undergone several revisions.

Today there are many English translations and paraphrases of the Bible. Modern translators have the advantage of nearly four centuries of important discoveries about sacred texts, ancient languages, and translation methods. Most contemporary translations are based on older manuscripts than what were available at the time the King James Version was translated. (The Dead Sea scrolls were discovered in 1947, for instance.) Usually, a translation done by a committee is closer to the meaning of the original Hebrew and Greek than a paraphrase authored by fewer or even one person.

I find paraphrases such as *The Message* or *The Clear Word* great for devotional reading. These paraphrases are written in easy-to-understand English. However, they may add insights or understandings that are not in the original text. If you come to a passage in a paraphrase that seems to go against your understanding

of what the Bible teaches, you might want to compare that passage with a Bible version that sticks closer to the original manuscripts, such as the New King James Version (NKJV) or the *New American Standard Bible* (NASB).

Remember that in any language and in virtually every version, the Bible is God's Word. Read it every chance you get, and ask God to help His words speak right to your heart!

Cindy

HOLY
BIBLE

What Do You Want to Know?

Ask youth pastor Cindy Tutsch any question about Ellen White, the Seventh-day Adventist Church, or the Bible—especially questions on next quarter's *Visionary* topic: "The Great Controversy." Just send your e-mail to cindytutsch@hotmail.com. All of your questions will be answered—and we might even put some of them in a future issue of *Visionary*!



About Ellen White

Ellen White was born in 1827 near Portland, Maine, U.S.A. Seventh-day Adventists believe that God called her to be a prophet and gave her messages through dreams and visions, as foretold in such Bible passages as Joel 2:28, 29 and Ephesians 4:11-13.

Ellen White's writings bring messages of hope that express the love of Jesus for every person. She proclaimed that the Ten Commandments are based on God's great love and that God will help His children keep His commandments as a response to that love. Ellen White dedicated her entire life to serving others.

The editors of *Visionary* invite you to read Ellen White's writings for yourself to discover, enjoy, and build a stronger friendship with Jesus.

For more fun stories and puzzles, visit our online edition of *Visionary* at www.whiteestate.org/vez.

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