

## The NKJV is NOT NEW.

The NKJV makes over 100,000 word changes. And the changes are already in the NIV, NASV, RSV, and NRSV!

## It is NOT TRUE to the King James Bible.

Thomas Nelson Publishers have the audacity to claim in an ad for the NKJV (Moody Monthly, June 1982, back cover), “NOTHING HAS BEEN CHANGED except to make the original meaning clearer.”

## The New King James is a COUNTERFEIT.

Additional information on the King James Bible is available from:

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# NEW KING JAMES VERSION



## COUNTERFEIT

by Dr. Terry Watkins, Th.D.

**counterfeit** \ˈkaunt-er-ˈfit\ : to imitate or copy closely especially with intent to deceive. (Webster's Dictionary)

The greatest deception is to counterfeit.

And the master counterfeiter is Satan.

2 Corinthians 11:14-15 warns of Satan's counterfeit: “And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; . . .” Isaiah 14:14, reveals Satan's ultimate counterfeit: “. . . I will be like the most High.”

Among his greatest counterfeits is the New King James Bible (NKJV). Christians that would never touch a New International Version (NIV), Revised Standard (RSV), or other per-versions are being “seduced” by the subtil NKJV.

Although the New King James does indeed bear a “likeness” to the 1611 King James Bible, as you will soon see, there is something else coiled (see Genesis 3:1) “underneath the cover” of the NKJV.

The Preface to the New King James Version reads, “A special feature of the New King James Version is ITS CONFORMITY to the thought flow of the 1611 Bible. . . the new edition, while much clearer ARE SO CLOSE to the traditional. . .”

Among the first changes that greets the reader of the NKJV is the removal of the much maligned “thee, thou and ye”. The Preface to the NKJV states, “. . .thee, thou, and ye are replaced

by the simple you. . . These pronouns are no longer part of our language.” But they were no longer part of our language during 1611 either. Webster's Third New International Dictionary, says of ye: “used from the earliest of times to the late 13th century. . .” (p.2648) So why are they there?

The Greek and Hebrew use a different word for the second person singular and the second person plural pronouns. Today we use the one-word “you” for both the singular and plural. But because the translators of the 1611 King James Bible desired an accurate, word-for-word translation of the Hebrew and Greek text they could not use the one-word “you”. If it begins with “t” (thou, thy, thine) it is singular. If it begins with “y” (ye) it is plural.

By the way, if the NKJV translators are so concerned with the outdated “thee’s and thou’s” — why aren’t they rushing to update our hymnbooks? “How Great Thou Art” should be “How Great You Are”, and “Come Thou Fount” to “Come You Fount” It just does not sound right, does it? It is amazing that they would not dare touch our hymns — and yet, without the slightest hesitation, they will change the word of God!

The NKJV claims to make the KJV “much clearer” by “updating obsolete words” (NKJV, 1982e. p. 1235)

How about that “obsolete word” — “hell”? The NKJV removes the word hell 23 times! And how do they make it “much clearer”? By replacing hell with Hades and Sheol. Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines Hades: “the underground abode of the dead in Greek MYTHOLOGY”. The NKJV turns your Bible into MYTHOLOGY! Not only that, Hades is not always a place of torment or terror. The Assyrian Hades is an abode of blessedness with silver skies called “Happy Fields”. In the satanic New Age Movement, Hades is an intermediate state of purification.

Who in their right mind thinks “Hades” or “Sheol” is more up-to-date and clearer than “hell”?

**Matthew 16:18**

**KJV:** “And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

**NKJV:** “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”

**Luke 16:23**

**KJV:** “And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.”

**NKJV:** “And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.”

Hell is removed in 2 Sam. 22:6, Job 11:8, 26:6, Psalm 16:10, 18:5, 86:13, 116:3, Isaiah 5:14, 14:15, 28:15,18, 57:9, Jonah 2:2, Matt. 11:23, 16:18, Luke 10:15, 16:23, Acts 2:27, 31, Rev. 1:18, 6:8, 20:13,14.

Then the NKJV decides that maybe “grave” should be “Hades”. So the NKJV makes 1 Corinthians 15:55 “much clearer” by changing “grave” to “Hades”. “. . . O Hades, where is your victory?” Clear as mud. . .

Another one of those obsolete words is “repent”. The NKJV takes it out 44 times. And how does the NKJV make it “much clearer”? In Matthew 21:32 they use “relent”. Matthew 27:3 it is “remorseful” Or Romans 11:29 they change “repentance” to “irrevocable”.

The term “new testament” is NOT in the NKJV. (see Matt. 26:28, Mark 14:24, Luke 22:20, 1 Cor. 11:25, 2 Cor. 3:6, Heb. 9:15.) The NKJV replaces “new testament” with “new covenant” (ditto NIV, NRSV, RSV, NASV). An obvious assault at the written word.

The word “damned”, “damnation” is NOT in the NKJV. They make it “much clearer” by replacing it with “condemn”. (ditto NIV, RSV, NRSV, NASV) “Condemned” is NO WHERE NEAR AS SERIOUS as “damned”. Damned is eternal! One can be “condemned” and not “damned”. Romans 14:22 says, “. . . Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth.” Webster defines “condemned”: to declare to be wrong, but the much more serious and eternal “damn”: “to condemn to hell”.

The word “devils” is NOT in the NKJV. (the singular, “devil” is) It is replaced with the “transliterated” Greek word “demon” (ditto NIV, RSV, NRSV, NASV). The Theosophical Dictionary describes demon as: “. . . it has a meaning identical with that of ‘god’, ‘angel’ or ‘genius’”. Even Vines Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words (p.157) defines “demon” as: “an inferior deity, WHETHER GOOD OR BAD”. Webster defines “demon” as: “divinity, spirit, an attendant power or spirit”, but “devil” as: “the personal supreme spirit of EVIL”.

In 2 Timothy 2:15, the NKJV (like the NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV) remove that “obsolete” word — “study”. The only time you are told to “study” your Bible. AND THEY ZAP IT! Why don't they want you to “study” your Bible? Maybe they don't want you to look too close — you might find out what they're DOING to your Bible! The “real” KJV is the only English Bible that instructs you to “study” your Bible.

That “obsolete” word “virtue” is replaced with “power” in Mark 5:30, Luke 6:19, 8:46. How does anybody confuse “virtue” with “power”? Simple — by being “bosom-buddies” with the NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV — that is what they did!

One of the most absurd changes ever made is changing the word “servant” to “slave”. The NKJV in Romans 6:22, reads: “But now having been set FREE from sin, and having become SLAVES OF GOD. . .” The NKJV, in 1 Corinthians 7:22, calls the Christian, “Christ's slave”. Talk about a contradiction! John 8:36 says, “If the Son therefore shall make you FREE, YE SHALL BE FREE INDEED.” But isn't a Christian supposed to serve? Yes, in love. Not as a slave! Galatians 5:13 explains it, perfectly: “For, brethren, ye have been called unto LIBERTY; (not slavery!) only use not LIBERTY for an occasion to the flesh, but BY LOVE SERVE one another.”

In order to “harmonize” with the satanic New Age Movement (and of course the NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV), the NKJV changes “end of the WORLD” to “end of the AGE”. And it is no longer the “WORLD to come” but “AGE to come”. The New Age Movement teaches a series of

ages (hence the name: New AGE). See Matthew 12:32, 13:39, 13:40, 13:49, 24:3, 28:20, Mark 10:30, Luke 13:30, 20:34,35, 1 Cor 1:21.

The New Age Movement and the occult are longing for one called the Maitreya. The Bible calls him the Anti-Christ. New Ager's refer to him as the **"the Coming One" — AND SO DOES THE NKJV!** In Luke 7:19, 20 (see also Matt 11:3) John told his disciples to ask Jesus: **"Are You THE COMING ONE. . ."** In "The Great Invocation", a prayer highly revered among New Agers and chanted to invoke the Maitreya, says, **"Let Light and Love and Power and Death, Fulfill the purpose of the Coming One."**

And to REALLY show their sympathy with the satanic New Age Movement — **BELIEVE IT OR NOT — in Acts 17:29 the New Age NKJV changes "Godhead" to "Divine Nature"!** (ditto NIV, NASV) Wow!

And if you think the NKJV just "innocently" updated the "obsolete words" and removed the "thee's and thou's" — **here is what the translators proudly admit: "IT IS CLEAR that this revision REQUIRED MORE than the dropping of "eth" endings, removing, "thee's" and "thou's," and updating obsolete words."** (*The New King James Version*, 1982e. p. 1235) **AND THEY AIN'T JUST A KIDDIN'!**

### Here is some of the REQUIRED changes:

**Genesis 2:18:** NKJV should make Hillary Clinton proud: **"And the Lord God said, It is not good that man should be alone; I will make a helper COMPARABLE TO HIM"**

**Genesis 22:8:** One of the greatest verses in the Bible proclaiming that Jesus Christ was God in the flesh: **"God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering."** The NKJV adds that little "for": **"God will provide FOR Himself the lamb for a burnt offering"**, and destroys the wonderful promise! Where did they get their little "for"? **From the NASV!**

**Genesis 24:47:** The "old" KJV reads: **"I put the earring upon her face"**. But the NKJV has different plans for beautiful Rebekah: **"I put the nose ring on her nose"**. Where did it get the ridiculous idea to make a cannibal out of Rebekah? **Just take a peek in the NIV, NASV, RSV!**

**Ezra 8:36:** The KJV reads, **"And they delivered the king's commissions unto the king's lieutenants. . ."** The "much clearer" NKJV reads, **"And they delivered the king's orders to the king's satraps. . ."** Who in the world thinks "satraps" is much clearer than lieutenants? **The NIV, NASV, NRSV, RSV — they do! They put in the same "much clearer" word!**

**Psalms 109:6:** NKJV removes "Satan". (NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV).

**Matthew 7:14:** NKJV changes **"narrow is the way" to "difficult is the way"**. There is nothing **"difficult"** about the salvation of Jesus Christ. Jesus says in Matthew 11:30, **"For my yoke is EASY, and my burden is light."** **THE EXACT OPPOSITE! Boy, you talk about a contradiction!**

**Matthew 12:40:** NKJV changes "whale" to "fish" (ditto NIV) I don't guess it matters (*what's the truth got to do with it?*), the Greek word used in Matthew 12:40 is *ketos*. The scientific study of whales just happens to be — **CETOLOGY** — from the Greek *ketos* for whale and *logos* for study! The scientific name for whales just happens to be — **CETACEANS** — from the Greek word *ketos* for whale!

**Matthew 18:26 & 20:20:** The NKJV removes "worshipped him" (robbing worship from Jesus) (NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV)

**Mark 13:6 & Luke 21:8:** removes "Christ". (NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV)

**John 1:3:** change **"All things were made BY him,"** to **"All things were made THROUGH Him"**. (NIV, NRSV, RSV)

**John 4:24:** change **"God is a spirit"** to the impersonal, New Age pantheistic, **"God is spirit"**. (NIV, NASV, NRSV, RSV)

**John 14:2:** (NKJV 1979 edition) change **"mansions"** to **"dwelling places"**. (NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV)

**John 14:16:** change **"comforter"** to **"helper"**. (refers to Holy Spirit) (NASV)

**Acts 4:27, 30:** change **"holy child"** to **"holy servant"** (attacks deity of Jesus Christ). (NIV, NASV, NRSV, RSV)

**Acts 12:4:** change **"Easter"** to **"Passover"**. (NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV)

**Acts 17:22:** changes **"superstitious"** to **"religious"**. (NIV, NASV, NRSV, RSV)

**Acts 24:14:** change **"heresy"** to **"sect"**. (NIV, NASV, NRSV, RSV)

**Romans 1:18:** change **"hold the truth"** to **"suppress the truth"**. (NIV, NASV, NRSV, RSV)

**Romans 1:25:** change **"changed the truth"** to **"exchanged the truth"**. (NIV, NASV, NRSV, RSV)

**Romans 5:8:** change **"commendeth"** to **"demonstrates"**. (NIV, NASV)

**Romans 16:18:** change **"good words and fair speeches"** to **"smooth words and flattering speech"**. (NIV, NASV, NRSV)

**1 Corinthians 1:21:** change **"foolishness of preaching"** to **"foolishness OF THE MESSAGE preached"** (ditto NIV, NASV, NRSV, RSV) There is nothing foolish about the gospel of Jesus Christ. **Unless you are not saved!** 1 Cor. 1:18 says: **"For the preaching of the cross is to them THAT PERISH foolishness. . ."** **I wonder where that leaves the translators of the NKJV, NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV?**

**1 Cor. 1:22:** change **"require"** to **"request"**. (NASV)

**1 Cor. 6:9:** remove **"effeminate"**. (NIV, NRSV, RSV)

**1 Cor. 9:27:** change **"castaway"** to **"disqualified"**. (NIV, NASV, NRSV, RSV)

**2 Cor. 2:10:** change **"person of Christ"** to **"presence of Christ"**. (NASV, NRSV, RSV)

**2 Cor. 2:17:** With all the **"corruptions"** in the NKJV, you'd expect 2 Cor. 2:17 to change. **IT DOES!** They change, **"For we are not as many which CORRUPT the word of God"** to **"For we are not, as so many, PEDDLING the word of God"** (ditto NIV, NASV, NRSV, RSV)

**2 Cor. 5:17:** change **"new creature"** to **"new creation"**. (NIV, NRSV, RSV)

**2 Cor. 10:5:** change **"imaginings"** to **"arguments"**. Considering New Age "imaging" and "visualization" is now in the church, this verse in the "old" KJV just won't do. (NIV, RSV)

## What about the mysterious symbol on the NKJV?

Symbols are used in the occult. *Harpers' Encyclopedia of Mystical & Paranormal Experience* (p.594) says, **"Symbols are important to all esoteric teachings, for they contain secret wisdom accessible only to the initiated."**



Thomas Nelson Publishers (publishers of the NKJV) claim, the symbol, ". . . is an ancient symbol for the Trinity."

But Acts 17:29, clearly FORBIDS such symbology: ". . . we ought NOT to think that the GODHEAD is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, GRAVEN BY ART and man's device."

Why does *The Aquarian Conspiracy*, a key New Age "handbook", bear a similar symbol? New Agers freely admit it represents three inter-woven "6"s or "666".

Constance Cumbeby, author of *The Hidden Dangers of the Rainbow* and a notable authority on the New Age Movement, said, "On the cover of the Aquarian Conspiracy is a Mobius, it is really used by them as triple six (666). The emblem on the cover of the New King James Bible is said to be an ancient symbol of the Trinity. The old symbol had gnostic origins. It was more gnostic than Christian. I was rather alarmed when I noticed the emblem..." (The New Age Movement, Southwest Radio Church, 1982 p.11)



LEFT: The three esoteric 6's separated.

In *Blood on the Doorposts*, by former Satanists, Bill and Sharon Schnoebelen, claims it is "symbolic of the anti-christ".

"A disguised interlocked trio of sixes, symbolic of the anti-christ. . . has recently found its way into the logo of the New King James Bible." (Bill and Sharon Schnoebelen, *Blood on the Doorposts*, p. 150)

### THE NKJV & WITCHCRAFT?

*The Craft Companion*, by witch, Dorothy Morrison, also bears the NKJV symbol. It is a book of spells, enchantments, and rituals.



The NKJV symbol is also on several other witchcraft and occult books.

Dr. Cathy Burns, writes in her book, *Masonic and Occult Symbols Illustrated*, about the "NKJV symbol":

"Marilyn Ferguson, a New Ager, used the symbol of the triquetra on her book *The Aquarian Conspiracy*. This is a variation for the number 666. . . I think it is quite interesting to see that this same symbol appears on the cover of the New King James Bible as well!" (Dr. Cathy Burns, *Masonic and Occult Symbols Illustrated*, pp. 242-243)

**Would God "mark" His word with a symbol in the occult?**

**2 Cor. 11:6:** change **"rude in speech"** to **"untrained in speech"**. (NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV)

**Gal. 2:20:** omit **"nevertheless I live"**. (NIV, NASV, NRSV, RSV)

**Phil. 2:6:** (NKJV 1979e.) change **"thought it not robbery to be equal with God"** to **"did not consider equality with God something to be grasped"**. (robs Jesus Christ of deity) (NIV, NASV, RSV)

**Phil. 3:8:** change **"dung"** to **"rubbish"**. (NIV, NASV, NRSV)

**1 Thess. 5:22** change **"all appearance of evil"** to **"every form of evil"**. (NASV, RSV, NRSV)

**1 Timothy 6:5:** changes **"gain is godliness"** to **"godliness is a MEANS OF gain"**. There are NO Greek texts with "means of" in them. **Where, oh where, did that come from? Care to take a wild guess? YOU GOT IT! The NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV, and other perversion-buddies.**

**1 Timothy 6:10:** The NKJV change **"For the love of money is the root of all evil."** to **"For the love of money is a root of all KINDS OF evil"**. The words "kinds of" are found in NO Greek text in the world. **Where did they get them? Straight from the NIV, NASV, NRSV!**

**1 Tim. 6:20:** change **"science"** to **"knowledge"**. (NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV)

**Titus 3:10:** change **"heretic"** to **"divisive man"**. (NIV)

**Hebrews 4:8 & Acts 7:45:** "Jesus" is changed to **"Joshua"**. (NIV, NASV, RSV)

**2 Pet. 2:1:** change **"damnable heresies"** to **"destructive heresies"**. (NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV)

**1 John 3:16:** remove **"love of God"**. (NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV)

**1 John 5:13:** The NKJV reads: **"These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may CONTINUE TO believe in the name of the Son of God."** They add **"CONTINUE TO"** without any Greek text whatsoever! Not even the perverted NIV, NASV, NRSV and RSV go that far. **A cruel, subtil (see Genesis 3:1) attack on the believer's eternal security!**

**Rev. 2:13:** NKJV change **"Satan's seat"** to **"Satan's throne"**. (NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV)

**Rev. 6:14:** "Heaven" is changed to **"sky"**. (NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV)

- The NKJV removes **"Lord"** 66 times!
- The NKJV removes **"God"** 51 times!
- The NKJV removes **"heaven"** 50 times!

### The NKJV removes 20,066 words!

That is the equivalent of removing Obadiah, Haggai, Colossians, I Thessalonians, II Thessalonians, II Timothy, Titus, Philemon, James, I Peter, II Peter, I John, II John, III John and Jude — **COMBINED!**

### The NKJV is a counterfeit!