



by Terry Watkins

**coun ter feit** \'kaunt-er-fit\: to imitate or copy closely  
*especially with intent to deceive.*

***The greatest method of deception is to counterfeit.  
And the master of counterfeit and deception is Satan.***

The Bible in 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 tells of Satan's ultimate counterfeit: "... I will BE LIKE the most High."

And among his greatest counterfeit's is the New King James Bible (NKJV). Christians that would never touch a New International Version (NIV), New American Standard (NASV), Revised Standard (RSV), the New Revised Standard (NRSV) or other *per*-versions are being "seduced" by the subtle NKJV.

And though the New King James does indeed bear a "likeness" to the 1611 King James Bible, as you'll soon see, there's something else coiled (see Genesis 3:1) "*underneath the cover*" of the NKJV. The Preface to the New King James Version (NKJV) 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 "*thee, thou and ye*" were "*NO LONGER part of the language*" during 1611 either. (just read the intro to the 1611 King James, there are no "*thee*", "*thou*" and "*ye*"). In fact, *Webster's Third New International Dictionary*, says of *ye*: "*used from the earliest of times to the late 13th century...*" (p.2648) And yet the 1611 King James was published 400 years later in the 17th century!

## **So why are they there?**

The Greek and Hebrew language contain 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" throughout! If it begins with "t" (thou, thy, thine) it's SINGULAR, but if it begins with "y" (ye) it's PLURAL.** Ads for the NKJV call it "the Accurate One", and yet the 1611 King James, by using "thee", "thou", "ye", is far more accurate!

By the way, if the "thee's" and "thou's" are "...no longer part of our language" - why aren't the NKJV translators rushing to make our hymnbooks "much clearer"? "How Great Thou Art" to "How Great You Are", or "Come Thou Fount" to "Come You Fount" *Doesn't sound right, does it?* Isn't it amazing that they wouldn't dare "correct" our hymns - **and yet, without the slightest hesitation, they'll "correct" the word of God!**

The NKJV claims to make the "old" KJV "much clearer" by "*updating obsolete words*" (*New King James Version*, 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*". By making it "much clearer" - *they turn 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 would think "Hades" or "Sheol" is "up-to-date" and "much 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 lift 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 "Hades" should be "grave"! 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". They take it out 44 times! And how does the NKJV make it "much clearer"? In Matthew 21:32 they use "relent". Matthew 27:3 it's "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" (the singular, person called the "devil" is) is NOT in the NKJV! 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're 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've ACTUALLY done to your Bible!* The "real" KJV is the only English Bible in the world 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's 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 in it's 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 "The Great Invocation", a "prayer" highly reverenced among New Agers and chanted to "invoke" the Maitreya, says, "*Let Light and Love and Power and Death, Fulfil 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)*

And if you think the NKJV just "innocently" updated the "obsolete words", removed the "thee's and thou's" - here's 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)

## **Here's a sampling of the required changes:**

**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 word "for": "*God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering*" And destroys the wonderful promise! Where'd they get their little "for"? **From the NASV!**

**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:** removes "Satan". (NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV).

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

**Matthew 12:40:** change "*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 *ketus*. The scientific study of whales just happens to be - ***CETOLOGY*** - from the Greek *ketus* for whale and *logos* for study! The scientific name for whales just happens to be - ***CETACEANS*** - from the Greek *ketus* for whale!

**Matthew 18:26 & Matthew 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*" (refers to Jesus) (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 Cor. 1:21:** change "*foolishness of preaching*" to "**foolishness of the message preached**" (ditto NIV, NASV, NRSV, RSV) There's nothing foolish about the gospel of Jesus Christ. **Unless you're 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. 6:9:** removes "*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 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 entering the church, this verse in the "old" KJV just won't do. (NIV, RSV)

**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, NSRV)

**1 Timothy 6:5:** The NKJV 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 they come from? Care to take a wild guess? **YOU GOT IT!** The NIV, NASV, RSV, NRSV!

**1 Timothy 6:10:** The NKJV changes "*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, subtle (see Genesis 3:1) attack on the believer's eternal security!

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

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

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**AND THAT DOESN'T SCRATCH THE SURFACE OF ALL THE CHANGES!**

***The NKJV removes the word "Lord" 66 times!***

***The NKJV removes the word God 51 times!***

***The NKJV removes the word "heaven" 50 times!***

***In just the New Testament alone the NKJV removes 2,289 words from the KJV!***

***The NKJV makes over 100,000 word changes!***

***And most will match the NIV, NASV, RSV, or RSV!***

***The New King James is a COUNTERFEIT!***

***It's NOT NEW! The changes are already in the NIV, NASV, NRSV, or RSV!***