

Bible Translated

By Natalie Lawson

The history of the bible can be overwhelming. I thoroughly enjoyed some of the ancient bibles because of the paintings included by famous painters. The word bible derives from the Greek phrase meaning "the books." The Old Testament is a varied collection of poetry and prose including history, legend, law, ballads, genealogies, and sermons, morals to philosophy, proverbs, hymns or psalms. It represents a life of a nation including its culture and tradition for more than a thousand years.

The absence of printing and few that could read early on, fortunes were put into Slavonian dialects in the 9th and 11th centuries then into Spanish in the 12th century. There was a complete French bible in the 13th century. Early translations of portions into German dialects went into the Gutenberg bible, printed before 1456. Anglo-Saxon Caedmon made paraphrases in the 7th century and Bede translated the gospel of John in the 8th century.

The first in modern English was that of Tyndale, working from the Hebrew and Greek text, to produce a new testament in 1525, then the first half of the old testament, for which he was burned at the stake in 1536. The Roman Catholic Douay Version from the Latin Vulgate was produced by English refugees: the New Testament (Rheims Bible) in 1582 and the Old Testament in 1609-1610. The King James Authorized Version was produced in 1611.

In America the first complete printed bible was translated into Indian language by John Elliot which was published in Cambridge Massachusetts in 1663. The first American English edition of the bible was printed in Philadelphia in 1782.

In life, Presidents swear on the bible to be honorable and only then are they given the responsibility to lead the nation.