



Bible Translation Literacy Tool

 Bibles in Bulk

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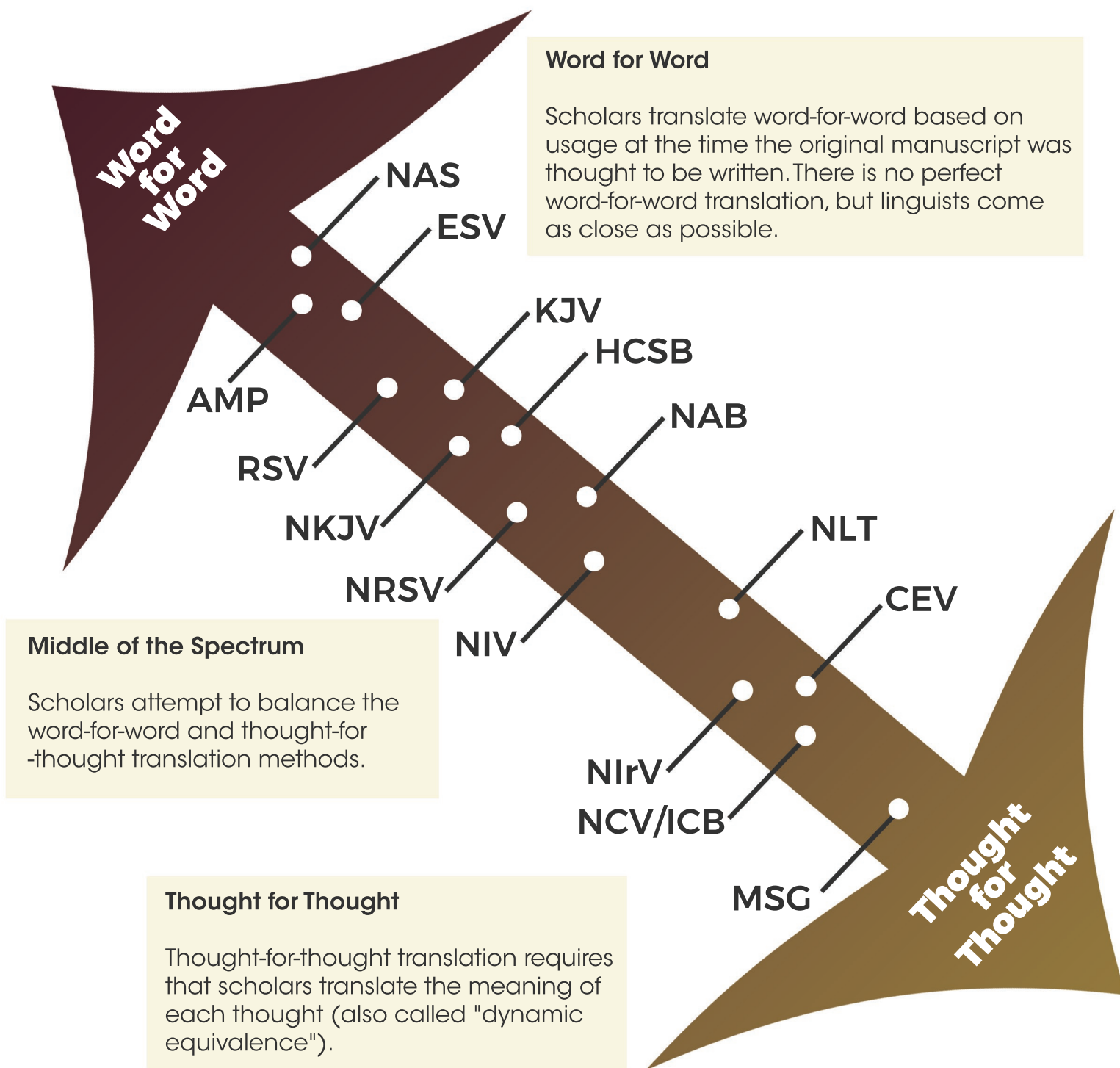
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Scholars have been translating the Bible for over 2,000 years, resulting in dozens of translations. What's the difference between these translations?

When looking to choose a Bible translation, it is important to note the method of translation used. Two main methods of translation have arisen over the years: "word for word" and "thought for thought."

This graphic shows where major translations fall on this translation spectrum.



Why Use More Than One Translation?

The simple answer is that translation varies. Scholars have different methods in translation and it affects the words chosen in the process. By studying more than one translation, you can get a fuller understanding of each verse and insight into its original meaning.

Easily Compare Key Scriptures at Glance

	<p>AMP</p> <p>"I will declare the decree of the Lord: He said to Me, You are My Son; this day [I declare] I have begotten you."</p>	<p>ESV</p> <p>"I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."</p>	<p>KJV</p> <p>"I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, "Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee."</p>	<p>NKJV</p> <p>"I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You."</p>
Reading Level*	11	10	12	7
	<p>HCSB</p> <p>"I will declare the LORD's decree: He said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have become Your Father."</p>	<p>NRSV</p> <p>"I will tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "You are my son; today I have begotten you."</p>	<p>NIV</p> <p>"I will proclaim the LORD's decree: He said to me, "You are my son; today I have become your father."</p>	<p>NAB</p> <p>"I will proclaim the decree of the LORD, who said to me, "You are my son; today I am your father."</p>
Reading Level*	7-8	11	7-8	9
	<p>NLT</p> <p>"The king proclaims the LORD's decree: "The LORD said to me, 'You are my son. Today I have become your Father."</p>	<p>CEV</p> <p>"I will tell you promise the LORD made to me: "You are my son, because today I have become your father."</p>	<p>NCV/ICB</p> <p>"Now I will tell you what the LORD has declared: He said to me, "You are my son. Today I have become your father."</p>	<p>Message</p> <p>"Let me tell you what GOD said next. He said, "You're my son, and today is your birthday."</p>
Reading Level*	6	5	3	4-5

*Reading level: These grades are approximations based on information from the publisher. Not everyone agrees on the reading levels assigned to each Bible or the formula used to estimate them. Please use them as general guidelines for your consideration.