

Rejoice or Be Proud?

In the true Holy Bible boasting in oneself is never commended as a good thing. Scripture allows for boasting in the accomplishments of others, but not in ourselves. For example, see 2 Corinthians 7:14; 8:24, and 9:3-4. Here the apostle Paul boasted to others of the Corinthians because they were ready to provide for the needs of the poor saints in Jerusalem.

Boasting in oneself is done only in a sense of irony, and is called "folly" and speaking foolishly - See 2 Corinthians 11:1, 10, 16-18 "That which I speak, I speak it not after the Lord, but as it were foolishly, in this confidence of boasting. Seeing that many glory after the flesh, I will glory also."

Pride and boasting in oneself is always condemned in the King James Bible as being a sin. Many new versions however have completely turned this around in several verses of Scripture, and have now made pride in self and boasting to be Christian virtues.

"Pride and arrogance...do I hate" Proverbs 8:13

"When pride cometh, then cometh shame; but with the lowly is wisdom. Proverbs 11:2

"Pride goeth before destruction" Proverbs 16:18

"This know also that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be...boasters, proud...heady, highminded" 2 Timothy 3:1-4. "not of works; lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:9

Compare the King James Bible with the NASB, NIV, ESV, Holman Standard, and the NKJV in these verses.

Galatians 6:4 KJB "Let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have REJOICING in himself alone". This is the reading of Tyndale 1525, Coverdale 1535, Bishop's Bible 1568, Geneva Bible 1587, John Wesley's 1755 translation, Webster's 1833 translation, the NKJV 1982, KJV 21st Century, and the Third Millennium Bible.

However the NASB and Holman say: "he will have REASON FOR BOASTING in regard TO himself"; NIV "he can TAKE PRIDE IN HIMSELF", and the ESV says: "then his REASON TO BOAST WILL BE IN HIMSELF ALONE."

James 1:9 KJB "Let the brother of low degree REJOICE in that he is exalted."

NASB "the brother of humble circumstances IS TO GLORY in his high position";

NIV "the brother in humble circumstances OUGHT TO TAKE PRIDE IN his high position."

RSV, ESV, and Holman: "Let the lowly brother BOAST IN his exaltation."

2 Corinthians 1:12, 14 KJB, Tyndale, Coverdale, Bishop's, Geneva, TMB, and others: "For our REJOICING is this...by the grace of God we have had our conversation in the world...we are your REJOICING, even as ye also are ours in the day of the Lord Jesus."

NASB "For our PROUD CONFIDENCE is this...that in holiness...we have conducted ourselves in the world...we are YOUR REASON TO BE PROUD, as you also are ours..."

NKJV, NIV, RSV, ESV "Now this is our BOAST...we behaved ourselves in the world...YOU CAN BOAST OF US just as we will BOAST OF YOU in the day of the Lord Jesus."

Holman Standard: "For our BOAST is this....we are YOUR REASON FOR PRIDE..."

1 Thessalonians 2:19 KJB, NKJV, Youngs, Tyndale 1525, Coverdale 1535, Bishop's 1568, Geneva 1599, Wesley 1755, Webster's 1833, Third Millenium Bible: - "For what is our hope, or joy, or crown OF REJOICING? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?"

The NASB is OK here with "what is our crown of exultation?", but the NIV begins the slide into pride with "What is the crown in which we will glory"?, and the RSV, and the 2001 ESV go all the way saying: "For what is our hope or joy or CROWN OF BOASTING before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you?" Do the apostles get a crown in which to boast because they had won others to the Lord?

Philippians 1:26 KJB, NKJV, many others: "That your REJOICING may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again."

NASB "so that YOUR PROUD CONFIDENCE in me may abound"

RSV, ESV "you will have ample CAUSE TO GLORY"

Here the NIV has "your JOY in Christ will overflow" which is perfectly acceptable. Rejoicing is not the same as proud confidence. Greek words often have multiple meanings, and the ones used in these verses can mean to glory, to boast, to joy, or to rejoice, depending on the context and intent. All the modern versions will at times render these words as "to rejoice", "to joy", or "to exult". It is when they translate them so as to make pride and boasting in oneself a Christian virtue rather than a sin that they clearly have perverted the true words of God.

Philippians 2:16 KJB, Tyndale, Coverdale, Bishop's, Geneva, Young's, Webster's, KJV 21, NKJV, and theThird Millenium Bible : "that I may REJOICE in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain."

NASB: "in the day of Christ I may have REASON TO GLORY because I did not run in vain"

NIV, Holman Standard: "in order that I MAY BOAST in the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing."

RSV, ESV "so that in the day of Christ I MAY BE PROUD that I did not run in vain."

On the day of Christ, when we finally see the full glory of God Almighty, we will not be standing around boasting of our accomplishments and patting one another on the back and telling them how proud we are of them. Nobody will be boasting or proud of his personal accomplishments in the day of the Lord Jesus. Instead we will all be flat on our faces worshipping the Lamb who alone is worthy to receive praise, honour and glory, and rejoicing in all that He has done in and through His vessels of mercy, which He had afore prepared unto glory.

A common response when both angels and men come into immediate contact with the living God is to fall on their faces in worship before Him. "And all the angels stood round about the

throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, AND FELL BEFORE THE THRONE ON THEIR FACES, and worshipped God.” Revelation 7:11. See also Revelation 4:10; 5:8; 11:16 “And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, FELL UPON THEIR FACES and worshipped God.”; 19:4, 10; Exodus 3:6; Exodus 34:8 Immediately after God revealed His glory and holy character unto Moses, we read: "And Moses made haste, and BOWED HIS HEAD TOWARD THE EARTH, and worshipped." Ezekiel 1:28 “This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD, And when I saw it, I FELL UPON MY FACE, and I heard a voice of one that spake.”; Daniel 10:7-9; Isaiah 6:1-5; and Matthew 17:5-6 “...behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. And when the disciples heard it, THEY FELL ON THEIR FACE, and were sore afraid.”

Here is another example of changing the meaning of a verse as it stands in the true Holy Bible, and now appealing to fleshly pride.

Good understanding or "high esteem" Proverbs 3:4

Proverbs 3 starts off with "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments." Verse 4 reads: "So shalt thou find favour and GOOD UNDERSTANDING in the sight of God and man."

"Good understanding" are two words in Hebrew and English. The word "good" is very common. It is first found in Genesis 1:4 where God saw the light, that it was GOOD." The two words are found together in I Sam. 25:3 describing Abigail, the wife of Nabal, as "a woman of good understanding." Psalm 111:10 says: "a good understanding have all they that do his commandments" and in Proverbs 13:15 "Good understanding giveth favour". Even the NKJV has correctly translated both words as "good understanding" in these three verses.

The word "understanding" is found in Job 17:4 "For thou hast hid their heart from understanding" and in Pro. 16:22 "Understanding is a well-spring of life unto him that hath it." The word is also translated as wisdom, sense, prudence and discretion.

The versions that agree with the KJB here in Proverbs 3:4 "good understanding" are the Revised Version, the ASV, Coverdale, Bishops' Bible, the Geneva Bible, the 1936 Hebrew Publication Society version, Douay, Youngs, the Italian Diodati, Third Millennium Bible, Hebrew Names Version, the Living Bible and even Wallace's NET bible.

However the NKJV says: "and so find favor and HIGH ESTEEM", the NASB has "GOOD REPUTE"; the Holman Standard says: "you will find HIGH REGARD", while the NIV has "A GOOD NAME". The liberal RSV was the first version to pervert the correct sense of this verse. It says: "GOOD REPUTE" and then in a footnote tells us "Cn. (which means they have emended or changed the text) - Hebrew - "understanding."

The NRSV then continued with "GOOD REPUTE" but this time omitted the telling footnote, and now the ESV revision of the revision of the revision says: "you will find GOOD SUCCESS", and then footnotes "or good repute". Yet "repute" was previously acknowledged by

the RSV as being an emendation of the Hebrew text which reads "GOOD UNDERSTANDING."
Do you begin to see how they play this shell game?

The word is not "name" as the NIV has it at all. In fact the NIV only translates this word once as "name"; nor is "repute" correct, as the NASB only once has it; nor is the NKJV's " HIGH ESTEEM."

The meaning of "high esteem" or "a good name" is not at all the same as a "good understanding". There are many who have a good understanding yet they are not highly esteemed by men. Likewise there are many that are of high esteem or good repute among men, but are sadly lacking in spiritual good understanding. The modern versions like the NKJV, NIV, NASB, RSV, ESV and Holman all appeal to the pride of man.

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