

What is the Bible Worth to You?



Jeremiah 36:21-30



- “21 So the king sent Jehudi to bring the scroll, and he took it from Elishama the scribe’s chamber. And Jehudi read it in the hearing of the king and in the hearing of all the princes who stood beside the king. 22 Now the king was sitting in the winter house in the ninth month, with *a fire* burning on the hearth before him.



King Jehoiakim

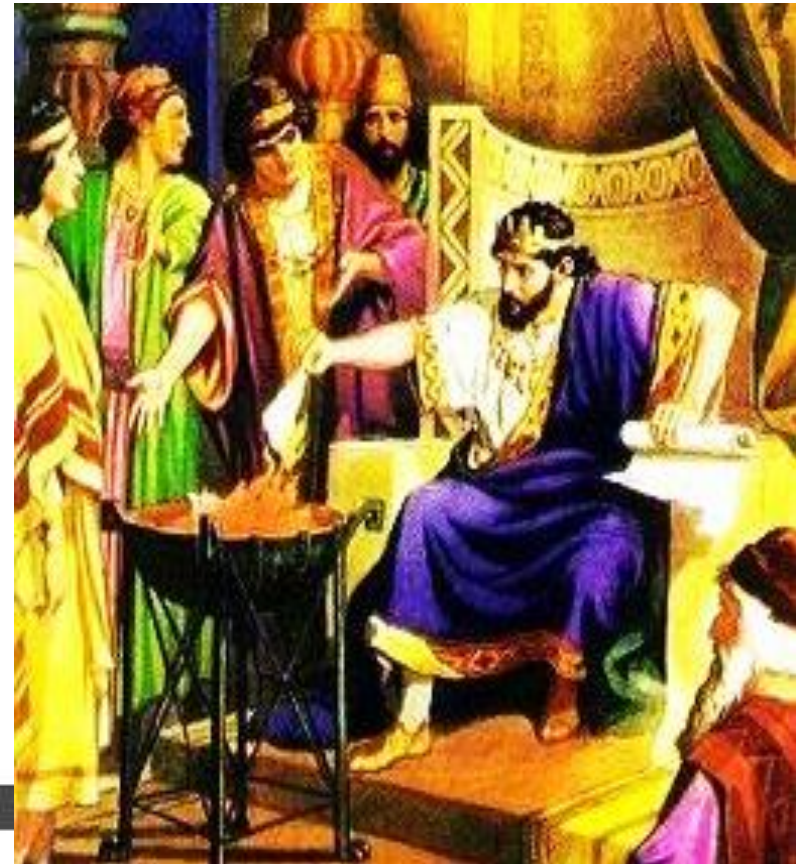
Jeremiah 36:21-30



- 23 And it happened, when Jehudi had read three or four columns, *that the king* cut it with the scribe's knife and cast *it* into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the scroll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth.”



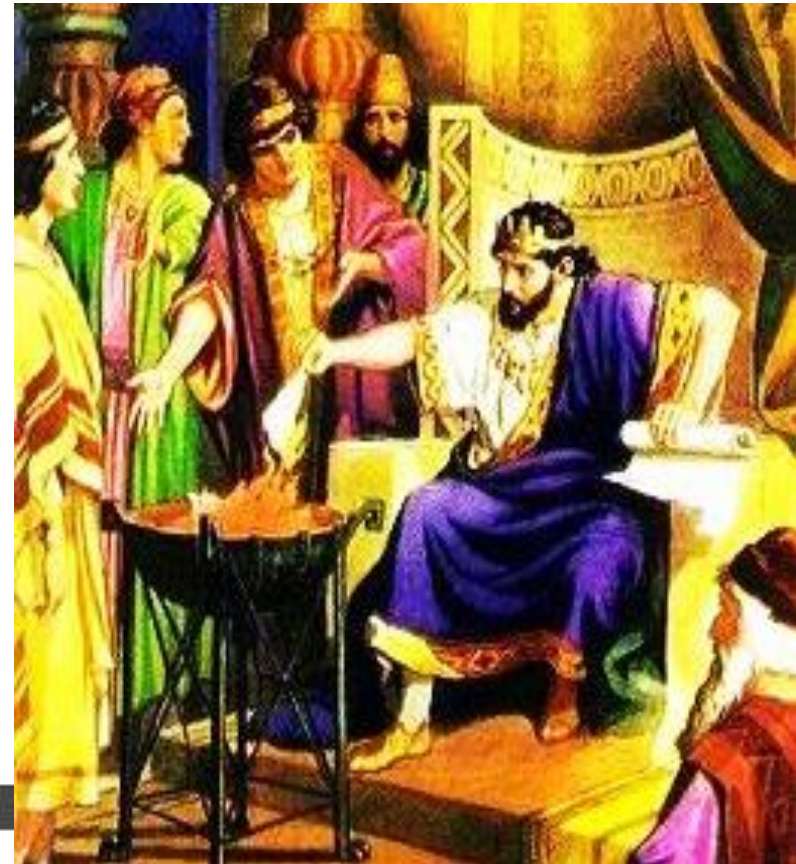
King Jehoiakim



Jeremiah 36:21-30



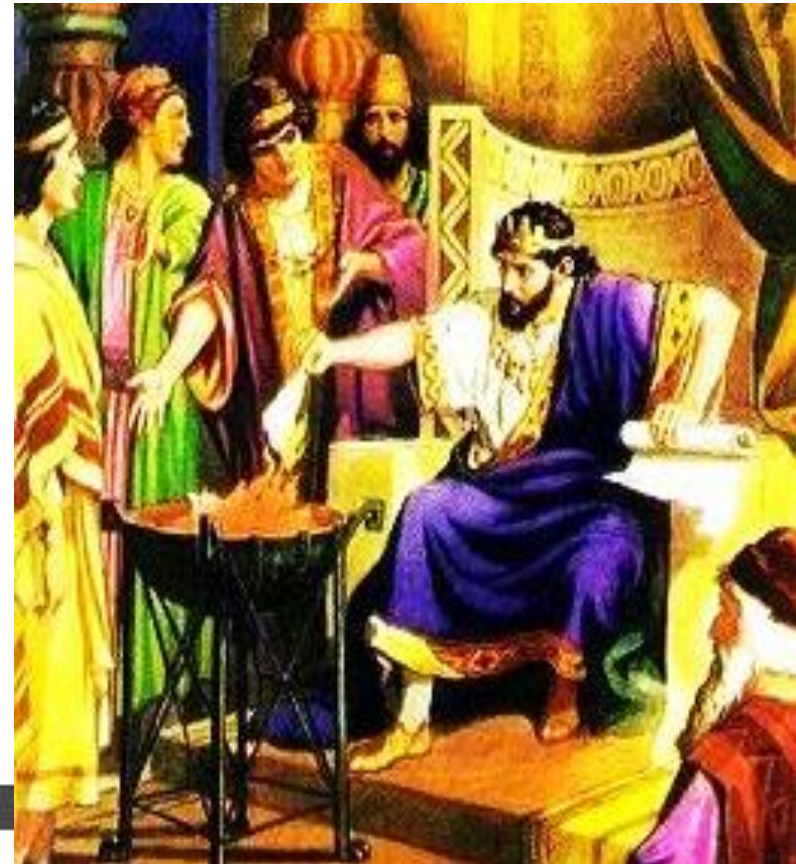
- “27 Now after the king had burned the scroll with the words which Baruch had written at the instruction of Jeremiah, the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying: 28 “Take yet another scroll, and write on it all the former words that were in the first scroll which Jehoiakim the king of Judah has burned.



Jeremiah 36:21-30



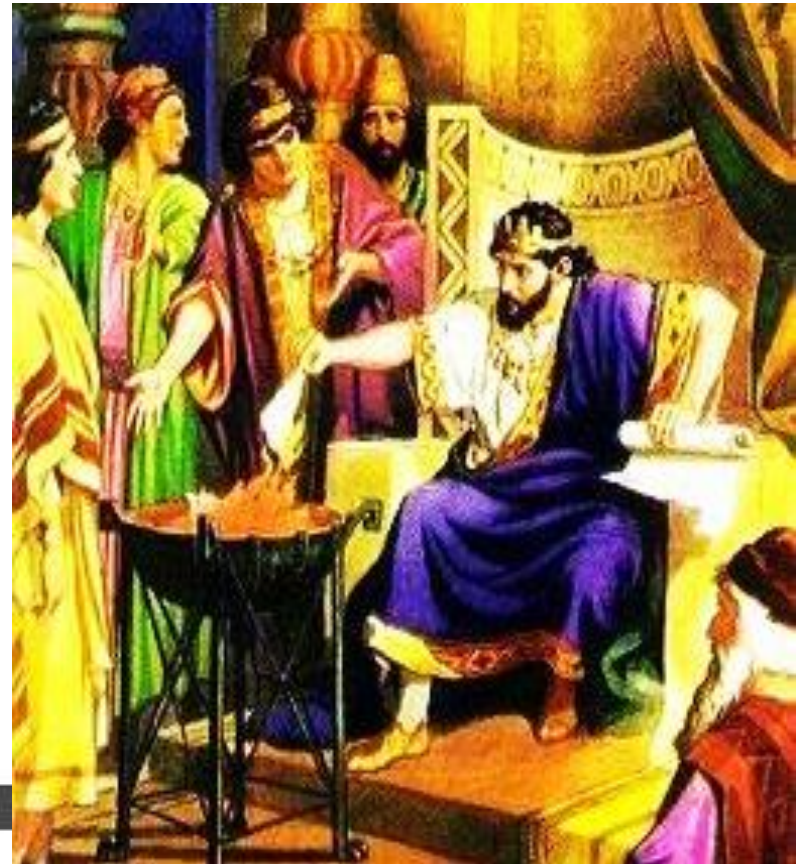
- 29 And you shall say to Jehoiakim king of Judah, ‘Thus says the Lord: “You have burned this scroll, saying, ‘Why have you written in it that the king of Babylon will certainly come and destroy this land, and cause man and beast to cease from here?’”’



Jeremiah 36:21-30



- “30 Therefore thus says the Lord concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah: “He shall have no one to sit on the throne of David, and his dead body shall be cast out to the heat of the day and the frost of the night.””



Satan seeks to destroy the word

**God's people are killed for preaching
the truth**

- The Lord foretold it (Mt. 24:9; Jn. 16:2-3)**
- Stephen (first Christian martyr) – Acts 7**
- Apostles, inspired by the Spirit to write
the NT, all martyred, except John**

Satan seeks to destroy the word

- **Martyrdom of Apostles**

- 1) Peter – crucified upside down

- 2) Andrew – crucified

- 3) James – killed by sword (Acts 12:2)

- 4) John – not killed, but expelled to Patmos

- 5) Philip – crucified

- 6) Bartholomew – flayed and crucified upside down

- 7) James the lesser – thrown from a high point, stoned and beaten to death

Satan seeks to destroy the word

- **Martyrdom of Apostles**

8) **Thaddeus – clubbed to death**

9) **Matthew – burned**

10) **Simon the Zealot – sawn in half**

11) **Thomas – run through with a spear**

12) **Matthias – crucified**

13) **Paul – beheaded**

What is the Bible Worth to You?



Satan seeks to destroy the word



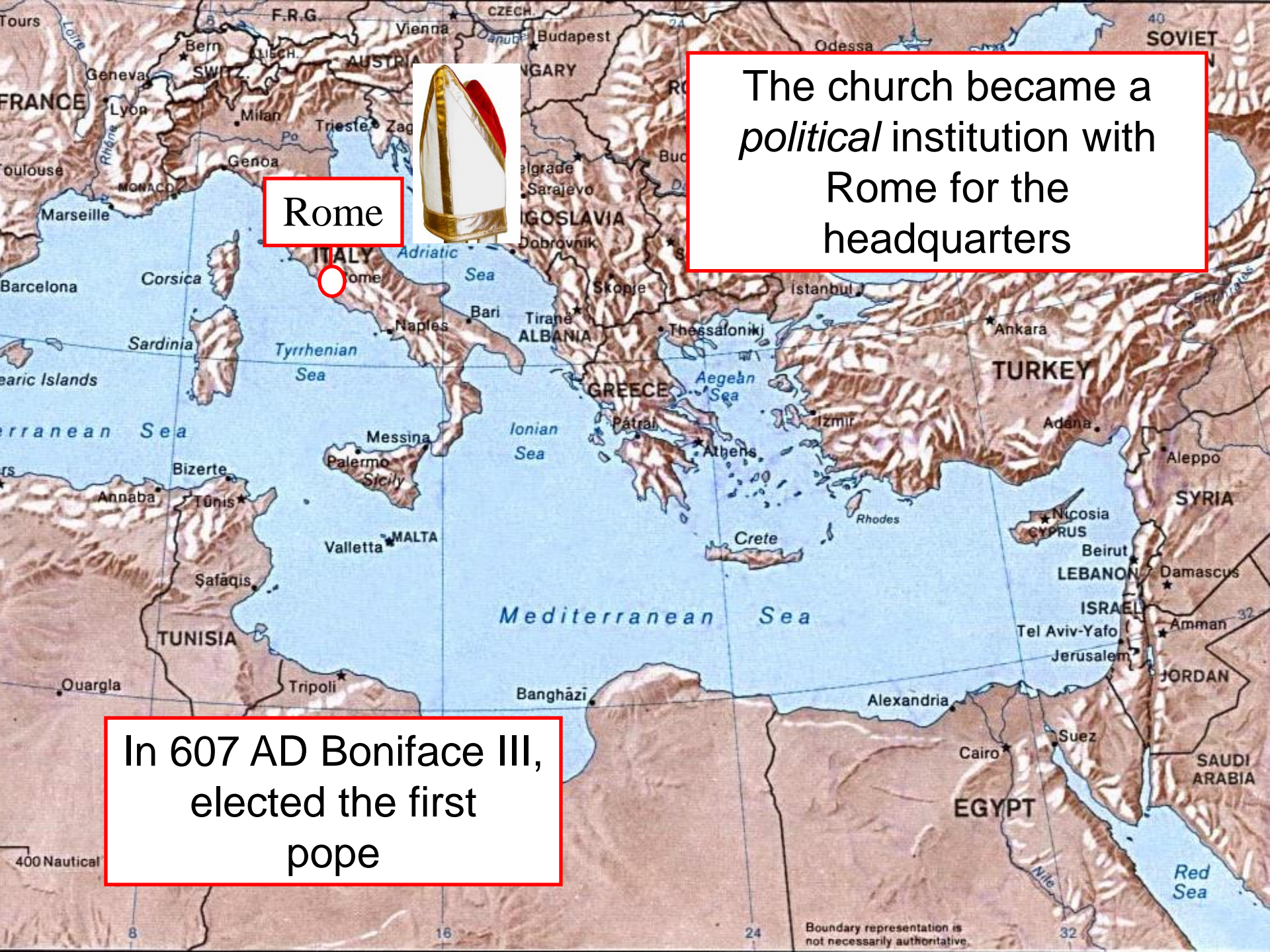
- Diocletian – Emperor (284-305)
 - Sought to destroy texts of the Bible:
 - “In AD 303 Diocletian issued edicts for the active persecution of Christians. Scriptures were confiscated and burned. Prisons became so crowded with Christians that there was no room for criminals, so Christians were exiled, stripped of property, killed by the sword or wild beasts, or sent to labor camps where they were worked to death”
(Halley’s Bible Handbook, p. 980)

The Winds of Change



- Persecution temporarily stopped with the rise of Constantine as emperor in Rome (313 AD)
 - “The man who had been persecuting Christians since “that” persecution (John 1:9) manifest himself to the Roman emperor (John 1:2:7-8)
- Constantine





Rome

The church became a *political* institution with Rome for the headquarters

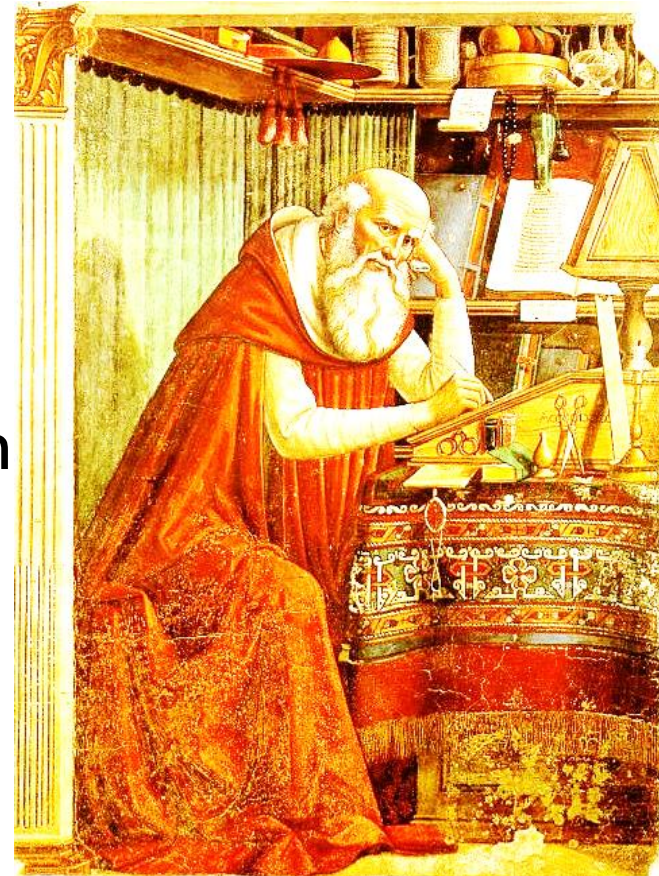
In 607 AD Boniface III, elected the first pope

Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative.

Jerome



- **386 AD** – Translated the Bible into Latin
 - Latin Vulgate (“Vulgar” meaning “common tongue”)
 - Jerome wanted the Bible accessible
 - Others would come to see Latin as the “language of God” and call it heresy to use other languages.



Other Translations

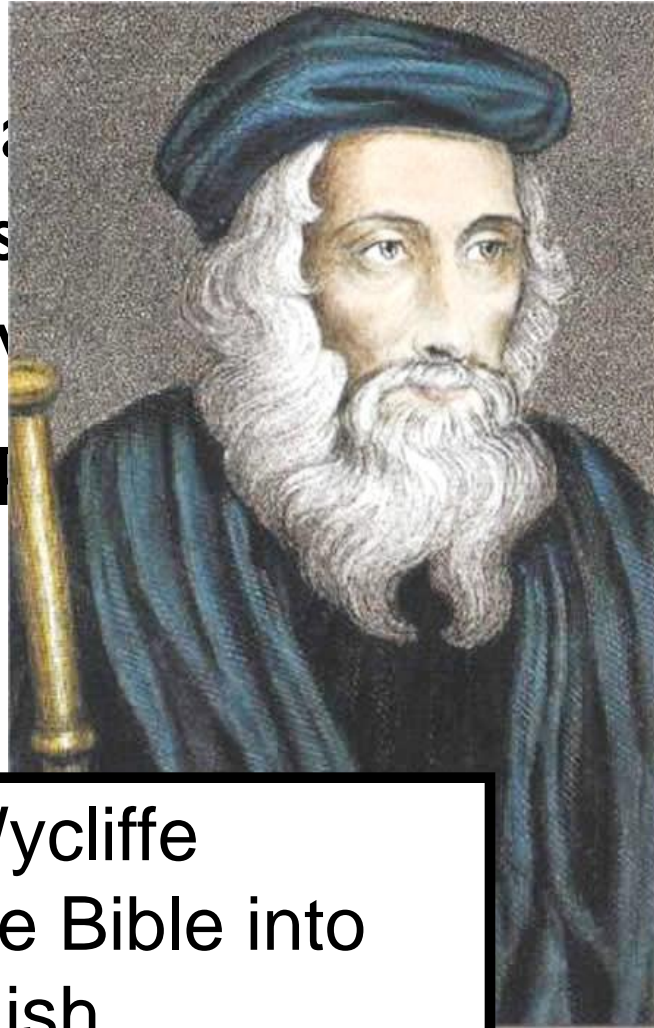


- By **500 AD** the Bible was available in many languages
 - In **600 AD**, Catholic leadership insisted on Latin as the official language of Scripture
 - Translating the Bible into other languages became a criminal act
 - Case was made that errors would creep into those versions
 - (Yet not anymore than the Bible being put into Latin!)

The Bible in English



- **995** Anglo-Saxon translations of the New Testament
- **1384** John Wycliffe produces a handwritten Bible (OT & NT)



John Wycliffe
translates the Bible into
English



*The bones of Wicliffe taken up and burnt, and the ashes
thrown into the River. page 192.*

John Wycliffe's corpse was
dug up, his bones burned
and ashes cast into the
Swift River

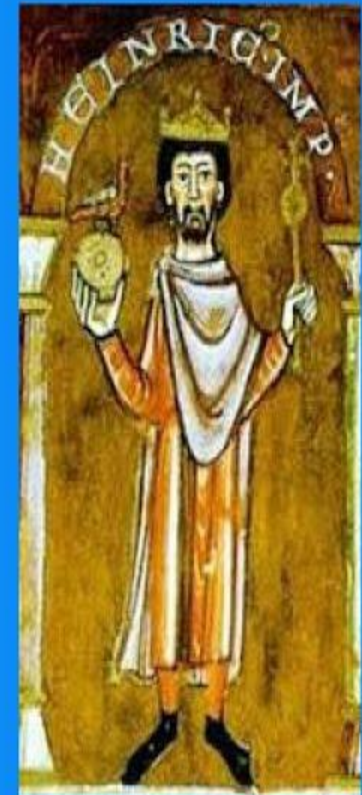
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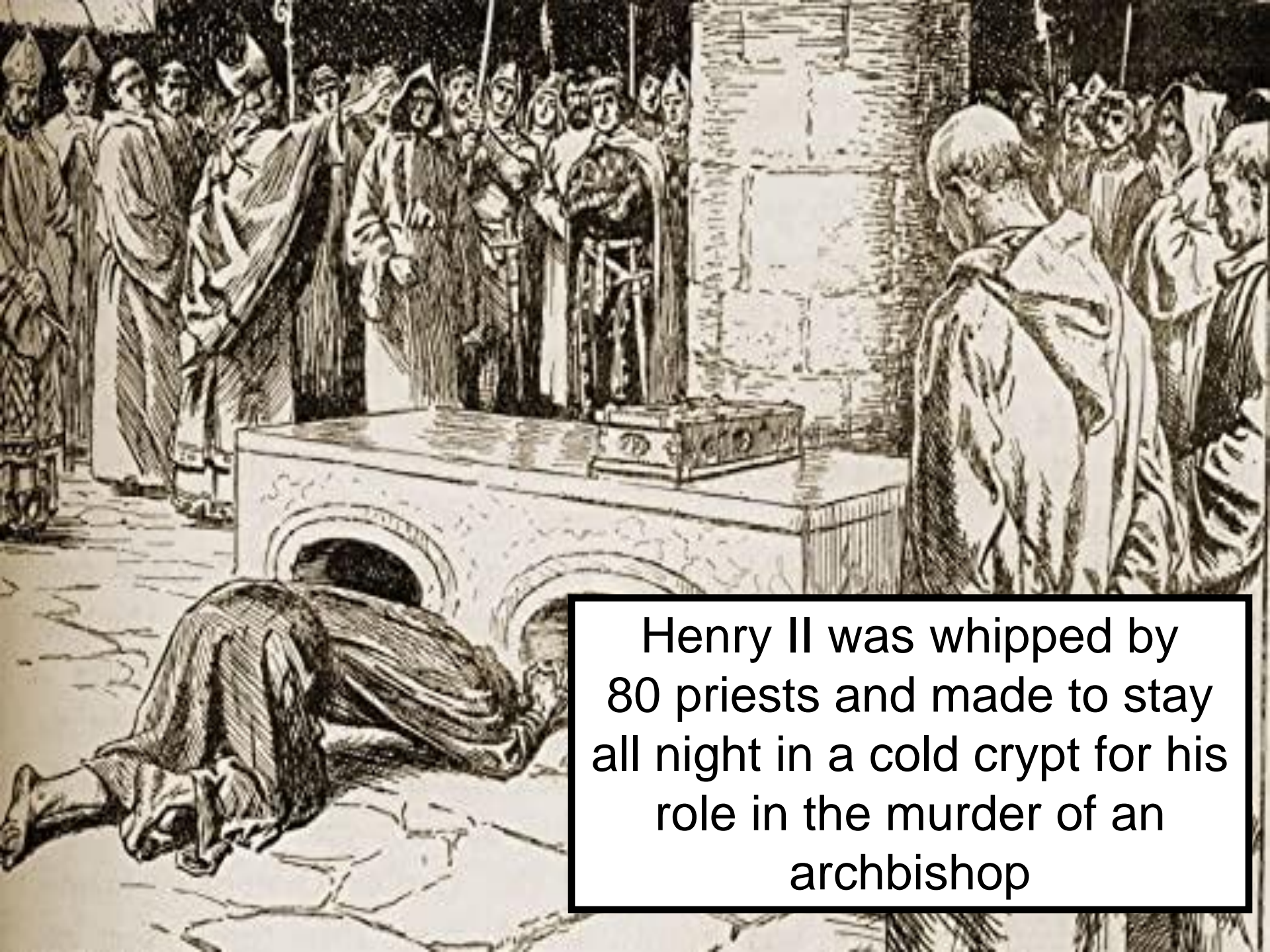


ROAD TO CANOSSA



Henry IV was made to wait barefoot in the snow and stand for 3 days outside the pope's castle to receive forgiveness





Henry II was whipped by 80 priests and made to stay all night in a cold crypt for his role in the murder of an archbishop

Chaos in Catholicism



Pope
Benedict
13th



Pope
Gregory
12th



Pope
Alexander
5th



Corruptions in Catholicism



- **Nicholas V (1447-1455)**
 - Humanist



- **Pius II (1458-1464)**
 - Humanist



- **Sixtus IV (1471-1484)**
 - Tyrant

Corruptions in Catholicism



- **Innocent VIII (1484-1492)**
 - Had 7 illegitimate children



- **Alexander VI (1492-1503)**
 - Noted for vice and violence



- **Julius II (1503-1513)**
 - Should have been an army officer

Corruptions in Catholicism



- **Leo X (1513-1521)**
 - Called Christianity a “profitable fable”

Indulgences



John Tetzel comes to promote and sale indulgences



Luther opposes

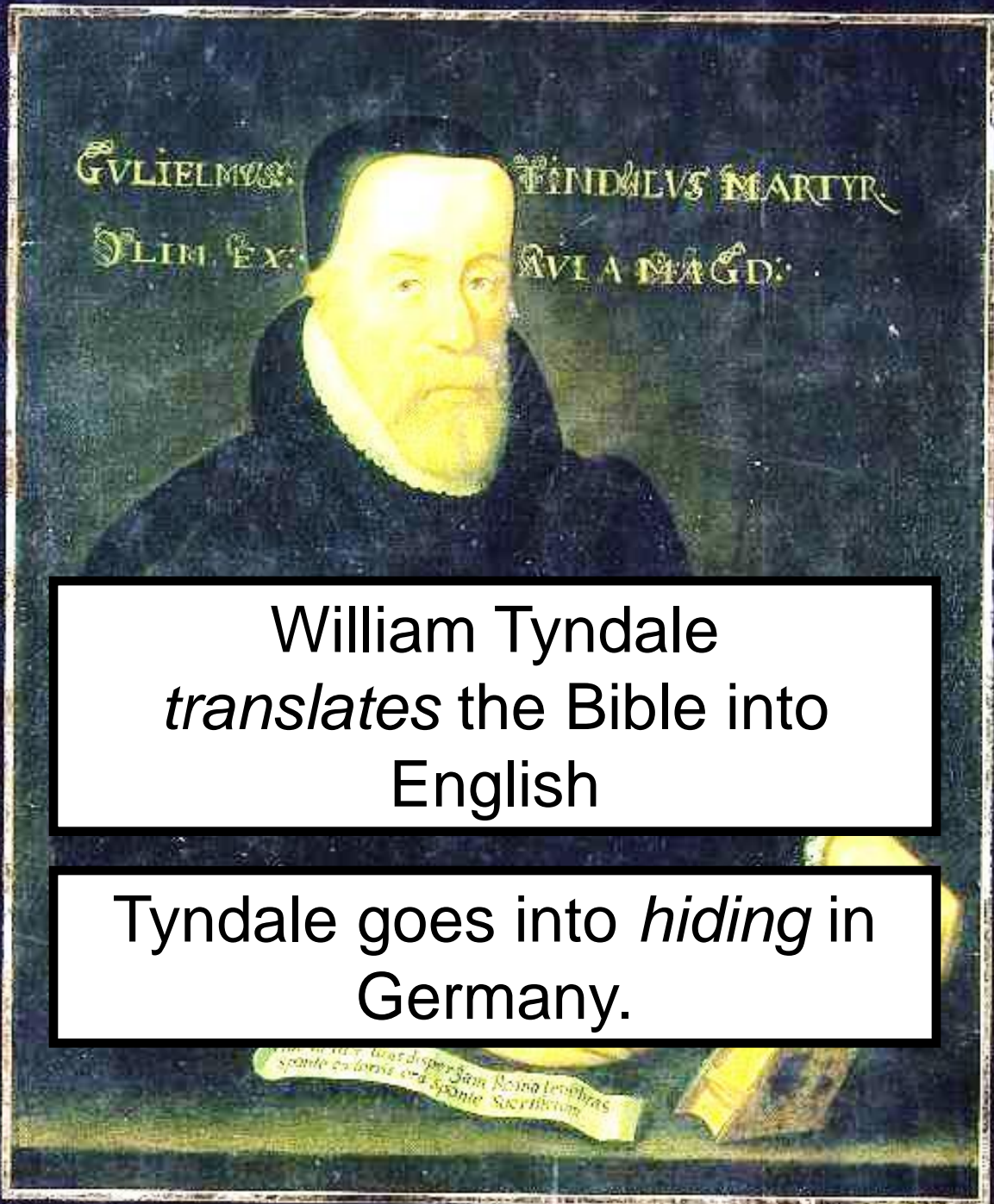
A photograph of Wartburg Castle in Eisenach, Germany. The castle is built on a hillside and features a prominent stone tower with a cross on top. The main building has a half-timbered upper story and a white-plastered lower story. The foreground is filled with lush green trees.

Luther goes into *hiding* in
Wartburg Castle

Luther *translates* the Bible
into German

What is the Bible Worth to You?





William Tyndale
translates the Bible into
English

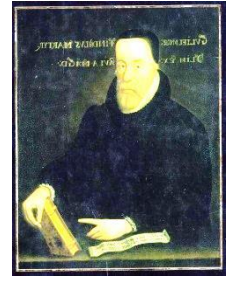
Tyndale goes into *hiding* in
Germany.

*“If God grant
me years I will
cause a boy that
driveth the plough
to know more
Scripture than
you”*

*William Tyndale,
translator of the Bible into
English - 1526*



Why was this so controversial?

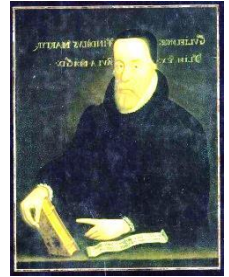


- **Words have meanings**

- Thomas More challenged the translation of the word, *presbyter*, which Tyndale correctly called “elder”
 - More was incensed that Tyndale did not use the word “priest” instead. If Tyndale was right, the formal office of priest does not explicitly exist in the New Testament
- The word for *agape*, translated “charity,” had financial implications. Tyndale used “love”
 - If Tyndale was right and the word was “love,” then I Cor. 13 indicates our highest duty is to love others rather than give gifts of charity to the Catholic church.

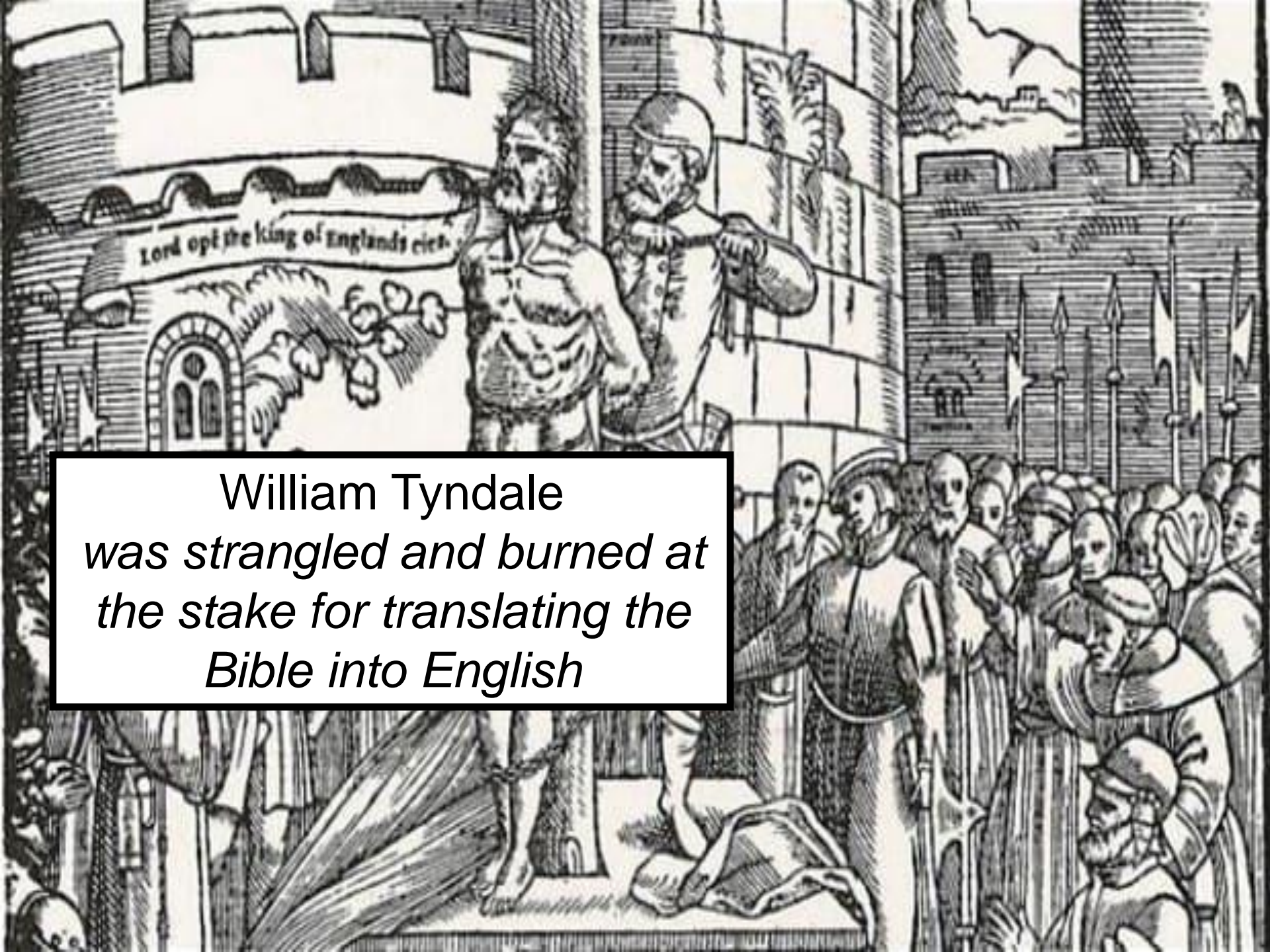


Why was this so controversial?

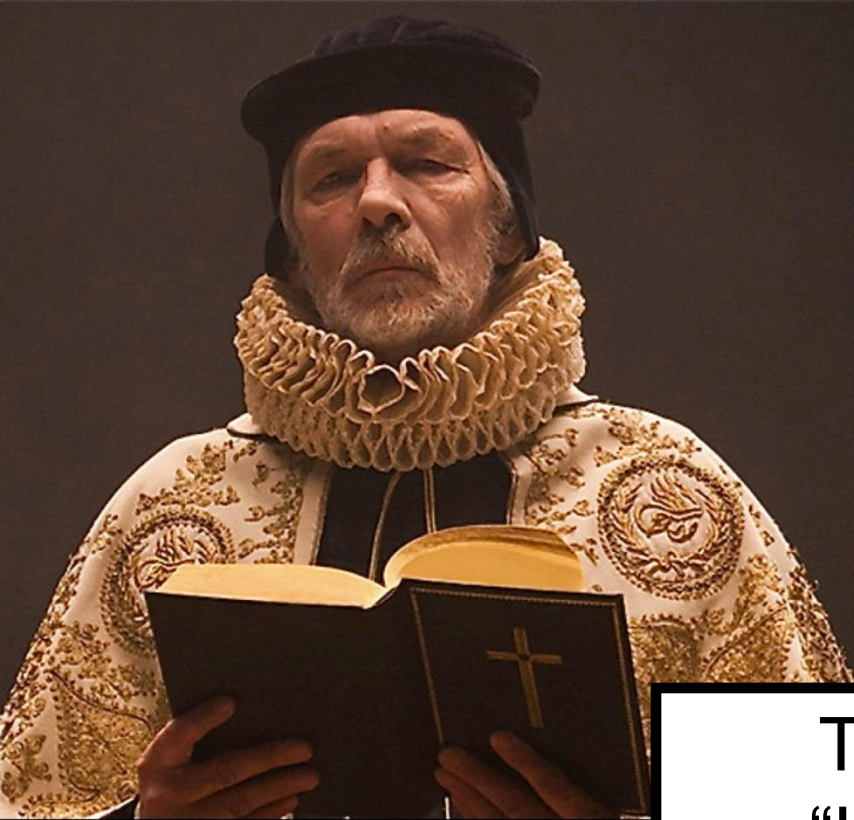


- **Words have meanings**

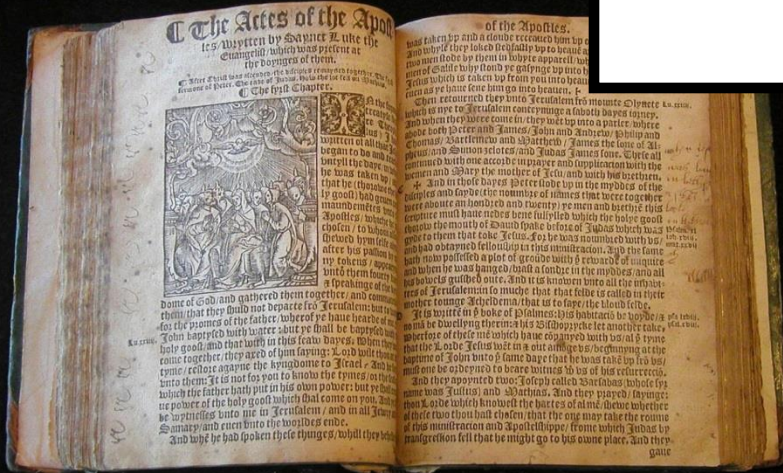
- Tyndale used the word “repentance” instead of “penance”
 - This had implications against Catholic practices



William Tyndale
*was strangled and burned at
the stake for translating the
Bible into English*



Tyndale's last words were:
"Lord, open the eyes of the
king of England!"



What is the Bible Worth to You?





Kg. Henry 8th

King Henry 8th wanted to divorce his wife for failing to give him a son, a male heir to the throne

Pope Clement 7th refused to grant the divorce



Pope Clement 7th

Henry broke with Rome, and within a few years he commissioned the publication of a Bible in English



King Henry 8th

NOR
ATLAN
OCEA





“Bloody Mary”

She executed most of the scholars who worked on the English Bible and sought to return England to Catholicism

As many as 300 were burned at the stake by her



What is the Bible Worth to You?



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Heb. 11:35-40

“Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. 36 Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment.

What is the Bible Worth to You?



Heb. 11:35-40

37 They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— 38 of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, *in dens and caves of the earth.*”

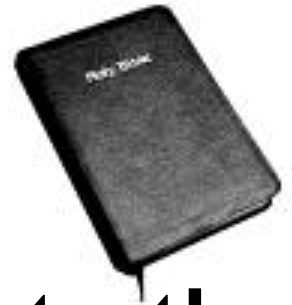
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Heb. 11:35-40

“And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, 40 God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us”

What is the Bible Worth to You?



- **Sacrifices have been made to share truth**
 - Elijah *hid* at a brook and later at a widow's house
 - Prophets were *hid* 50 to a cave (1 Kgs. 18:4)
 - Micaiah – *shut up in a prison* (1 Kgs. 22:26-27)
 - Jeremiah *put in a pit* in a dungeon (Jer. 38:6)
 - John on Patmos – for the testimony (Rev. 1:9)
 - Souls below the altar – for the testimony (Rev. 6:9-11)
 - Jesus killed on a cross (Jn. 18:37)

What is the Bible Worth to You?



- **Would you be willing to die for the Bible?**
 - It's hard to say you would if you do not study it, meditate upon it, live by it and share it with others
- **Do you read the Bible daily?**
 - Acts 17:11; 2 Tim. 2:15

What is the Bible Worth to You?



- **Mt. 24:35**

- “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away”

- **Jn. 12:48**

- “He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day”

- **Hear** (Lk. 8:8) **Believe** (Mk. 16:16)

- Repent** (Lk. 13:3) **Confess** (Acts 8:37)

- Be Baptized** (Acts 2:38) **Be Faithful** (Heb. 10:36)