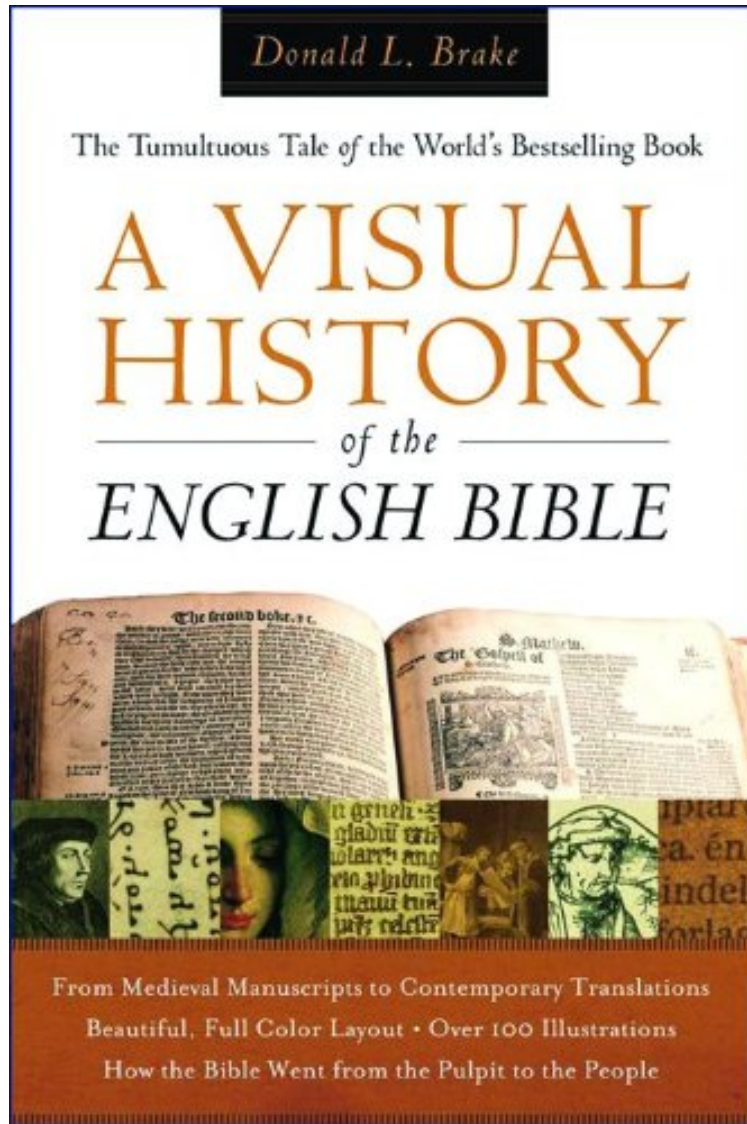


(Free pdf) A Visual History of the English Bible: The Tumultuous Tale of the World's Bestselling Book

A Visual History of the English Bible: The Tumultuous Tale of the World's Bestselling Book

Donald L. Brake

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#454097 in Books Baker Pub Group/Baker Books 2008-09-15 2008-09-15 Original language: English PDF #1 1.09 x 6.36 x 9.241, 2.00 #File Name: 080101316X352 pages | File size: 60.Mb

Donald L. Brake : A Visual History of the English Bible: The Tumultuous Tale of the World's Bestselling Book before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Visual History of the English Bible: The Tumultuous Tale of the World's Bestselling Book:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. "I walke many times into the pleasant fields of the Holy Scriptures . . . having tasted their sweetness." - Queen Elizabeth By Clay Garner This really is a "visual" history. Drawings,

photographs, portraits and numerous Bibles fill the pages. A visual delight! Contents -1. Ancient Bibles: The Triumph of Beauty, the Tyranny of Power2. He Dared to Act: John Wycliffe and the Bible in English3. The Man of the Millennium: The Triumph of the Press over the Quill4. He Dared to Take a Stand5. The Fire of Devotion: Then plowman reads the Bible6. A political Pastor Struggles in Exile7. A Royal Court Intrigue8. Theology Influences Bible Versions9. The Clergy's Version: A Bible Longing for an audience10. The Catholic Church responds11. A Royal Translation12. The King's Bible Revised13. The Source for English Translations14. The Bible in America15. The Bible as Bestseller16. The People Triumph

Brake presents this work from ancient to modern. Alfred, Gothic, Book of Kells, Dead Sea scrolls, Bede are all mentioned and deftly connected. Jews and their key role in preserving the Hebrew text is explained, along with other details. Well done. Spends a chapter on Wycliffe and his impact on future translation. "Rejecting the metaphysics of the universities of his day, Wycliffe returned to the principles of the Bible for his authority. He found moral authority in the words of scripture rather than in the cloaks of religious orders." (48) In fact Brake returns to Wycliffe in conclusion. Explains the contrast of Mary and Elizabeth concerning Bible reading. Mary banned the Bible. Elizabeth loved it. "A Bible in the British museum records Queen Elizabeth's words, written in her own hand: 'August. I walke many times into the pleasant fields of the Holy Scripture where I plucke up the goodiesome herbed of sentences by pruning: eate them by reading: chawe them by musing: and laie them up at length in the hie seate of memorie by gathering them together: that so having tasted theire sweetness I may the lesse perceave the bitterness of this miserable life.' " (161) Fascinating! Concludes with explanation of the different Greek texts and modern English versions. Brake does an outstanding job making this book absorbing, even seductive. Great! One notable feature are his personal stories in finding, bidding, agonizing and paying for rare Bibles. Wonderful! Another unique feature is a eighteen page 'visual' glossary. A real treat. Thirteen pages of footnotes. Seven page bibliography. This book is printed with high quality glossy paper. Really makes all the visual additions stand out. Brake clearly loves the Bible. Anyone can learn why the Bible is so special from this work.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Great addition to your library

By rpb Interestingly, most books with predominant visuals are of less value at the scholarly level. While this book is not scholarly in the same way that (for example) Kittel or Keil Delitzsch would be, it is capable of having something to say to even the well-studied scholar. I personally found the images of the ancient writings tracing the development to the King James Version (and beyond) to be enlightening and well selected for variety. Chapter 13, The Source for English Translations--The Battle for a Standard Greek Text is, in my opinion, the best of the bunch, but you will not be disappointed at any of the author's viewpoints; Donald Brake's writing is commanding in style and very readable (dozens of examples could be cited, here). I especially appreciated that, as a graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary and Veep/Dean at Multnomah College/Seminary (Portland), Brake did not labor on ad infinitum with typical Dallas/Multnomah (Calvinistic) theological bias. Every now and then, his theological bias will peek through, but he is scholarly enough to pull it back in for a more balanced treatment of his theme. The well thought out "Visual Glossary" (but not visual enough ;^) is very handy, and the footnotes are quite excellent. The book also contains a Scripture Index (but you will probably be surprised at how few scriptural passages are cited, but remember the theme does not well lend itself to proof-texting), and the Index is very complete. If you are like me, you will really appreciate the Bibliography (but I do wish writers would annotate their Bibliographies, a personal preference for me). You will not be disappointed in this book.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellence!

By Robert Truelove This book is a must have for anyone interested in the history of the English Bible. It is well written for a book of its kind and the typesetting and layout are gorgeous. It is also a "well built book" featuring a solid hardback binding and heavy card-stock paper that are sewn and not merely glued. It's such a beautiful and informative book that it is one of those in my library that I refer to as one of my "treasures". This would be a good book for people interested in the history of the English Bible as well as a perfect gift for your pastor or studious Christian friend due to it's artful presentation.

With a full color layout and over one hundred illustrations, A Visual History of the English Bible covers the fascinating journey of the Bible from the pulpit to the people. Renowned biblical scholar Donald L. Brake invites readers to explore the process of transformation from medieval manuscripts to the contemporary translations of our day. Along the way, readers will meet many heroes of the faith--men and women who preserved and published the Scriptures, often at risk of their own lives. From Wycliffe and Tyndale to King Henry VIII and the Geneva Bible, from the Bishop's Bible and the King James Version to the American Revolution and the Civil War, this tumultuous tale is history come alive. This book is perfect for history buffs, bibliophiles, and anyone interested in the colorful account of the world's most popular book.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . Not unlike an epic story, the history of the formation and translation of the Bible is filled with intrigue and adventure, heroes and knaves. Considering how much ink has been spilled about the Bible's purported meanings, it's surprising how few authors have captured the excitement of its evolution from disparate manuscripts to accepted canon to bestselling book. Brake, who is president of Multnomah College and has a Ph.D. from conservative Dallas Theological Seminary, takes the reader on a wonderful journey through several thousand

years of history (though the heaviest emphasis is on the 15th century to the present), marking the people, events and crises through which the Bible has had to pass, finally emerging in our time as a versatile and vital document. Nearly every page contains an illustration, chart or other visual aid to assist the reader. Refreshingly readable and lavishly illustrated, this volume is essential to anyone wanting to understand the Bible and its hazardous progress through the ages. (Sept. 15) ""Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved."From the Inside FlapFrom John Wycliffe to King Henry VIII, from the Geneva Bible and the King James Version to the American Revolution and the Civil War, Donald L. Brake brings to life the story of the Bible's transformation into an English bestseller. Along the way you'll meet a number of heroes of the Christian faith who dedicated themselves to preserving and publishing the Scriptures, often at risk to their own lives. You'll also find over one hundred illustrations, helpful explanations of principles in Bible translation and biblical interpretation, and a comparison of today's major new translations. You'll never take your copies of the English Bible for granted again.[Donald L. Brake (PhD, Dallas Theological Seminary) is vice president of Multnomah Bible College and Seminary and dean of Multnomah Biblical Seminary in Portland, Oregon. A former pastor, Brake lives in Washington State.From the Back CoverThe fascinating journey of the Bible from the pulpit to the peopleDozens of English translations of the Bible are available today, but Scripture was not always so easy to obtain. Donald L. Brake invites you to discover the tumultuous tale of how the Bible was transformed from medieval manuscripts read only by clergy to a bestseller widely available in contemporary languages. "Brake opens up a world of information about the English Bible. I found myself repeating the exclamation, 'I didn't know that!' I have several popular books on the history of the English Bible, but none that so thoroughly addresses the historical background of those hoary tomes of the Reformation era as does Brake's."--Daniel B. Wallace, executive director, The Center for the Study of New Testament Manuscripts "Compellingly written and richly illustrated. The reader will be drawn into the many twists and turns that the Bible took from the monasteries to the masses."--Charles C. Ryrie, editor, Ryrie Study Bible; author, Balancing the Christian Life, Basic Theology, and Survey of Bible Doctrine"Brake leads you on a memorable journey through royal courts filled with intrigue, rare book shops in search of treasures, and rigorous scholarly debates in the historic battle over the Bible. You will come away with a far greater appreciation for the English Bible and what countless people throughout the centuries have paid with gold, sweat, tears, and even blood to bring God's Word to us today."--Paul Louis Metzger, PhD, professor of Christian Theology and Theology of Culture, Multnomah Biblical Seminary