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VeryHigh High Medium Low Very Low See Only See Only 1Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; The Lord hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name. 2And he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me; 3And said unto me, Thou art my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified. 4Then I said, I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nought, and in vain: yet surely my judgment is with the Lord, and my work with my God. 5And now, saith the Lord that formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob again to him, Though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, and my God shall be my strength. 6And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth. 7Thus saith the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the Lord that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee. 8Thus saith the Lord, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages; 9That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Shew yourselves. They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures shall be in all high places. 10They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them. 11And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted. 12Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim. 13Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted. 14But Zion said, The Lord hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me. 15Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. 16Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me. 17Thy children shall make haste; thy destroyers and they that made thee waste shall go forth of thee. 18Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold: all these gather themselves together, and come to thee. As I live, saith the Lord, thou shalt surely clothe thee with them all, as with an ornament, and bind them on thee, as a bride doeth. 19For thy waste and thy desolate places, and the land of thy destruction, shall even now be too narrow by reason of the inhabitants, and they that swallowed thee up shall be far away. 20The children which thou shalt have, after thou hast lost the other, shall say again in thine ears, The place is too strait for me: give place to me that I may dwell. 21Then shalt thou say in thine heart, Who hath begotten me these, seeing I have lost my children, and am desolate, a captive, and removing to and fro? and who hath brought up these? Behold, I was left alone; these, where had they been? 22Thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders. 23And kings shall be thy nursing fathers, and their queens thy nursing mothers: they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet; and thou shalt know that I am the Lord: for they shall not be ashamed that wait for me. 24Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered? 25But thus saith the Lord, Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered: for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children. 26And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that I the Lord am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob. 1But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: 2That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. 3The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; 4That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, 5To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed. 6Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded. 7In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, 8Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you. 9Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own masters, and to please them well in all things; not answering again; 10Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things. 11For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, 12Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; 13Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; 14Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. 15These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee. Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness.Thats a famous line from the very first chapter of the Book of Genesis. And in virtually every Bible on sale these days, those words are printed with typical black ink.But now, a brand-new book hot off the printing press is causing Bible lovers to rejoice as it features the personal comments spoken by God in red letters, in both the Old and New Testaments, instead of just the New Testament alone. The eye-opening feature is found in The Divine Secret: The Awesome and Untold Truth About Your Phenomenal Destiny by Joe Kovacs, author of the No. 1 bestseller Shocked by the Bible.Although the official publication date is not until July 17, you can get personally autographed copies of The Divine Secret right now and ready to ship exclusively from WND!So now the Genesis quote from God looks like this: Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness. (Genesis 1:26 NKJV) Another example: I made the earth and all the people living on it. With my own hands I stretched out the skies. (Isaiah 45:12 NCV)Ive never understood why people make most Bibles showing red letters in the New Testament only, when its the same God as in the Old Testament, Kovacs said. Seeing the Creators personal remarks highlighted in the Old Testament is something every lover of God and the Bible needs to experience. You dont want to miss a single word spoken by our loving God, and The Divine Secret helps provide the prominence they deserve.Kovacs says seeing the words of God in red in the Old Testament makes Christians all the more aware about who the God of the Old Testament really is, and also makes it easier to understand all of Gods divine instructions. I didnt include an entire Old Testament in The Divine Secret, but every time I quoted from God Himself speaking, His words are indeed printed in red, said Kovacs.This is truly something that every faithful believer should see. Youll wish that every Bible ever made would print red letters for all of Gods statements, not just those of Jesus in the New Testament.An excerpt from "The Divine Secret" shows how God's personal remarks are always highlighted in red letters, even in the Old Testament.Kovacs, a Bible-believing Christian, is once again stunning both Christians and non-Christians with the Scriptural truth of God with his latest blockbuster, The Divine Secret. He points out that the Bible itself declares a divine secret exists, calling it the secret that was hidden from everyone since the beginning of time.That divine secret clearly explains the meaning of life and exactly what is intended for your personal future and its far more sensational than youve ever imagined.Yet Scripture also says the secret has now been made known to Gods holy people, and its a secret that unlocks the real reason for your own existence and the mind-blowing, wonderful future meant for you. [jwplayer YUpkPet5]Im amazed that so many of my fellow Christians simply dont know their magnificent and intended destiny, says Kovacs. Its far more spectacular than just floating around on a cloud for all eternity doing a whole bunch of nothingness besides playing a harp. Youll be astounded by how much solid information the Bible provides right now about the fantastic future thats on its way.The Divine Secret takes on the biggest questions of all time, including why God created men and women in the first place and whats really meant for everyone in the years to come. It spans countless centuries of Gods plan, from the deepest part of antiquity, long before the creation of Earth, to the second coming of Jesus and far beyond. It explores the underpublicized reasons why we exist, why life is so challenging, and what exactly youre meant to do once Jesus comes back.The Divine Secret also reveals what will likely happen to the many who never heard Gods truth during their lives or perhaps were confused about it. That revelation, drawn from the words of your own Bible, is not what you probably think. Its most likely not what youve been taught and itll leave you absolutely stunned. In addition to clearly explaining the true meaning of life, The Divine Secret also investigates:The real nature of miraclesMore than one resurrection from the dead in the futureWhat the Bible really means by the kingdom of GodThe future quickening spoken of in the New TestamentThe benefits of sufferingAmerican Idol and Dancing With the Stars have something very important in common with your biblical destinyEating and drinking in the eternal kingdom of GodSpecial abilities you can have in the kingdom of GodThe intriguing future of animals If you liked Shocked by the Bible, youll love The Divine Secret,' said Kovacs. This book finally puts the answers so many are seeking into clear and simple terms. When you finally come to grips with the fact the Bible actually means what it says, youll understand the glorious truth about your purpose and the purpose of everyone who has ever existed.Joe Kovacs has spent more than 25 years in the broadcast, print, and online media, receiving awards for excellence in news coverage from the Associated Press and United Press International. A frequent media guest, Kovacs has appeared on The OReilly Factor on the Fox News Channel as well as countless radio shows across America and the world, including Coast to Coast AM. His previous book, Shocked by the Bible: The Most Astonishing Facts Youve Never Been Told, was a No.1 seller on Amazon.com. Media wishing to interview Joe Kovacs about The Divine Secret, please email him here.More information can be found at TheDivineSecret.com as well as the Facebook page for The Divine Secret. Since Louis Klopsch's innovation of printing the words of Christ in red in 1899, many publishers have printed red letter Bibles. But some have used different coloring for varying reasons. This article lists a few of those more unusual colored text Bibles. I have divided these Bibles into three main categories: Speaker identification, Topical and Decorative.The first category started with Klopsch's New Testament in 1899 which identified the words of Christ by printing them in red. Most major Bible translations now have a red letter edition available. An example of a red letter New Testament can be read online here. The Bible Gatewaysupports viewing the red letter NT in several versions such as the CEB, ESV, HCSB, NASB, NIV, NKJV and the TNIV.Red isn't the only color that has been used. An article atThe International Society of Bible Collectors mentions one unsuccessful NT that had Christ's words in Green. The Woman's Bible available from theAdventist Book Center has Christ's words printed in gold. Now that red lettering has become so common a new term has surfaced: "black letter Bibles." Some find the red print difficult to read. Others disagree with highlighting part of the New Testament over the rest. Some publishers now offer both red letter and black letter editions.Others have expanded the speaker identification idea into the Old Testament. TheKing James Bible: Purple Letter Edition identifies the speaker by printing God's name, the Spirit's name and Jesus' name in purple. The Names of God Biblehas God's names and Jesus' name in gold. The Holy Bible: King James Easy Reading Editionhas God's spoken words in red print. TheKing James 2000 by Robert Couric also follows this convention.Some Bibles use even more colors. TheBRG Bible is one of these: It has the God's words in blue, Jesus' words in red, the name of the Holy Spirit in gold, words of angels in underlined blue and messianic prophecies in underlined red. A sample of this Bible is available on Google Books. It can also be read on Bible Gateway. The God Speaks Interactive Bible uses the following color scheme: God's words in purple, passages about God speaking in green, people speaking God's words in third person in brown, angels, visions and dreams in blue, Jesus' words in red and miracles and acts in gold. The Strand Study Bibleuses blue for God the Father, red for God the Son, purple for God the Holy Spirit. Titles and pronouns of each are bold, upper case and colored, full color satellite maps are included right in the text, trinity passages have box around them (such as Colossians 2:9) and underlining indicates passages quoted (or that are quoted elsewhere). The Spoken Word, a Red Letter Project has God's words in red, people's words in blue, Satan's words in brown and people speaking words from God in purple.TheSourceview Biblecolorizes text according to the identity of the speaker. When I saw the name, I expected it to be similar to theBible With Sources Revealed(see below). But in the free sample of Jonah (available on theirpreview page) God's words are in red, Jonah's are in blue, the ship's captain and crew are in green, the narrator is in black A group calling themselves "The Jesus Seminar" produced The Five Gospels. They used colors more to show what they think wasn't really said than anything else. Red means Jesus said this or something very like it; Pink indicates that Jesus probably said something like this; Grey words are probably not Jesus' words, but the ideas are close to his and black means Jesus did not say this. In their version of the Lord's Prayer, the only thing we can be certain Jesus said is "Our Father."The next category is Bibles that use coloring for topical reasons. For instance, The Green Bible has "Verses and passages that speak to Gods care for creation" in green print. Most of Genesis 1 and 2 are in green text. It is also printed on recycled paper, soy-based ink and water-based coating. The Financial Stewardship Bible has verses relating to finances highlighted in green. The Bible looks as though someone took a green highlighter and marked certain passages (e.g. Genesis 2:2-3). The Freedom Bible also uses the highlighter technique. In this one, passages relating to freedom are highlighted in blue (e.g. Mark 2:3-5). Another highlighter style Bible is the Poverty and Justice Bible. Here, scriptures dealing with poverty and justice issues are highlighted in brown (e.g. John 16:8-11).Taking multicolored text even further is the Bible With Sources Revealed. It uses different colors to indicated the sources of the text according to the documentary theory (also known as the JEPD theory). Each source has a letter or letters, so the key looks like this:J - greenE - green sans boldP - blue sansRJE - green with green backgroundR - blue with blue backgroundother independent texts - blue italicGenesis 14 - green italicDtn - green sans italicDtr1 - blueDtr2 - blue boldThe Rainbow Study Bible challenges my ability to see and name colors. It has every verse highlighted in color according to the subject matter. The key is as follows: Purple - God, Pink - Discipleship, Green - Love, Peach - Faith, Grey - Sin, Brown - Satan, Blue - Salvation, Yellow - Family, Lighter Pink - Witnessing, Lighter Green - Commandments, Lighter Grey - History, Gold - Prophecy. Fortunately, this Bible came with a bookmark containing the color guide.The New Marked Reference Biblecolorized the text according to four major themes. Red was for salvation, green for the Holy Spirit, gold for temporal blessings and Blue for prophecy. The Standard Full Color Bible uses 12 different color highlights to identify Scriptural themes. I wasn't able to connect safely to their website, but there may be a sample of it available.The final category is decorative coloring. The main reason for the colorized text in these Bibles is for appearance. For instance, the KJV Promise Bible for Womenhas nearly everything in purple. This includes the covers, the table of contents, introduction, essays, reading plan and even the lines on the notes pages. Can you guess the color of the ribbon? I was told that the Duck Commander Bible has headings in green and the text in tan. I wasn't able to verify that one. The My Beautiful Princess Bible has purple text. Some verses also have purple highlighting. You can view a sample here. There are certainly many more Bibles to be found in each of these categories. By the time this article is finished, there will be even more. I don't intend to list all of them. But I hope this overview has given you an idea of the wide variety of coloring schemes. The purpose of this article isn't to decide whether or not to colorize the text in Bibles. I have heard arguments on both sides. Love them or hate them, there are a lot of them out there.I would like to thank several people in the Bible Versions Discussions/Dialogueegroup on Facebook including (but not limited to) Daniel, Joshua, Lance, Lawrence, Marika, Stephen, Steven and Timothy. If you are interested in the sort of thing I discuss on my sites, you might enjoy joining the group.Whatever color text you choose, I certainly hope you are reading a Bible. That is my favorite color: read. 1Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the Lord, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. 2The Lord is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him. 3The Lord is a man of war: the Lord is his name. 4Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red sea. 5The depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone. 6Thy right hand, O Lord, is become glorious in power: thy right hand, O Lord, hath dashed in pieces the enemy. 7And in the greatness of thine excellency thou hast overthrown them that rose up against thee: thou sentest forth thy wrath, which consumed them as stubble. 8And with the blast of thy nostrils the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as an heap, and the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea. 9The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them. 10Thou didst blow with thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters. 11Who is like unto thee, O Lord, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders? 12Thou stretchedst out thy right hand, the earth swallowed them. 13Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation. 14The people shall hear, and be afraid: sorrow shall take hold on the inhabitants of Palestina. 15Then the dukes of Edom shall be amazed; the mighty men of Moab, trembling shall take hold upon them; all the inhabitants of Canaan shall melt away. 16Fear and dread shall fall upon them; by the greatness of thine arm they shall be as still as a stone; till thy people pass over, O Lord, till the people pass over, which thou hast purchased. 17Thou shalt bring them in, and plant them in the mountain of thine inheritance, in the place, O Lord, which thou hast made for thee to dwell in, in the Sanctuary, O Lord, which thy hands have established. 18The Lord shall reign for ever and ever. 19For the horse of Pharaoh went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea, and the Lord brought again the waters of the sea upon them; but the children of Israel went on dry land in the midst of the sea. 20And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances. 21And Miriam answered them, Sing ye to the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. 22So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water. 23And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter: therefore the name of it was called Marah. 24And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink? 25And he cried unto the Lord; and the Lord shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them, 26And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee. 27And they came to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and threescore and ten palm trees: and they encamped there by the waters. After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; Revelation 7:9In concordanceVerse details 1And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. 2And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, 3Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. 4And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel. 5Of the tribe of Juda were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Reuben were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Gad were sealed twelve thousand. 6Of the tribe of Aser were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Nepthalim were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Manasses were sealed twelve thousand. 7Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Levi were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve thousand. 8Of the tribe of Zabulon were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin were sealed twelve thousand. 9After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; 10And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. 11And 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, 12Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. 13And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? 14And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. 16They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. 17For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. How To Memorize The Bible Fast And Easy$0.99$0.99Brg Bible King James Version$7.99$7.99The KJV Study Bible (King James Bible)$9.99$9.99Bible History: Old Testament$0.99$0.99KJV Study Bible: Second Edition$21.99$21.99Experiencing the Presence of God$0.99$0.99The Prayer Warrior's Ultimate Handbook$0.99$0.99Loading... When we open the Bible to the Gospels, the first thing that stands out is whether or not the words of Christ are in red. Not all Bibles have red-letterorindicate the words of Christ differently from the rest of Scripture.There arepersonalpreferencesfor both types and it can be difficult to decide between them. Lets look at red-letter vs black-letter to help you decide which is best for your needs.First:About theTextFirst,theBible is a unity. All of the words in the Bible are inspired.The words of Jesus are from God (John12:49), the writings of Paul are from God (2 Peter3:16),the Old Testament writers were moved by the Spirit of God (2 Peter 1:21),all Scriptureis inspiredbyGod(2Timothy3:16).The color of the text isnt meant to elevate one portion of Gods Word over another.AboutRed-letter BiblesThe primary purpose of red-letter is to honor the words of Christ.Some have taken red-letter to an extreme and only read the words that are in red. Otherspresumethat only the words in red are important, or that theyre more important. They use red-letter editions so they can focus on the teachings of Jesus.This isnt the intent of red-letter Bibles. Red-letter isnt more inspired than black-letter.Its not intended to show degrees of inspiration or superior words.It just identifies the words of our Lord.Red-letter is handled in different ways.Some editions only include the words of Christ while on Earth.Its sometimes unclear who the speaker is, so not all translations and publishers include the samewords or versesin red.History of Red-letter BiblesRed-letters in the Bible are a fairly new concept in Bible publishing. Weve only had them for a few generations. The first red-letter New Testament was published in 1899. The full Bible with a red-letter New Testament was printed in 1901.LousKlopsch,theeditor ofChristian Heraldmagazine, is the originator of the red-letter concept. The idea came to him when reading Luke 22:20, which describes the new covenant in Christs blood.Klopschthen wanted to print all of the words of Christ in the color of blood.It was printed and published byChristian Herald.It was a success and several Bible publishers, including Thomas Nelson, quickly released similar editions.The original red-letter concept extended to the Old Testament to show how extensively the scarlet thread of redemption is interweaved through Scripture. The first red-letter Bible printed cross-references to passages that Jesus referred to in red. Old Testament passages with prophecies concerning Christ were marked with a red star. Several scholars assisted in this work.ProsRed-letterhonorsChrist.Red-letter is helpful when you want to find the words of Jesus quickly.This is especially helpful in the King James Version, since it does not include quotation marks for dialog.Itshelpful in study.Finding the words of Christ is much easier and faster when preaching or teaching.Color can break up the page, making it visually appealing.A well-printed red, likeThomas NelsonsComfort Print, can make the page more attractive and visually interesting.ConsRed-letter can be more difficult to use if you highlight your Bible. The colors you choose for your highlights have to work great with two different colors of text.This is also true of notes that you make in the margins.Red that is too bright can be hard on your eyes. This is especially true for lengthy reading sessions.Red doesnt have as much contrast with the white page as black does. This can make it difficult to read. The red ink needs to be dark or bright to stand out from the page.It can be difficult to know which words Jesus said, which were paraphrased by the writer, whether or not to include someone else quoting Jesus, etc.Sometimes theyre his ideas rather than his actual words. This is why we see different phrasing between the Gospels.We cant be 100% certain where Jesus ends hismessagein John 3.Its more difficult, and expensive, to keep the printing consistent.Every publisher, and many Biblesfromthe same publisher, have a different shade of red. Even if the printing within the Bible itself isconsistent, the red might be much different from one model to the next.It makes it easier to develop doctrine incorrectly.AboutBlack-Letter BiblesTraditionally, all of the text of Scripture was in black-letter. The original writings and the thousands of copies do not differentiate the words of Christ from the rest of the text.Nothing is devalued as its all the inspired word of God.Black-letter is still popular and many Bible readers, students, and preachersprefer it.ProsBlack text on white paper is easier to read.Black-letter is easier to read in a larger variation of lighting.Itusually causesless eye strain and fatigue.Nothing stands apart to give the impression of a different value or qualityof the words spoken.Its a better option for long periods of reading.Marking is less cluttered visually. Colorschosen for marking doesnthave to look good with two different colors of text.It can be easier to preach from in different types of lighting.Its easier to pay attention to all of the text.ConsThe teachings of Jesus are more difficult to find quickly.Other elements in the layout must be used to inform the reader about the content on the page. This includes section headings, page summaries, breaks in the text, etc.ConclusionWhich is bestbetween red-letter and black-letter editions of the Bible? We feel that both have their place and that one isnt the best for every purpose.With this in mind, werecommendtrying both tosee which works best for you and, if possible,we recommend having both types in your library.Find both red and black-letter Bibles for all purposes in theThomas Nelson shop. If our e-Sword and MySword modules have blessed you, please consider a small donation. Your donation pays only for dedicated server hosting, bandwidth, software licenses, and capital equipment (scanners, OCR equipment, etc). Red-letter Bibles have become so common that it's easy to assume they have been around for as long as Bibles have been printed. Not so! The first red-letter New Testament was published in 1899, and the first red-letter Bible followed two years later.A Passion for Read and Understanding ScriptureThe idea of printing the words of Christ in red originated with Lous Klopsch, editor of Christian Herald magazine. Klopsch was a close friend of such contemporaries as T. DeWitt Talmage, D.L. Moody, and Ira Sankey. Klopsch was an early supporter of Moody's Bible Institute in Chicago, rallying Christian Herald readers to send in contributions for the financially strapped school. In his eighteen years as proprietor of Christian Herald, Klopsch raised more than three billion dollars for relief work throughout the world.1No cause was dearer to Klopsch's heart, however, than that of Scripture distribution and reading. Through Christian Herald Klopsch published more than 60,000 Bibles and Testaments annually during much of his tenure.2 But he wanted to do more than get the Bible into people's hands. He wanted people to read the Bible and understand itparticularly what it says about Jesus Christ.Klopsch conceived the idea of printing some of the biblical text with red ink. When reading Jesus's words, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you" (Luke 22:20), he thought of printing all of Jesus's words in red, the color of his blood.3Klopsch wrote in an explanatory note in his red-letter Bible: Modern Christianity is striving zealously to draw nearer to the great Founder of the Faith. Setting aside mere human doctrines and theories regarding Him, it presses close to the Divine Presence, to gather from His own lips the definition of His mission to the world and His own revelation of the Father. . . . The Red Letter Bible has been prepared and issued in the full conviction that it will meet the needs of the student, the worker, and the searchers after truth everywhere.4In the first red-letter Bible, the words "universally accepted as the utterances of our Lord and Saviour" were printed in red.5 So were Old Testament passages that Jesus quoted or that were directly related to incidents to which he referred (with the relevant cross reference also printed in red). Old Testament verses containing prophetic references to Christ were identified with red stars.Though an ardent student of Scripture, Klopsch did not attempt to produce the red-letter Bible single-handedly. According to his biographer, Charles M. Pepper, he enlisted many scholars to assist him: He engaged the services of a number of distinguished Bible scholars, including several leading college professors in this country and abroad. To each of these he wrote explaining the nature of the work, and giving to each a certain part of the books of the Old and New Testaments to mark for the 'Red Letter' edition. When the entire Bible was finished, the separate books were then interchanged among these workers, so that each eminent scholar practically went over the entire Bible and annotated the work already done by others. Many months were occupied in this interchange, but at last the task was accomplished.6While Klopsch did not, in the red-letter Bible itself, supply the names of the scholars who had assisted him, he did state eloquently the case for such an edition: Here the actual words, quotations, references and allusions of Christ, not separated from their context, nor in a fragmentary or disconnected form, but in their own proper place, as an integral part of the Sacred Record, stand out vividly conspicuous in the distinction of color. The plan also possesses the advantage of showing how frequently and how extensively, on the Authority of Christ himself, the authenticity of the Old Testament is confirmed, thus greatly facilitating comparison and verification, and enabling the student to trace the connection between the Old and the New, link by link, passage by passage.7In the Red Letter Bible, more clearly than in any other edition of the Holy Scriptures, it becomes plain that from beginning to end, the central figure upon which all lines of law, history, poetry and prophecy converge is Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. He expounded in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself and the Divine plan for man's redemption, and the Red Letter Bible indicates and emphasizes this Divine exposition and personal revelation at each successive stage, making them so clear that even the simplest may understand. It sheds a new radiance upon the sacred pages, by which the reader is enabled to trace unerringly the scarlet thread of prophecy from Genesis to Malachi. Like the Star which led the Magi to Bethlehem, this light, shining through the entire Word, leads straight to the person of the Divine Messiah, as the fulfillment of the promise of all the ages.8Klopsch's red-letter New Testament bore this title: The New Testament . . . With All the Words Recorded Therein, as Having Been Spoken by Our Lord, Printed in Color. According to Pepper this innovative New Testament met with "instant success."9 Klopsch himself proceeded to produce, as we have seen, a red-letter Bible. It was released in 1901 under the title The Holy Bible: Red Letter Edition. Both the New Testament and the Bible were printed by the Christian Herald's own presses and bore the magazine publisher's imprint.The novelty and success of the red-letter editions of Scripture did not go unnoticed in the competitive world of Bible publishing. At least three major publishers of Bibles quickly added such editions to their lists: A.J. Holman, Thomas Nelson and Sons, and John C. Winston. Holman, a Philadelphia house, had released The Holman New Self-Pronouncing Sunday-School Teacher's Bible around 1898. Soon after Klopsch published his red-letter New Testament, Holman issued a separate edition of the New Testament portion of its New Self-Pronouncing Bible in which the sayings of Christ were printed in red.10 Nelson, a New York publisher, was the first to provide an entire Bible to compete with Klopsch's. Printed by Berwick and Smith Company in Norwood, Massachusetts, it was titled The Red-Letter Edition of the Holy Bible . . . Showing the Whole of Our Lord's Words in Red.11 Winston, another Philadelphia company, followed suit with The Red Letter Holy Bible, in which "the words spoken by Jesus" and "the prophetic types and prophecies in the Old Testament referring to Christ" are printed in red.12 All three of these editions were published during the first decade of the twentieth century.Red-letter Bibles went on to establish themselves in many quarters as the preferred form of the printed Bible. Louis Klopsch, who died in 1910, would undoubtedly take pride in the endurance of the innovation he introduced into Bible publishing.Notes:Hugh A. Moran, "Louis Klopsch," in Dictionary of American Biography, ed. Dumas Malone (New York: Scribner's, 1933), 10:447; Charles M. Pepper, Life-Work of Louis Klopsch (New York: Christian Herald, 1910), pp. 314-316.Pepper, Louis Klopsch, p. 325.Robert W. Funk, Roy W. Hoover, et al., The Five Gospels (New York: Macmillan, 1993), p. 37; Philip Sellew, "Red Letter Bible," in The Oxford Companion to the Bible, ed. Bruce M. Metzger and Michael D. Coogan (New York: Oxford University, 1993), p. 619. Sellew's source was Funk and Hoover, and their source was Laurence S. Heely, Jr., publisher of Christian Herald. Philip Sellew to Allan Fisher, 20 June 1994.Louis Klopsch, "Explanatory Note," in The Holy Bible: Red Letter Edition (New York: Christian Herald, 1901), p. xvi.Ibid.Pepper, Louis Klopsch, pp. 324-25.Klopsch, "Explanatory Note," p. xvi.Ibid.Pepper, Louis Klopsch, p. 325.Maragret T. Hills, ed., The English Bible in America (New York: American Bible Society, 1962), p. 326.Ibid., p. 329.Ibid., p. 342. Related Articles Why I Wrote a Book about the Marrow Controversy Sinclair B. Ferguson What is Jesus really like, truly likedeep down, through and through? The Nicene Creed and the Importance of a Single Letter Stephen J. 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Image not available forColor: To view this video download Flash Player Image not available forColor: To view this video download Flash Player 1Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2For by it the elders obtained a good report. 3Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. 4By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh. 5By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. 6But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. 7By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith. 8By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. 9By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: 10For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. 11Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised. 12Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable. 13These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. 15And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. 16But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city. 17By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, 18Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: 19Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure. 20By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. 21By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff. 22By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones. 23By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment. 24By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; 25Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; 26Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. 27By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. 28Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them. 29By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned. 30By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days. 31By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace. 32And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: 33Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, 34Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. 35Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: 36And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: 37They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, 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 in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. 39And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: 40God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect. 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