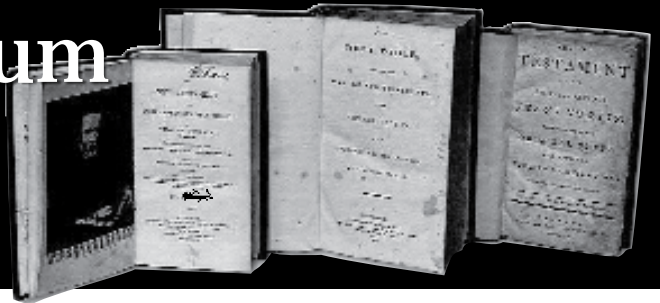


Dunham Bible Museum News



Houston Baptist University

October - December 2008

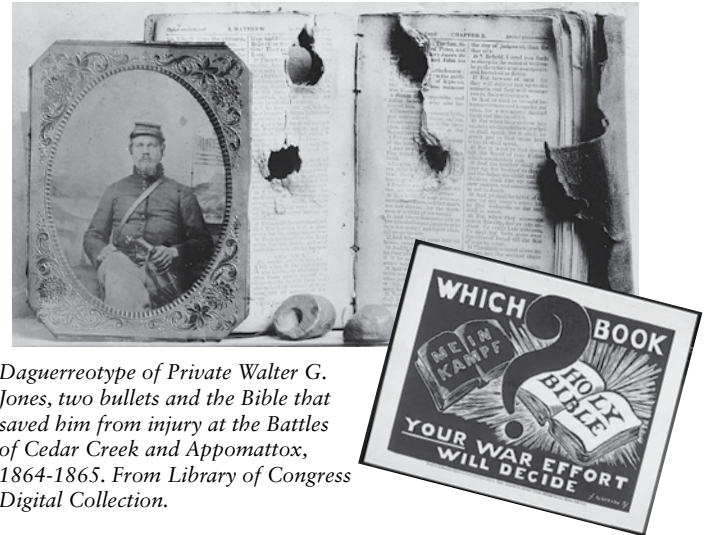
Vol. 6, Issue 4

An American Soldiers' Bible Exhibit

In every American War, soldiers daily faced physical hardships, separation from their loved ones and the possibility of debilitating wounds or death. The Bibles in their pockets or knapsacks often gave soldiers spiritual strength during difficult times. In time for Veterans' Day, and through November 14, a special exhibit on American Soldiers' Bibles is now on display at the Dunham Bible Museum.



Rusty Maisel with his special exhibit of American Soldiers' Bibles



Daguerreotype of Private Walter G. Jones, two bullets and the Bible that saved him from injury at the Battles of Cedar Creek and Appomattox, 1864-1865. From Library of Congress Digital Collection.

World War II was seen as a conflict between the falsehoods of Mein Kampf and the truth of the Bible.

The American Soldiers' Bibles exhibit was prepared by Rusty Maisel from his personal collection of rare Bibles. The Bibles in this exhibit span American wars from the colonial French and Indian War through the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Artifacts from the various wars help tell the story behind the Bibles. The display begins with the Bible of the British Admiral Sir Peter Warren (1703-1752), who led the attack on Fortress Louisburg during the French and Indian War. Warren said he was fighting in America because the French did not teach the Gospel to the Indians. He went on to establish a school for the education of Indian children, so they might be brought to a "knowledge of ... the Glorious Redeemer of the World." On exhibit is a portion of a German Bible published by Christoph Sauer; its pages were used as gun wadding during the American Revolution. During the War of 1812, the New York Bible Society became the first to distribute Bibles to soldiers and sailors. In ensuing wars, Bible Societies regularly supplied soldiers with copies of the Scriptures. Several Bibles from the Civil War are part of the exhibit, including

the rare New Testament published by the Confederate Bible Society in 1862. Also shown is a Bible shared by Confederate POWs. Its inscription reads, "Given ... by Federal Minister for the edification of Rebel heathen prisoners on Johnson Island." A small Stars and Bars flag from 1861 was sewn small enough to fit inside a Bible. One New Testament has a scrap of paper in it with the handwritten note, "I wish you would ask all Christians to Pray for me that I may hold out Fruitful unto the last and at last pray that if it is the Lord's will that I not Return - ... that I may Be PrePared For Death. William, M." Testaments distributed during World War I included words by Teddy Roosevelt and President Woodrow Wilson encouraging soldiers in their Bible reading. During World War II, the Government Printing Office printed Bibles or Bible portions in Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish translations. A letter from Franklin Roosevelt prefaced these printed Scriptures. Many of the New Testaments had metal covers, with varying inscriptions - "May the Lord be With You," "May this Comfort and Protect You," "God's Weapon," "To My Sweetheart," "May this Keep you Safe from Harm." The exhibit concludes with Bibles and pictures from the conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan. Throughout, the exhibit of American Soldiers' Bibles tells the story of those who were often facing death receiving strength and solace from the Word of Life.

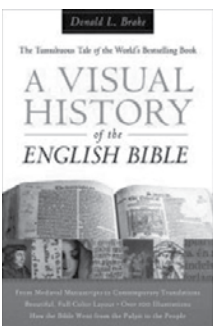


Can you help identify this window?

The lovely window of St. John the apostle which stands in the Dunham Bible Museum's entrance was given to the Museum a few years ago by the Museum of Printing History. The donors did not know the provenance of the window, but thought it came from Galveston. Though we have had a few leads, we still have not been able to identify the window's origin. If any of our readers recognize the window or

can share light on its history, please contact Diana Severance, 281-649-3287, dseverance@hbu.edu

New Book Features Items in Dunham Bible Museum Exhibits



Dr. Donald Brake's *A Visual History of the English Bible*, recently published by Baker Books, is a beautifully illustrated and interestingly told history of the English Bible. Many of the illustrations are from Dr. Brake's personal collection now on exhibit at the **Dunham Bible Museum**. *A Visual History of the English Bible* is one of many books and videos for young and old which can be ordered

from the Dunham Bible Museum website. Look under "Books and Resources" at www.hbu.edu/biblemuseum.

Church Pew Donated to Museum



Ann Stutts, long time friend of HBU, recently donated a church pew to the Dunham Bible Museum. Ann's husband, Joe Ross Stutts, began his career as a lawyer, then went to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and became a minister. SWBTS's Houston campus was then at HBU. Rev. Stutts was a minister for over 20 years, the last 14 of which were at Braes Baptist Church.

The church congregation was aging, and the community was disappearing under new development. At Rev. Stutts' retirement, he suggested the church give the land to HBU. HBU later sold the property and converted the funds into five annual scholarships.

Rev. Stutts was given this pew from the church upon his retirement. It has been placed in front of the Old South Church mural and earliest American Bible exhibits in the **Dunham Bible Museum**. Sitting on the pew, visitors can listen to the Scottish Psalter being sung, as it might have been in a colonial American church.

Dunham Bible Museum Lecture Series Launched with *Four Fall Lectures*

DR. CHARLES RYRIE, professor emeritus from Dallas Theological Seminary and author of the renowned *Ryrie Study Bible*, launched the **Dunham Bible Museum** Lecture Series September 4 with an address entitled "A Sampler of the Production, Teaching, and Marketing of English Bibles." As Dr. Ryrie presented



a brief history of the English Bible from Wycliffe through the King James Version, he also noted how the theological perspectives of the various translators could be detected in the Bibles they produced. After discussing the printing history of the earliest English Bibles, Dr. Ryrie commented on the numerous Bibles today styled for a particular target audience. While there is a superabundance of English language Bibles, there are over 2000 languages in the world today without one Bible translation. Dr. Ryrie challenged the audience to read and study the Living Word of the Lord in order to better know the Living Lord of the Word.

The lecture by **DR. DANIEL DREISBACH**, who was scheduled to speak on the Bible and American Culture, Constitution Day, September 17, had to be cancelled because of hurricane Ike. We hope to reschedule Dr. Dreisbach at a later date.

October 9, **DR. NASEEB SHAHEEN** from the University of Memphis addressed the audience in Belin Chapel on the "Biblical References in Shakespeare." Dr. Shaheen has spent 23 years carefully researching every Biblical allusion and reference in Shakespeare's plays and was able to demonstrate that Shakespeare knew the Bible extremely well. As one of the world's greatest writers, Shakespeare touched on every human emotion and portrayed every possible personality, and the Bible was a frequent source used in his writings. *Hamlet* and *Othello* each have 50-60 conscious Biblical references, while other plays have somewhat less. Jesus' parable of the prodigal son is Shakespeare's most frequent Biblical reference, while the story of brothers Cain and Abel is the second most quoted. In Shakespeare's day, people were familiar with the Bible from the regular reading of the Bible in the church services. Following the schedule in the Anglican *Book of Common Prayer*, the New Testament was read three times a year and the Old Testament once. Dr. Shaheen gave evidence that Shakespeare was a practicing Anglican, but not particularly religious. Though the Bible was an important source for his writing, his plays were written not to present a religious message, but to entertain.

continued on p 3

DR. DONALD BRAKE, dean of Multnomah Seminary, spoke on "The Greek text behind the English Bible" on October 10. As a collector of rare Bibles and manuscripts, Dr. Brake wove stories of his personal Bible collection into his account of the various Greek manuscripts used in English translations over the last centuries. He was able to present the issues behind biblical textual criticism in a way easy for the layman to comprehend. The stories behind Erasmus' Greek text, the *textus receptus*, *Codex Vaticanus*, and others reinforced an appreciation for God's providential preservation of His Word. God revealed Himself in His

Scriptures so that we could have knowledge, an emotional response, and a volitional choice to lead a holy and godly life.

For those that were unable to attend the opening lectures, they will be available for listening or downloading on the **Dunham Bible Museum** website, www.hbu.edu/biblemuseum. The purpose of the **Dunham Bible Museum Lecture Series** is to bring scholars to HBU's campus to speak on the Bible's history and influence in every area of life and culture. The next Lecture will be February 26, when Ronald White will speak on "The Bible and Lincoln."

Join the Dunham Bible Museum Friends

In this inaugural year of the new Dunham Bible Museum, the Dunham Bible Museum Friends is being organized to support the programs and collections of the Museum through annual contributions and participation in Museum events. Dunham Bible Museum Friends help spread the word about the exhibits and activities of the Dunham Bible Museum. Friends also have the satisfaction that their tax deductible gift will benefit the Dunham Bible Museum and enable it to achieve its goal of being a premier museum dedicated to the Bible, its message, history, and influence. All Friends will receive year-long benefits of a printed subscription to the Dunham Bible Museum News, invitations to exhibit openings, a membership certificate, and a discount on Museum store purchases. Additional benefits are available for those wishing to contribute at a higher level. Won't you consider becoming a charter member of the Dunham Bible Museum Friends?

Annual Membership Levels and Benefits

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p><input type="checkbox"/> King James Level - \$50 (Student \$30)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership card/ certificate • Invitations to exhibit openings and announcements of public programs • Printed copy of Dunham Bible Museum News • 10% discount on Museum store purchases <p><input type="checkbox"/> Geneva Level - \$75</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King James Level benefits • Autographed copy of Donald Brake's <i>A Visual History of the English Bible</i> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Coverdale Level - \$250</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geneva Level benefits • 20% discount on Museum store purchases <p><input type="checkbox"/> Wycliffe Level - \$500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coverdale Level benefits • An original 1611 King James Bible leaf, quarto size • Private reception with Dr. and Mrs. Robert Sloan | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tyndale Level - \$1,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wycliffe Level benefits • An original 1611 King James Bible leaf, folio size • Private tour with director for 30 persons or less from donor's friends, business, church, club, or other organization. <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gutenberg Level (Corporate Benefactor)- \$2,000+</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyndale Level benefits • Recognition notice in each quarterly Dunham Bible Museum News <p><input type="checkbox"/> St. Jerome Level (Life-time Individual Membership) - \$10,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyndale Level benefits • Framed original 1611 King James Bible leaf |
|---|--|

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Gift membership from _____

- I authorize the publication of my name on the Dunham Bible Museum Friends list.
- Please do not publish my name on the Dunham Bible Museum Friends list.
- I am interested in volunteer opportunities at the Dunham Bible Museum Friends.

Please check your chosen membership level above, and make checks payable to Dunham Bible Museum - HBU or pay by credit card below:

Visa Mastercard American Express Discover Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____ Name as shown on card _____ Signature _____

Mail this form with payment to:

**Dunham Bible Museum • Houston Baptist University
7502 Fondren Road • Houston, TX 77074-3298**

DUNHAM

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**Visit our website at
www.hbu.edu/biblemuseum**

“To the Bible men will return because they cannot do without it. The true God is and must be preeminently the God of the Bible, the eternal who makes for righteousness, from whom Jesus came forth, and whose spirit governs the course of humanity.”

— Matthew Arnold



Poster from Abraham Lincoln's first campaign for president in 1860. An American eagle poses above Lincoln and Hamlin, the vice presidential candidate. Beneath them is the White House, a book of U.S. Laws and the Holy Bible. From the Library of Congress Digital Collection.

Please notify us of any changes or corrections in your address. We also welcome hearing from our readers and Museum visitors. If you would like to receive the Dunham Bible Museum News by e-mail and save the University postage, send your email address to dseverance@hbu.edu.

Visiting the Museum

The Dunham Bible Museum is open 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 Monday through Saturday. To make an appointment at other times, for group tours or for further information, contact **Dr. Diana Severance at 281-649-3287 or dseverance@hbu.edu.**

COMING EVENTS

Mark your calendars for coming lectures and exhibits (the Bible Museum will be open before and after all lectures).

October 9–November 13 – Special exhibit on Soldiers' Bibles

February 26 – “The Bible and Lincoln” by Ronald C. White, author of *Lincoln's Greatest Speech, The Eloquent President: A Portrait of Lincoln Through His Words*, 7 p.m., Belin Chapel.

March 12 - April 16 – Special exhibit on the St. John's Bible