Houston Baptist University

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### 1516 Psalter from Genoa

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The Dunham Bible Museum has acquired a polyglot psalter produced in Genoa, Italy in 1516 by Agostino Giustiniani. The psalter is unique in several ways. It is the first poly-glot (many-languages) printing of any part of the Bible. The Psalms appear in eight columns across two pages – in Hebrew, a Latin paraphrase, the Latin Vulgate, the Septuagint Greek, Arabic, Aramaic (or Chaldean), a Latin translation of the Aramaic, and scholarly notes. The column with the scholarly notes and commentary sometimes flows into the bottom of the page. The psalter was a great linguistic and typographical achievement, and is only the second known work to use Arabic moveable type.

Agostino Giustiniani (1470-1536), from a noble family in Genoa, was a scholar and friend of Erasmus and Sir Thomas More. A noted linguist, he was the first to occupy the chair of Hebrew and Arabic at the University of Paris. Giustiniani was proud of the fellow Genoan Christopher Columbus, so much so that the first biography of Columbus is in the Genoan Psalter! Giustiniani believed Psalm 19:4, "their sound is gone out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world," described Christopher Columbus' voyages. The biographical note surrounds the text for three pages and is the first biographical account of Columbus and the first published account of his second voyage. However, Ferdinand Columbus, Columbus's second son, thought the psalter's biography of his father didn't properly treat of his origins. He complained to the Genoese Senate, which ordered the 2,000 copies of the psalter destroyed! Thankfully, the decree was not fully carried out, and a copy now resides in the Dunham Bible Museum. Ferdinand later wrote his own biography of his father.

### Trinity Lutheran, Klein Donates Large Print Bibles

Rudi and Genie Zoch and Tim and Jean Webber, from Trinity Lutheran Church, Klein, presented a 27-volume, large-print English Standard Version Bible to the Dunham Bible Museum. The Bible was produced by the Center of Lutheran Braille Workers located at Trinity Lutheran.

During the Nazi era in Germany, many Braille Bibles were burned or destroyed. In response to a need for Braille Bibles for blind pastors in Germany, Helene Loewe Koehler in the U.S.A. turned to the Ladies Aid Society of her Lutheran Church to produce Braille Bibles. Her brother created a Braille press using rollers from their mother's ringer washer! Out of this work, the Lutheran Braille Workers was founded in 1943.



2018 marks the 75th anniversary of the Lutheran Braille Workers, which now have 200 Braille and Large Print Work Centers. There are 21 of the work centers in Texas, with 19 doing Braille, and two producing large-print Bibles. One of the centers producing the large print Bibles is located at Trinity Lutheran Church, Klein, Texas. This Center began 10 years ago originally with a grant to produce the Bible in Braille. Today, 100 volunteers from six churches, including one blind person, help in the production of the large print Bibles, which are more expensive to produce than the Braille Bibles. The Center, entirely self-sufficient

and supported by donations, produces 360 Bibles a year, at the cost of \$120 each. The Bibles are given to independent living and nursing homes, as well as to individuals who express a need for the larger print. Bibles can be ordered from the Lutheran Braille Workers website (LBWinc.org), and shipments are made around the world as well as within the United States. The LBW Center in Klein has recently shipped their large-print Bibles to Nigeria, India, Ukraine, New Zealand and England. We are grateful for their donation of the Bible to the Dunham Bible Museum.



JoAnn Hopper, a retired missionary, continues touching people's lives with her tours of the Dunham Bible Museum

# A Special Volunteer at the Bible Museum

The Dunham Bible Museum has always been most grateful for our volunteers, who help give tours at the Museum as well as help in support positions. Currently we are most blessed to have Jo Ann Hopper providing tours for many of our groups. Mrs. Hopper and her late husband, Dr. David Hopper, were missionaries for 32 years, mostly in Eastern Europe. For nine years, Dr. Hopper was president of the seminary in

Ruschlikon, Switzerland. Ministering in Europe at the end of the Cold War provided many opportunities to teach and reach people from many countries with the truth of Christ. Mrs. Hopper continues to minister to others in many areas, including as a docent at the Dunham Bible Museum. We are deeply grateful for Mrs. Hopper's work with us.

Mrs. Hopper also donated a Czech and Swiss Bible from her husband's library; they are welcome additions to our foreign Bible translation collection.

### Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers help provide tours for our groups and also other support activities for the Museum. With the retirement of Suzie Snoddy from the University Museums, we are at present especially in need of volunteers to act as receptionist to the University Museums. Hours are flexible, and volunteers may choose to work weekly or monthly. If you are interested in helping out in the Museum, either as a receptionist or a tour guide, (training will be provided!) please contact:

Dr. Diana Severance 281-649-3287 or DSeverance@HBU.edu

### PIECE OF THE PAST, 2018

The seventh Annual "A Piece of the Past" Museum Essay Contest winners were announced at a special awards dinner April 17. The contest, sponsored by the Joella and Stewart Morris Foundation, awards cash prizes to winners who write about artifacts in the three University Museums and the Art Museums. Over 40 essays were submitted in the Dunham Bible Museum category. Seth Grant won first place (\$500) for his essay, "The Gospel of America's Russian Apostle: The Gospel of Matthew, 1848, Aleut Translation;" Jacob Johnson won second (\$250) for his, "A Link in the Chain: The Pump Organ's Role in the History of Christian Worship."Two essays from HBU Academy students also won awards. Gabrielle Thomason won first place for her "The Child's Bible by a Lady of Cincinnati;" and Cole Revnolds won second for, "A Well-Founded Translation: Charles Thomson's Translation of the Bible." Congratulations to these winners for their excellent research and writing about artifacts in the Dunham Bible Museum.



Seth Grant and Jacob Johnson were first and second places winners in the "Dunham Bible Museum" category of the 2018 Piece of the Past essay contest.

### Dunham Bible Museum Friends

The Dunham Bible Museum Friends support the programs and collections of the Dunham Bible 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 receive year-long benefits of a printed subscription to the "Dunham Bible Museum News," invitations to exhibit openings, and a discount on Museum store purchases. Additional benefits are available for those contributing at a higher level. Won't you consider becoming a member of the Dunham Bible Museum Friends?

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<ul> <li>King James Level</li></ul>	,	<ul> <li>Tyndale Level</li> <li>Wycliffe level benefits</li> <li>an original 1611 King James Bible leaf, folio s</li> <li>private tour with director for up to 30 persons from donor's friends, business, church, club, or other organization</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Geneva Level</li> <li>King James level benefits</li> <li>Donald Brake's "A Visual History of the English Bible"</li> </ul>	\$75	<ul> <li>Gutenberg Level         (corporate benefactor)</li> <li>Tyndale level benefits</li> <li>recognition notice in each "Dunham Bible Museum News"</li> </ul>	\$2000+
<ul> <li>Coverdale Level</li> <li>Geneva level benefits</li> <li>20% discount on museum store purchases</li> <li>facsimile reprint of Wycliffe's New Testament from the Bodleian Library</li> </ul>	\$250	_	\$10,000
<ul> <li>Wycliffe Level</li> <li>Coverdale level benefits</li> <li>private reception with Dr. and Mrs. Robert B. Sle</li> </ul> Name			
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Houston Baptist University and the Dunham Bible Museum is a 501 (e) (3) not-for-profit organization, and your membership is tax deductible.

Please contact Diana Severance at 281-649-3287 (DSeverance@HBU.edu)

Questions or comments?



### Visit our website at HBU.edu/BibleMuseum

Father of mercies, in Thy word
What endless glory shines!
Forever be Thy name adored
For these celestial lines.
Oh, may these heavenly pages be
My ever dear delight!
And still new beauties may I see,
And still increasing light!

-Mrs. Anne Steele, 1717-1778

#### SPECIAL EXHIBIT

## WOMEN AND THE BIBLE

Women were an integral part of the early narrative of Scripture as well as Jesus' life and ministry. Throughout the history of the church, women have read and studied the Scripture and shared its truths with others through numerous ways – as scribes, translators, missionaries, queens, mothers and teachers. This exhibit explores some of these aspects of "women and the Bible."

## The Dunham Bible Museum is **OPEN**

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday – Saturdays, except University holidays.

To make an appointment for group tours, or for further information, contact

Dr. Diana Severance at

281-649-3287 or DSeverance@HBU.edu







On your next Dunham Bible Museum visit, try out our new audio tour using your cell phone!