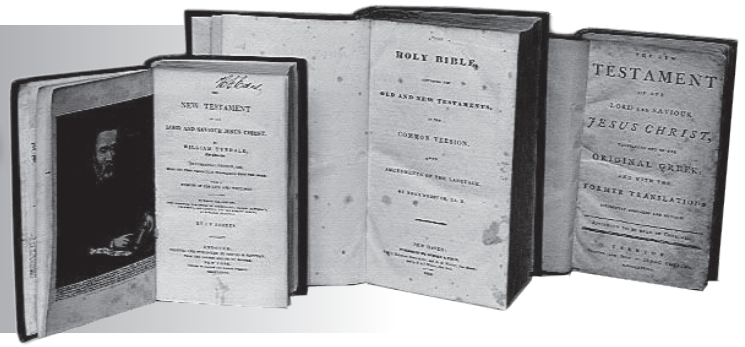


Dunham Bible Museum News



Houston Baptist University

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Why We Can Trust the Bible



*March 5 Dr. Bill Mounce
will be the Dunham Bible
Museum Lecturer on
“Why We Can Trust the
Bible”*

The Dunham Bible Museum is pleased to have Dr. Bill Mounce speak at its Dunham Bible Museum Lecture Thursday, March 5, 2020. Dr. Mounce is a profound Greek Scholar and the President of Biblicaltraining.org which helps to deliver world class educational resources to the local church. He was the New Testament Chair for the Oversight Committee on the English Standard Version Bible until 2009 and is currently working on updating the NIV translation. With a PhD in New Testament Studies from Aberdeen University, Mounce is the author of numerous works, including the best-selling biblical Greek textbook, *Basics of Biblical Greek*.

At the March 5 lecture, Dr. Mounce will consider questions about the reliability of the Scripture texts, alleged contradictions in Scriptures, and the trustworthiness of Bible translations. The Lecture will be March 5 at 7 p.m., in Dillon II in Hinton Center (the building closest to the Morris Cultural Arts Center, where the Bible Museum is located). The Dunham Bible Museum will be open for visitors before and after the lecture.

For additional information contact Dr. Diana Severance at 281-649-3287, or dseverance@hbu.edu.



Early Map of Jerusalem

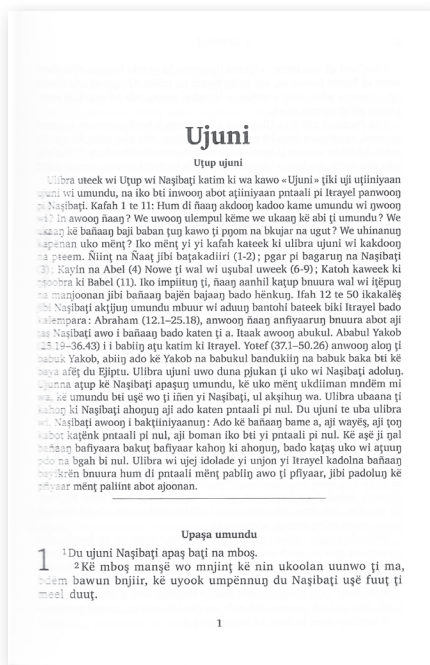
The oldest map of the Holy Land, dating from the 6th century, is a mosaic map on the floor of St. George Church in Madaba, Jordan. The original map, of which large fragments remain today, contained over two million mosaic pieces. The map shows the scope of redemptive history from Scripture in its geographical setting. Jerusalem, considered the “navel of the earth,” is the largest city on the Madaba map. A mosaic facsimile of this early map of Jerusalem can now be seen in the Dunham Bible Museum. “The Holy City of Jerusalem” is shown as a walled city protected by 19 towers. On the left, or north side of the map is the Damascus Gate. The main street running through the city is the *Cardo Maximus*, a street lined with columns. Near the easterly gate (at the top), today known as the Lion’s Gate or St. Stephen’s Gate) is a narrow street which is the beginning of the *Via Dolorosa*. The Temple Mount, which was covered with rubble in the 6th century, is the small trapezoidal area to the right. At the bottom is the western or Jaffa Gate. Churches are represented by red roofed buildings, the largest being the Church of the Holy Sepulcher near the Jaffa Gate.

The Madaba map has helped archaeologists locate several places mentioned in Scripture, such as Ashkelon and Bethany Beyond the Jordan. The *Cardo Maximus* in Jerusalem and several of the ancient Jerusalem churches have also been located through study of the mosaic map.

New Testament in Mankanya

Recently a youth group from Sierra Plantation Baptist Church visited the Dunham Bible Museum and left a gift of the Mankanya New Testament. Pastor Mark Dean told of the exciting story behind this New Testament. Twelve years ago the church began “to engage the Mankanya people, an unreached people group living in the Casamanse region in Senegal. Total population of 60,000 - living in Guinea Bissau, Senegal, and The Gambia. On our second trip we learned Wycliffe [Bible translators] had begun the work of translating the New Testament into the Mankanya language. We saw it as confirmation that God was leading us to work with the Mankanya. Wycliffe told us that they translate the Word, but they have to trust

God to raise up others to take their work to the people. Their fear is that their labor will merely sit on a shelf. This began a wonderful partnership together. As they translated portions of scripture like Christmas stories, words of Jesus, and then Luke/Acts we would take them to the Mankanya. In May of 2014, the New Testament was published and made available. The Mankanya people invited Wycliffe and us to their dedication ceremony. Because Mankanya is primarily an oral language we partnered with Faith Comes by Hearing (FCBH) in funding the recording of the Mankanya New Testament. (Drs. Hunter and Ruth Baker - members of our church and with HBU at the time - were major contributors to this project.) Wycliffe in talking with the Mankanya leaders wanted the dramatized recording of the New Testament produced by FCBH to be done with indigenous Mankanya music and not the standard generic music they have used in all their other productions. So Sienna Ranch partnered with Wycliffe and funded a project with their music ethnologist to write and record 150 original Mankanya songs based on the New Testament text. (They also did the same with Genesis). Wycliffe negotiated with FCBH to include Mankanya music in their Mankanya recording, making it available for distribution. This was the first time FCBH released a New Testament recording this way. We then worked with our partners to distribute the written and recorded scriptures to the Mankanya people. It was exciting to see God at work.”



*New Testament in
Mankanya, first published
by Wycliffe Bible
Translators in 2014, opened
to the Gospel of John.*

John Q. Adams' Advice to his son

In 1811, John Q. Adams, diplomat and later President of the United States, wrote the following advice to his son:

It is essential, my son, in order that you may go through life with comfort to yourself, and usefulness to your fellow-creatures, that you should form and adopt certain rules or principles, for the government of your own conduct and temper... It is in the Bible, you must learn them, and from the Bible how to practice them. Those duties are to God, your fellow-creatures, and to yourself. 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength, and thy neighbor as thy self.' On these two commandments, Jesus Christ expressly says, 'hang all the law and the prophets'; that is to say, the whole purpose of the Divine Revelation is to inculcate them efficaciously upon the minds of men...

EXHIBIT CANCELED

The Wiedmann Bible exhibit
which had been scheduled for Spring 2020
has been canceled due to
insufficient space for the exhibit.

The Book on Problem Solving



by Lester Leonares, College of Science and Engineering

Lester Leonares, Director of Project-Based Labs in HBU's College of Engineering, conducts tours of the Bible Museum through an engineering and technology lens.

The HBU Department of Engineering recently sponsored a Bible Technology Tour of the Dunham Bible Museum for visiting high school students. The tour was designed to examine the history of the Bible from an engineering and technology lens. Engineering, in simple definition, is the art of problem-solving. Technology is the product form that results from solving problems. The history of the Bible is replete with engineering and technological accomplishments.

Around 3000 BC, man was searching for efficient writing material. The solution came from a plant called papyrus, which grows along the banks of the Nile River. Thus paper was invented. In 200 BC, the prominence of the Pergamum Library rivaled the library in Alexandria. In his jealousy, King Ptolemy of Egypt imposed an embargo on papyrus. In response, King Eumenes of Pergamum directed his subjects to find alternative writing material. The solution came in the form of specially prepared, dried animal skin called parchment (a term derived from the name of the city of Pergamum).

In early centuries, manuscripts, like the Old Testament Hebrew Bible (Torah), were rolled into scrolls of papyrus or parchment. However, scrolls were bulky and heavy. The solution was to cut the rolls of lengthy papyrus or parchment into rectangular sheets to form pages which were then bound by wooden blocks for protection. Invented around 400 AD and known as a codex, this became the predecessor of the modern-day book. Another advantage of books was that both sides of the writing material could be used, whereas a scroll was usually written on only one side.

Books were luxurious commodities during the Middle Ages. It took months to produce a copy of the Bible, which was worth a year's wages. Johannes Gutenberg resolved the problem when he developed the movable type printing press in 1439 - a technological wonder allowing mass-production of books at affordable costs. The first book Gutenberg printed was the Latin Vulgate Bible. Bibles became accessible to ordinary people, though many could not speak or understand Latin. William Tyndale worked tirelessly to solve this problem by translating the Bible into English in 1526.

These are a few of the many problem-solving and technological achievements in the history of the Bible. The ultimate problem, however, is the sinfulness of man, which separated him from God, but God provided the ultimate solution by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross for the sins of the world.

The Bible Teaches us How to Read History

Massillon, Bishop of Clermont (1663-1742) noted that it is the Bible which teaches us how to read history: "On the histories which have been left us by men, we see nothing but the agency of man. They are men who obtain the victories, who take towns, who subdue kingdoms, who dethrone sovereigns, to elevate themselves to the supreme power. God appears in no part; men are the sole actors of all these things. But in the history of the holy Books, it is God alone who performs the whole. God alone causes kings to reign, places them upon their thrones, or deposes them again. It is God alone who opposes the enemy, who sacks towns, who disposes of kingdoms and empires, who gives peace or excites war. God alone appears in sacred history: it is He, I may so speak, who is the sole hero. The kings and conquerors of the earth appear but as the ministers of His will. In short, these divine books unfold the ways of Providence. God, who conceals Himself in the other events recorded in our histories, seems to reveal Himself in these and it is in this book alone that we ought to learn to read the other histories which men have left us." (from *Homage of Eminent Persons to the Book*, 1870, 331.



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Visit our website at
HBU.edu/BibleMuseum

*"The Holy Ghost hath so ordered
and attempered the Scriptures, that
in them as well publicans, fishers,
and shepherds may find their
edification as great doctors their
erudition"*
~ Thomas Cranmer (1489-1556)

Upcoming Events

SPRING DUNHAM BIBLE MUSEUM LECTURE "Why We Can Trust the Bible"

Dunham Bible Museum Lecture by **Dr. Bill Mounce**,
March 5, 2020, 7 p.m. in Dillon II, Hinton Center (the
building next to the Morris Cultural Arts Center where
the Dunham Bible Museum is located). The Bible
Museum will be open before and after the lecture.

Current Special Exhibits

- "Celebrating the Life of Jesus in Five Centuries of Bible Art"
- "Out of This World: The Bible on the Moon"

Regular exhibits include Early Bibles, Bibles from the Reformation and Renaissance, Bible in America, Foreign Bible Translations, Thumb Bibles, and the St. John's Bible.



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CONNECTING YOU,
THEN AND NOW

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!