

**In light of textual differences, do you recommend a particular version of the Bible?**

I would be loath to recommend a particular version of the Bible. What I would say is that if you are doing serious Bible study then use two Bibles, one a literal translation and one a freer translation. The freer one will help you to get the emotional force of what is being said and that is a very important thing to get hold of. On the other hand, it is not always wise to found your doctrine on a dynamic translation, particularly if the dynamic translation is very wide. So, if it is a question of forming your doctrine, choose a more literal translation for that purpose. There are various translations of both.

David Gooding

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Classification: Textual matters: Other translations

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**DAVID W. GOODING (1925-2019) was Professor of Old Testament Greek at Queen's University Belfast and a member of the Royal Irish Academy.** He taught the Bible internationally and lectured on both its authenticity and its relevance to philosophy, world religions and daily life. He published scholarly articles on the Septuagint and Old Testament narratives, as well as expositions of Luke, John, Acts, Hebrews, the New Testament's use of the Old Testament, and several books addressing arguments against the Bible and the Christian faith. His analysis of the Bible and our world continues to shape the thinking of scholars, teachers and students alike.