

Bible Accuracy Chart [TOC](#)

In order to highlight some of the issues we have found with translation accuracy in various Bibles, we have compiled a chart that compares the amount of English words translated from the Greek words. By using a random number generator, we have picked some of the Strong's numbers between 1 and 5624 and added G1096 which is the most troublesome Greek verb we know. Unlike the Theologians who like comparing by their believes or motives, this is pure Math, without opinions. We hope this will illustrate our faithfulness to our own guidelines in making the MLV as accurate as possible:

1. To translate the original language, word-for-word into English. Then to further boost the accuracy of the MLV, to translate the same Greek word into as few different English words as possible. We also do this for English words by not using them for different Greek words...

Specifically, we compare the MLV to the KJV and the NASB, later the NKJV and ESV were added. This is simply because they are the only Bibles that have an easily accessible English to Greek Lexicon and a Greek to English concordance that we need to compile this chart, **not** because they are 'the most' inaccurate. We have now a similar concordance for the MLV in book form. This concordance with Greek addition is available in e-Sword or as 'The New Koine Greek Textbook I & II' on amazon.

Modern Bibles claim to be accurate, but most do not even italicize, or otherwise highlight, *supplied words*. These are words that are not in the Greek, but are implied by context. The reader should be able to decide whether or not to include the words of man in the Word of God. The reader is unable to do this in any Bible translation that does not highlight supplied words.

We believe that the translators should translate the Greek into English as literally as possible (within the scope of readability) and should not commentate, indoctrinate, or follow man-made tradition. That is, insert the translator's opinion on what the verse means. For example,

John 3:16:

For* God so loved* the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, in order that everyone who believes in him might not perish, but may have everlasting life. (MLV)

'For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life. (Holman Christian Study Bible)

The translators of the HCSB made a conditional statement (might not perish) into a 'proof positive' statement by a simple verb tense change (will not perish) and they are not the only ones to have done this (NASB, NIV, etc.). Also, in the second part, 'may have everlasting life' was changed to 'have everlasting life.' Almost all other translations joined them on that one.

To keep the chart below simple, only one of the main base words has been kept; not the various tenses or plurals or leading verbs. (For example, BE for all of the: be, is, was, were, and being.)

Comparison Chart of Greek Words to English Renderings (Version 2)

Best to Worse ==>>>

Strong Part of #	MLV 2013: Speech	King James Version (KJV):	New King James Version (NKJV)	New American Standard (NASB): (1995 not the better 1977)	English Standard Version (ESV)	
	Literal	Literal	Literal	Literal	'Essentially literal' = lots of paraphrase.	
G1096	Verb	become, happen, come, born. (4)	arise, assembled, become, befall, behave, brought, come to pass, continue, divided, draw, ended, fall, finished, follow, found, fulfilled, God forbid, grow, happen, have, kept, made, married, ordained to be, partake, pass, performed, published, require, seem, showed, soon as it was, sound, taken, turned, use, wax, will, would, wrought. (40)	against, arise, arrive, assemble, awake, be, become, behaved, born, brought, ceased, certainly, come, continued, dawn, divided, do, drawing, ended, falling, fell, finished, following, forbid, found, fulfilled, give, grow, happen, have, heard, kept, law, lived, loses, made, marry, means, occurred, offered, pass, past, performed, place, preferred, proclaimed, proved, ran, reached, revealed, rising, seemed, showed, sounded, spent, take, this, turned, vanished. (64)	accomplished, appeared, arise, arrived, become, be, brought, been done, been made, been...came, began, behaved, come into being, carried, born, breaking*, came, came to pass, comes to pass, dawn, decided*, developing, done, drawing, during, elapsed, existed*, falling, feeling, fell, finished, followed, formed, found, get, give, granted, grown*, had, happen, join*, made, occur, performed, prove, put, reached, realized, results, show, spent, split, spoken, starting, take place, taken, thundered*, took place, turns, would. (60) <i>(I believe * means the word is paraphrased with another word.)</i>	accomplished, after, amazed, appear, arises, arrived, be, become, before, beginning, belong, born, bring, by no means*, certainly, certainly not*, come, descended, did, died, disbelieve, during, experienced, falling, far be it*, finds, finished, followed, frightened, gain, go, granted, happen, have, he fell into*, imitating, lives, look, look gloomy*, makes, marries, means, may supply*, need. Never, now, occasion, occurred, offense, one, overshadowed, participated, performed, place, produce, promised, proved, put, rewards, secure, secure any such provision*, set, share, spoken, started, supply, surely, take, terror, that evening*, to dawn, took, trembled, turn, vanished, wake, will, receive, you put him at ease*. * Not translated 47 times (This means paraphrased

						sentences.) (174 (includes the paraphrases))
G2932	Verb	procure. (1)	possess, purchase, provide, obtain. (4)	possess, purchased, obtain, provide (4)	acquire, gain, get, obtain, possess. (5)	acquire, bought, control, gain, get, obtain. (6)
G69	Verb	watch. (1)	watch. (1)	watch, watchful (2)	alert, keep on the alert, keep watch. (4)	awake, keep, watch. (3)
G2872	Verb	fatigued, labor. (2)	(bestow) labour, toil, be wearied. (3)	labor, toil, hardworking, wearied (4)	diligently labor, grown weary, hard-working, labor, toil, weary, work hard, workers. (8)	hard-working, labor, laborer, toil, wearied, weary, worked, workers. (8)
G3225						
G1803	Noun					
G3701	Noun	vision. (1)	vision. (1)	vision. (1)	vision. (1)	Vision. (1)
G618	Verb	taken away from, receive again, receive. (3)	receive, take. (2)	receive, took (2)	receive, receive back, took...aside. (3)	get, receive, taking, win. (4)
G3703						
G1313	Adjective	different, excellent. (2)	differing, divers, more excellent. (3)	excellent, differing, various (3)	differ, more excellent, various. (3)	differ, excellent, various. (3)
G321	Verb	bring up, set sail. (2)	bring (again, forth, up again), depart, launch (forth), lead (up), loose, offer, sail, set forth, take up.(14?)	sail, +up, brought, sea, bring, departed, led, offered, +out. (11)	bring, launched, led, put out to sea, putting out to sea, set sail, setting sail. (7)	bring, led, offered, put, putting, sail, set, took. (8)
G4815	Verb	take, conceive, help. (3)	catch, conceive, help, take. (4)	conceive, arrested, help, seized, take, seize. (6)	arrest, became pregnant, conceive, help, seized, taken. (6)	arrest, capture, conceive, help, seized, taken. (6)
G1448	Verb	draw near. (2)		near, hand, approach, close (4)		approached, came, drawing, drew in, is at hand, near. (6)
G1223	Prep.	through, +3956: always, +5101: why, because of, after, by. (6)	after, always, among, at, to avoid, because of, briefly, by, for (cause)... Fore, from, in, by occasion of, of, by reason of, for sake, that, thereby, therefore, though, throughout, to, wherefore, with, within. (24)	through, by, for, because, herefore, of, with, in, from, after, reason, always, throughout, account, all, among, another, at, briefly, how, or, purpose, sakes, so, that, though, to, wait, within (29)	account, after, afterward, always*, because, between*, briefly*, charge*, constantly*, continually*, during, forever*, gives, means, over, presence, reason, sake, sakes, since, so then*, so*, therefore*, this reason*, this*, though, through, through the agency, through*, view, way, what, why, why*. (33)	after, along, at, avoid, because, briefly*, by, circumcised*, continually*, during, for, for the sake of, forever*, from, have, lifelong*, mindful*, one piece*, on account of, of, on, on the ground of out, reason*, regularly*, result, sake, since, that is why*, that we utter*, thereby*, therefore*, the reason why*, this is why*, through, throughout, to make another, under, use, we*, why*, with, with the following letter*, you*. (43)
G314	Verb	read. (1)	read. (1)	read, reader. (2)	read, reader. (2)	read, reader. (2)
G1247	Verb	serve. (1)	administer, minister, serve, use the office of a deacon. (4)	minister, serve, administer, deacons, provided (6)	administered, administration, cared, contributing...support, do...the serving, employ...in serving, minister, ministered, ministering, servant, serve, serve as deacons, served, served as deacons, serves, services...rendered, serving, take care, wait. (19)	administered, delivered, helpers, minister, provided, rendered, serve. (7)
G5319	Verb	Appear, make manifest, manifest. (3)	appear, manifestly declare, make manifest, manifest, manifest forth, shew (self). (6)	manifest, appear, show, known, clearly, diffuses, reveal, seen, (8)	appear, become visible, disclose, displayed, made...evident, made known, made manifest, make...clear, manifest, revealed, show. (11)	appear, clear, disclose, displayed, known, manifest, opened, plain, revealed, seen, show, shown, spreads, visible. (14)
G3586	Noun	wood, wood stocks, clubs, tree.	staff, stocks, tree, wood. (4)	tree, club, woods, stocks (4)	clubs, cross, stocks, tree, wood. (5)	clubs, stocks, tree, wood. (4)

		(4)				
G1256	Verb	reason, reason with. (2)	dispute, preach, preach unto, reason, reason with, speak. (6)	reason, dispute, speak (3)	addressed, argued, carrying on a discussion, discussed, discussing, reasoned, reasoning, talking. (8)	addresses, argued, disputing, reasoned, talked. (5)
G4762	Verb	turn. (1)	convert, turn again, turn back, turn again, turn self, turn self about. (6)	turn, turn around, turn back, converted, (4)	converted, returned, turn, turned away, turned back, turning. (6)	brought, turn. (2)
G1994 (Ironic, this is a compound of G4762.)	Verb	turn, return. (2)	come, come again, go, go again, convert, return, turn, turn about, turn again. (9)	turn, turn around, return, turn back, converted, go (6)	back, return, take back, turn, turn back, turned again, turned around, turning, turning around. (9)	brings, handed over, return, turn. (4)
G3319	Adjective	in the middle, in the midst. (2)	among, X before them, between, + forth, mid(-day, -night), midst, way. (8?)	midst, among, middle, midnight, way, between, center, forward, here, midday. (10)	among, before*, between, center, forward*, midday*, middle, midnight*, midst, two, way, within*. (12)	among, among them*, around, between, company, from, he set aside*, here, inside, midday*, middle, midnight*, midst, standing before him*, two, way. (15)
G268	Noun	sinner. (1)	sinful, sinner. (2)	sinner, sinful (3)	sinful, sinner. (2)	sinful, sinner, sinners. (3)
G5368	Verb	love, kiss. (2)	kiss, love. (2)	love, kiss. (2)	kiss, love. (2)	kiss, love. (2)
G4750	Noun	mouth, edge. (2)	edge, face, mouth. (3)	mouth, face, edge, say, spoken (5)	edge, face, lips, mouth, say*, testimony, utterance, voice, words. (9)	edge, evidence, face to face*, have spoken freely*, lips, mouth, say*, spoken, they are loud-mouthed boasters*, voice. (10)
G1432	Adverb	freely. (1)	without a cause, freely, for naught, in vain. (4)	freely, free, cause, vain (4)	freely. (1)	for no purpose*, free, gift, without a cause, without pay, without paying, without paying for it, without payment, without price. (9)
Total:	24 words	49 renderings.	150 renderings	192 renderings (this is high due, computer without human editing) Estimate of actual: 173.	214 renderings	337 renderings (probably very low due to all the paraphrased sentences.)

Bottom line, the MLV is almost 6 times more accurate than the ESV, 4 times the NASB, 3.5 the NKJV, 3 times the KJV.

The first 3 columns, Modern Literal Version, King James Version and the New American Standard Bible are from concordances. They are the most accurate of all. The English Standard Version came from Logos software and even with a second revision is low, due to all the paraphrase in the ESV. The New King James Version came from Accordance 10; it is high by about 10%. It would be great if all Bibles could come from multiple identical sources, but that option is not available until the publishers do their jobs better. The MLV wants you to find 'thus saith the Greek' mistakes so we are providing a complete series of reference books to help.

If you have any other translation information or wish to compile such to add to this chart, please send it along to mlvbible@gmail.com.

In conclusion, The King James Version uses almost 3 times as many words or phrases for the corresponding Greek words than does the Modern Literal Version and the 'New American Standard Bible' 1995 uses over 4 times as many. The 'New King James Version' falls in between them. The English Standard Version is bottom of the list due to all of its paraphrasing. As literal as the King James Version was, Jay P. Green Sr. in his revision of the Englishman's Concordance showed the English word 'will' (not future tense) was used for 69 different Greek words. So the Modern Literal Version does meet its claim to be the 'world's most accurate Bible translation.'

KJV & NASB statistics are from concordances.org. MLV statistics are from the 'The New Koine Greek Textbook.' NKJV statistics were from Accordance 10 Software, ESV was a from Logos.