**The Geneva Bible** Standard use of verse notation

Impact of history on Bible translations and on the Bible you read. History is not linear, cyclical.

1. History of 16th Century England. The English Reformation. Henry VIII, split with Rome about 1530. First authorized translation of the Bible into English, the Great Bible of 1539, the official Bible of the Anglican Church.

2. Reign of Mary Tudor (Bloody Mary) 1553 – 1558. Daughter of Catherine of Aragon and Henry VIII, Catholic. (Very Catholic) Persecuted Protestants.

3. Protestant scholars fled to Geneva, Calvinist stronghold, and did an English translation of the Bible with annotations. Finished in 1660, printed in England in 1565. Reflected their experience of persecution at the hands of a monarch.

4. By this time Elizabeth I (1558 – 1603), a Protestant, is Queen and this is the Bible in common use in the late sixteenth century and early 17th century. This is the Bible of John Knox (1513 – 1572.) William Shakespeare (1564 – 1616) John Donne (1572 – 1631) John Milton (1608 – 1674)

5. Elizabeth died without an heir and the throne went to the Stuart kings. Stuart Kings. 1603 – 1689. Stuart kings were more or less Catholic. Ineptitude of the Stuart Kings. Four Stuart kings – one executed, one sent into exile.

6. 17th century English religious scene complex and difficult. Anglican Church, Catholic Church, Puritans. Kings wavered. James ordered the KJV version. 1611. Geneva Bible reflected experience of persecution by a monarch; many of the objections to the Geneva Bible were to the annotations, not the translation.

7. Geneva Bible continued to be used by Puritans. This is the Bible which the Pilgrims brought to Plymouth in 1620.

6. English Civil War (1641 – 1651) Charles I executed. January 30, 1649) Oliver Cromwell (and his son) led the Commonwealth. (1649 – 1660) Again, the Geneva Bible was their Bible.

7. 1660 – Restoration. Geneva Bible continued in use after the Restoration. John Bunyan (1628 – 1688)

8. Glorious Revolution in 1688. Two of James II’s daughters become Queen, Mary and Anne. Both are members of the Church of England. KJV in common use. 1714 – House of Hannover. Geneva Bible still in print. I don’t know who still uses it.

9. Bible translations created in a historical context and history at least partially determines the Bible you read.