

OTHER BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

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10. OTHER BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

In 1633, on behalf of Native Americans, John Eliot (a successful Congregational minister at Roxbury, Massachusetts) translated and printed a *Bible* into the Algonquin langurage. This image depicts a copy of that translation. Image online via the Library of Congress. Click on it for a much-better view.

After the *KJV* was authorized, in 1611, it became the translation of choice for English-speaking protestants and remained so for centuries. In fact, although there have been more English translations since 1611, a huge debate still rages whether *any* other translation—including the *New King James Version*, which was produced in 1982—is acceptable.

It is natural to think the first *Bible* printed in America would have been a copy of the *KJV*. It was not. The first American printing (in 1663) was a translation of the <u>Bible for Native Americans</u>, produced by John Eliot and printed in the <u>Algonquin language</u>.

Today the Bible has been translated into thousands of different languages. From precious, early non-Greek/Hebrew manuscripts like the <u>Codex Argenteus</u> (in Gothic) to the first book ever printed for mass circulation on a <u>Gutenberg Printing Press</u> (Martin Luther's <u>German translation</u>), the Bible remains the mostread, best-selling book of all time.

When people walk into bookstores looking for hot-sellers, they no longer see the *Bible* included on *The New York Times* list. It has been decades since it last appeared on that Top-Ten slate. But when today's customers are long gone, and most contemporary best-sellers have been forgotten, the *Bible* will continue *its* journey into the coming centuries.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

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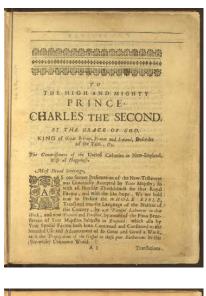
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See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

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Media Stream





1633 Bible Printed in America

Image online, courtesy the U.S. Library of Congress. PD

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<u>Algonquin Bible - Genesis</u> Image online, courtesy Library of Congress. PD View this asset at:

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Codex Argenteus

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Martin Luther Bible - German Translation

Image, described above, online courtesy Library of Congress. PD

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