



0. TURBULENT TIMES - Story Preface

1. TURBULENT TIMES

2. THE YOUNG KING

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4. THE GUNPOWDER PLOT

5. THE KING IS DEAD; LONG LIVE THE KING

6. CHARLES I LOSES HIS HEAD

7. THE LEGACY OF KING JAMES I/VI

The 1513 Battle of Flodden, involving Scotland's King James IV, represented a perilous time for the Scots. The place of conflict was actually near the village of Branxton (in England's Northumberland) during the age of England's Henry VIII. When the battle was joined, it represented the largest number of Scots and Brits ever fighting against each other. Things did not go well for the Scots. A contemporary chronicler describes what happened:

"Then out burst the ordnance with fire, flame, and hideous noise, and the master gunner of the English slew the master gunner of Scotland, and beat all his men from their guns, so that the Scottish ordnance did no harm to the Englishmen, but the Englishmen's artillery shot into the midst of the King's battle, and slew many persons, which seeing, the King of Scots and his brave men made the more haste to come to joining." (Quoted in *The Pictorial History of Scotland ... A.D. 79-1746*, by James Taylor, D.D. ..., Volume 1, [at page 408.](#))

This was 29 years before the birth of Mary, Queen of Scots.

James of Scotland—later, also of England—lived in turbulent times.

Both his mother (Mary, Queen of Scots) and his son (Charles I) were beheaded. His father was killed (most likely by his mother's lover) when James was a baby. His Great-Grandfather, James IV of Scotland, sustained massive losses (including his own life) during the Battle of Flodden (in 1513), plunging Scotland into a national crisis (because many Scottish nobles and soldiers—in addition to the otherwise capable King—were also killed).

James himself became king of Scotland when he was an infant. The foiled "Gunpowder Plot" of 1605 was directed at him.

As a precocious child who could translate Bible chapters from Latin to French, and then to English—when he was only 8—James had literary aspirations. His book *Demonology* was published in 1597, when he was 31 years old.

But James, King of Scotland (VI) and England (I), was just a human being. Although one of the most respected English translations of *The Bible* bears his name—the *King James Version*—James neither wrote nor translated it.

Some folks say the KJV translation is the only perfect English translation that exists today. But James, himself, was far from perfect.

He was just a man, after all, prone to the same frailties as all other men.

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Mary, Queen of Scots

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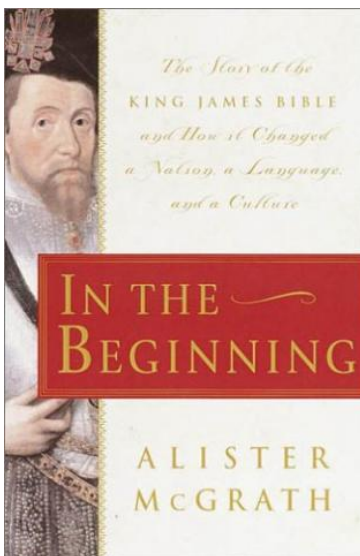
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Charles I

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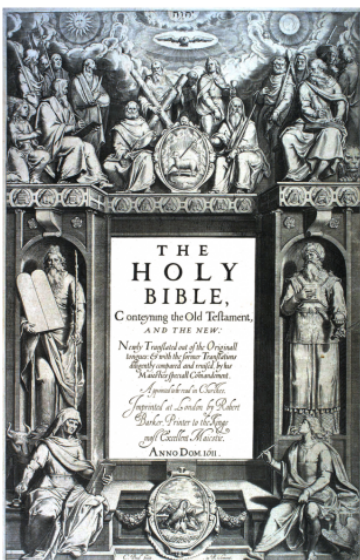


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The Bible - First Edition of the King James Version

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