Translation Terms

Translate

Translate means to lift up and carry words from one language into another language. Bible translation takes the proper Hebrew and Greek words and faithfully places them into English. The King James Bible is an accurate translation into English from the languages in which God gave.

Dynamic Equivalence

dynamic = power, motion, change

equivalence = equal, a substitute

Dynamic Equivalence is the translation method that gives one the ability to substitute God's words with his own words. This technique gives the translator the permission to add to God's Words, subtract from God's Words and change God's words. This attempts to be a thought-for-thought method.

Eugene Nida popularized this translation technique in the 1980's. However, Satan used this same method long before Mr. Nida. The Devil changed, added to and subtracted from God's Words in the Garden of Eden. Genesis 3:1-5 See also John 8:44; Revelation 12:9.

Formal Equivalence

Formal = form, shape, structure (forms of words such as verb, noun, preposition; recognizing subject, and object) Jots and tittles have to do with the shapes, the forms of words. Matthew 5:18 (eg. E, F)

Equivalence = equal, a substitute (keeping the same word forms from one language to another)

Formal Equivalence is the translation method that restricts the translator to retain as much as possible the original word forms, word stress and word order. This strives to be a word-for-word method.

Paraphrase

Paraphrase means to say in other words, to translate with latitude or freedom.

Paraphrasing God Words is to change with freedom God's Words into someone else's words.

TRANSLATION TECHNIQUES COMPARED	
Dynamic Equivalence	Formal Equivalence
Change, add, subtract words	Keep same words
May change word forms	Retains forms of words
Freedom to change God's Words	Fear of changing God's Words
What the translator says	What the Saviour says
Interpretation - what God means	Translation - what God says
This is man's opinion	Thus saith the LORD
NIV made this way	KJV utilized this method

James Utter