

What did Tyndale begin? A Bible glut?

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Today the Church Calendar commemorates the life and work of William Tyndale who devoted himself to producing the first Bible in English and was murdered for doing it in 1536

He was ordained to the priesthood in 1521, and soon began to speak of his desire, which eventually became his life's obsession, to translate the Scriptures into English. It is reported that, in the course of a dispute with a prominent clergyman who disparaged this proposal, he said, "If God spare my life, ere many years I will cause a boy that driveth the plow to know more of the Scriptures than thou dost." The remainder of his life was devoted to keeping that vow, or boast. Finding that the King, Henry VIII, was firmly set against any English version of the Scriptures, he fled to Germany (visiting Martin Luther in 1525), and there travelled from city to city, in exile, poverty, persecution, and constant danger.

Read more here: <http://www.oremus.org/oremus.cgi?f>

There are now more than 30 translations of the Bible in English available in America (and innumerable special additions) and a new translation will soon appear. But is anyone reading them? (Of course they are and that is good, but how many are learning well what is in them and living by that?) Meanwhile, there are still thousands of people groups around the world which have no complete Bible in their language.

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2010/septemberweb-only/49-41.0.html>