



### **What is the Christian Standard Bible?**

The Christian Standard Bible (CSB) is a highly trustworthy, faithful translation that is proven to be the optimal blend of accuracy and readability. It's as literal to the original as possible without sacrificing clarity. The CSB is poised to become the translation that pastors rely on and Bible readers turn to again and again to read and to share with others.

### **How is the Christian Standard Bible different from the Holman Christian Standard Bible (HCSB)?**

The Christian Standard Bible is a revision of the HCSB, updating translation and word choices in order to optimize both fidelity to the original languages and clarity for a modern audience. The Translation Oversight Committee, co-chaired by Drs. Tom Schreiner and David Allen, incorporated advances in biblical scholarship and input from Bible scholars, pastors, and readers further hone both accuracy and readability.

### **What denominations were involved in creating the CSB?**

One hundred scholars from 17 denominations translated the HCSB from the original Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic manuscripts. Keeping that trans-denominational focus, the revision and oversight committee of the CSB is comprised of top biblical scholars from a variety of conservative, evangelical denominations, including Southern Baptist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, conservative Anglican and non-denominational Bible churches.

### **How does the Christian Standard Bible compare to other translations?**

The CSB lands in the sweet spot between the more formal (“word-for-word”) translations and more dynamic (“thought-for-thought”) translations. An analysis by the Global Bible Initiative has proven that the Christian Standard Bible is the optimal combination of fidelity to the original languages and readability for a modern audience. The CSB was created using Optimal Equivalence, a translation philosophy that balances contemporary English readability with linguistic precision of the original languages, making it ideal not only for preaching and study, but for sharing with others.

### **Why should I choose the Christian Standard Bible over other Bible translations?**

- The CSB is an original translation: more than 100 scholars from 17 denominations translated directly from the best available Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic source texts into English. Its Greek source text is *the* standard used by scholars and seminaries today.
- The CSB is trustworthy: the conservative, evangelical scholars of the CSB affirm the authority of Scripture as the inerrant Word of God and seek the highest level of faithfulness to the original and accuracy in their translation. These scholars and LifeWay, the non-profit ministry that stewards the CSB, also champion the Bible against cultural trends that would compromise its truths.
- The CSB is clear: it is as literal a translation of the ancient source texts as possible, but, in the many places throughout Scripture where a word-for-word rendering might obscure the meaning for a modern audience, it uses a more dynamic translation. In all cases, the intent is to convey the original meaning of God's Word as faithfully and as clearly as possible.

### **Who provides oversight of the CSB?**

Holman Bible Publishers, a division of LifeWay, is the non-profit ministry that holds the copyright of the CSB and is responsible for its stewardship and its commercial publishing.

### **Why was the word “Holman” removed from the name of the translation?**

Holman Bible Publishers has a proud heritage as the oldest North American Bible publisher, dating back to 1743. While the publishing entity retains that name, the Holman name in the name of a Bible translation often created more questions than answers (who was Mr. Holman?). “Christian Standard Bible” removes those questions and increases appeal to the broad audience that the CSB is designed to serve.

For further questions, email [Brandon.Smith@CSBible.com](mailto:Brandon.Smith@CSBible.com) or visit [CSBible.com](http://CSBible.com).



## Christian Standard Bible Retailer Talking Points

**Use:** Employee training talking points to share verbally in customer interactions.

**Reference Items:** Global Bible Initiative chart, translation continuum, pastor packet, FAQ, videos

- The Christian Standard Bible (CSB) is a highly trustworthy, faithful translation.
- According to a study by the Global Bible Initiative, The Christian Standard Bible (CSB) is proven to be the optimal blend of accuracy and readability. (Chart also available)
  - The results show the position of the CSB related to the ESV and NIV: more readable than the ESV, more literal than the NIV
- The CSB is a multi-denominational translation, prepared by 100 scholars from 17 different Evangelical denominations.
- The CSB is a text faithful for preaching and serious study, delivered with heart-stirring clarity that will inspire readers to read it, live it, and share it with others.
- Endorsements of the Christian Standard Bible include (as of January 2017):
  - **David Platt**, President of the International Mission Board (IMB) and bestselling author of *Radical* and *Follow Me*
  - **Kyle Idleman**, Teaching pastor of Southeast Christian Church, Louisville, KY, and bestselling author of *Not a Fan* and *AHA*
  - **Lisa Harper**, Bible teacher and bestselling author, including *The Gospel of Mark: The Jesus We're Aching For*
  - **Eric Mason**, Pastor of Epiphany Fellowship and bestselling author of *Manhood Restored*
  - **Alistair Begg**, Senior Pastor, Parkside Church, Chagrin Falls, OH and Bible teacher on the popular "Truth for Life" radio ministry
  - Full endorsements: [CSBible.com/Endorsements](http://CSBible.com/Endorsements)
- The CSB is built for the church, meaning: It's a good Bible for preaching and serious study. Also for personal reading, devotions, and sharing with others. At a 7th grade reading level, it's also excellent for engaging with children and families.
- In addition to text Bibles, multiple other Bibles release in CSB in 2017: *The CSB Study Bible*, *The CSB Big Picture Interactive Bible for Kids*, *She Reads Truth Bible*, *The CSB Essential Teen Study Bible*, *The CSB Apologetics Study Bible (and for Students)*, as well as *The Spurgeon Study Bible*, edited by Alistair Begg.
- Employees and customers may also go to [CSBible.com](http://CSBible.com) to learn more, which includes an extensive pastor FAQ.