

Student Worksheet

Three Bibles, One Story

The Great Bible, the Geneva Bible, and the Bishop's Bible

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Part 1: Vocabulary Review

Match each term with the correct definition.

1. Reformation
2. Annulment
3. Translation
4. Study Notes
5. Lectern
6. Authority

- A. Explanations added to help readers understand Scripture
 - B. The power or right to rule or make decisions
 - C. The process of changing text from one language to another
 - D. A stand used to hold a large book for reading
 - E. A major religious movement that changed the church in Europe
 - F. A legal ending of a marriage
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Part 2: Chapter Comprehension Questions

Chapters 1–4: The Great Bible

1. Why were most people unable to understand the Bible before the 1500s?
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2. Why did King Henry VIII break away from the Roman Catholic Church?

3. What made the Great Bible an important first step in English Bible history?

4. Why was the Great Bible not ideal for personal or family study?

Chapters 5–8: The Geneva Bible

5. Why were the translators of the Geneva Bible living in Switzerland?

6. List two reasons the Geneva Bible became so popular.

7. Why did church leaders dislike the Geneva Bible’s study notes?

8. How did the Geneva Bible influence life outside of church services?

Chapters 9–12: The Bishop’s Bible and the King James Bible

9. What was the main purpose of the Bishop’s Bible?

10. Where was the Bishop’s Bible mainly used?

11. What weakness of the Bishop’s Bible caused leaders to want a new translation?

12. Why did King James I order a new Bible translation?

Part 3: Compare and Contrast

Complete the chart.

Bible	Main Purpose Where It Was Used	
Great Bible	_____	_____
Geneva Bible	_____	_____
Bishop's Bible	_____	_____

Part 4: Critical Thinking

13. Why do you think people wanted a Bible they could read for themselves instead of only hearing it read in church?

14. How did disagreements over authority help lead to better Bible translations?

Part 5: Short Writing Assignment

15. In one paragraph, explain how the Great Bible, the Geneva Bible, and the Bishop's Bible each played an important role in preparing the way for the King James Bible.

Teacher Answer Key

(Answers may vary slightly; accept clear, accurate responses.)

Part 1: Vocabulary

1. E
 2. F
 3. C
 4. A
 5. D
 6. B
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Part 2: Comprehension

1. The Bible and church services were in Latin, which most people could not read or understand.
 2. He wanted an annulment from Catherine of Aragon and the Pope refused.
 3. It was the first English Bible officially approved for church use.
 4. It was large, expensive, and had few explanations or notes.
 5. They fled England to escape religious persecution.
 6. Study notes; verse numbers; small size; easy to read at home.
 7. The notes questioned kings' authority and encouraged independent thinking.
 8. It shaped family worship, education, writing, and influenced early America.
 9. To be the official English Bible for church worship.
 10. In churches during worship services.
 11. Uneven quality due to many translators.
 12. England needed one clear Bible for both church and home.
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Part 3: Compare and Contrast

Bible	Main Purpose	Where It Was Used
Great Bible	Public reading	Churches
Geneva Bible	Personal study	Homes
Bishop's Bible	Church authority	Churches

Part 4: Critical Thinking

13–14. Answers will vary; look for thoughtful reasoning and historical understanding.

Part 5: Writing

15. Paragraph should mention:

- Great Bible = first official English Bible
- Geneva Bible = personal study and influence
- Bishop's Bible = church order and authority
- All three led to the King James Bible