

AN EXCERPT FROM THE SUM AND SUBSTANCE OF THE CONFERENCE, FROM
14 JANUARY, 1603, AT HAMPTON COURT, BY WILLIAM BARLOW.

ON Monday, *January* sixteen, between 11. and 12. of the clock, were the 4. plaintiffs called into the privy chamber, (the two Bishops of *London*, and *Winchester* being there before) and after them all the Deans and Doctors present, which had been summoned ... the King's *Majesty*, entering the chamber, presently took his chair ...

[Dr Rainolds, the foreman, addressed King James:]

After that, he moved his *Majesty*, that there might be a new translation of the Bible, because those which were allowed in the reign of King *Henry* the Eighth, and *Edward* the sixth, were corrupt and not answerable to the truth of the original.

For example, first, *Galatians* 4. 25. the Greek word *sustoicheo* is not well translated, as now it is; Bordereth, neither expressing the force of the word, nor the Apostle's sense, nor the situation of the place.

Secondly, *Psalms* 105. 28. They were not obedient; The original being, They were not disobedient.

Thirdly, *Psalms* 106. verse 30. Then stood up *Phinees* and prayed, the Hebrew hath, Executed judgement. To which motion there was, at the present, no gainsaying, the objections being trivial, and old, and already in print, often answered; only my Lord of *London* well added, that if every man's humour should be followed, there would be no end of translating. Whereupon his *Highness* wished, that some especial pains should be taken in that behalf for one uniform translation (professing that he could never, yet, see a Bible well translated in *English*, but the worst of all his *Majesty* thought the *Geneva* to be) and this to be done by the best learned in both the Universities, after them to be reviewed by the Bishops, and the chief learned of the Church; from them to be presented to the Privy Council; and lastly, to be ratified by his Royal authority; and so this whole Church to be bound unto it and none other: *Mary*, withal, he gave this caveat (upon a word cast out by my Lord of *London* that no marginal notes should be added, having found in them which are annexed to the *Geneva* translation (which he saw in a Bible given him by an *English* Lady) some notes very partial, untrue, seditious, and favouring too much of dangerous, and traitorous conceits.

... And so concluded this point as all the rest, with a grave and judicious advice. First, that errors in matters of faith might be rectified and amended. Secondly, that matters indifferent might rather be interrupted, and a gloss added ...