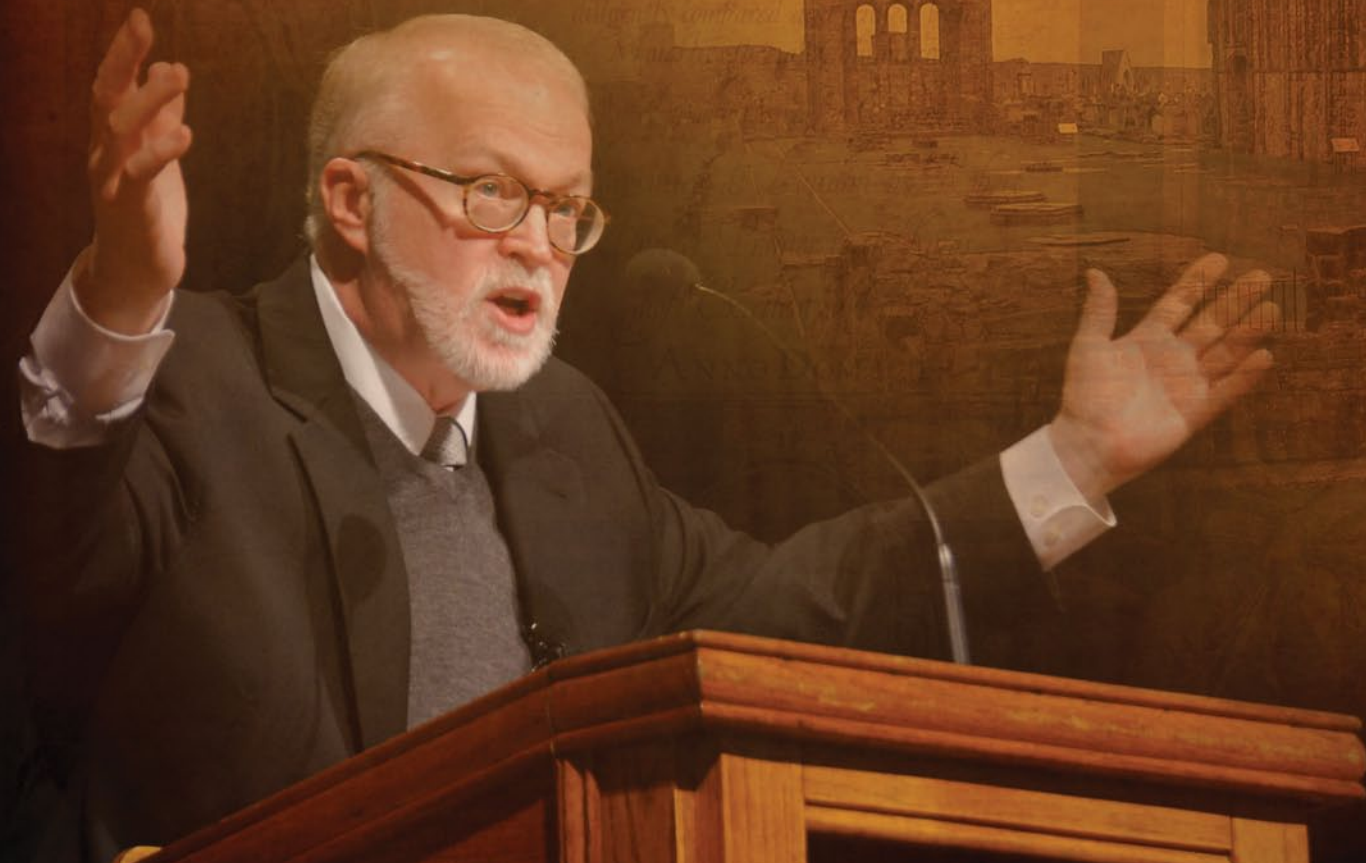


KJV 400 Legacy and Impact

Union to host festival celebrating the 400th anniversary of the King James Version



UNION'S INVESTMENT IN Biblical Literacy

For 400 years, the King James Version of the Bible has exercised an enormous religious, literary and cultural influence in the English-speaking world.

"No publication in the last 400 years has been as widely bought, read, cited or memorized," said James Patterson, university professor of Christian thought and tradition at Union University. "Protestant history in both Great Britain and the United States has been profoundly shaped by this monumental translation."

To celebrate the enduring legacy of the King James Version, Union University will hold a special festival, "KJV400: Legacy and Impact," Sept. 15-17 with three guest speakers and a variety of interdisciplinary presentations and activities.

"This is really a major milestone in the history of western civilization and the history of Christianity," said Ray Van Neste, associate professor of biblical studies and director of the R.C. Ryan Center for Biblical Studies, which is sponsoring the festival.

Van Neste said two main forces were responsible for shaping the English language: William Shakespeare and the King James Bible.

"Here's a time in history when the church shaped the culture instead of following the culture," Van Neste said. "We talk about the integration of faith and learning. The production of the King James Bible is a great expression of this integration, and the anniversary provides us an opportunity to once again demonstrate this integration by examining the impact of the KJV in various aspects of life."

Scheduled guest speakers for the festival are Timothy George, founding dean of Beeson Divinity School at Samford University; Leland Ryken, English professor at Wheaton College

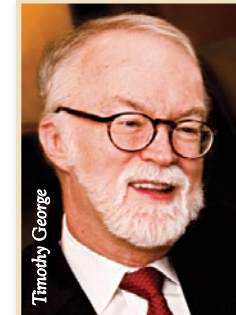
and author of *The Legacy of the King James Bible: Celebrating 400 Years of the Most Influential English Translation*; and John Woodbridge, research professor of church history and the history of Christian thought at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

In addition to the plenary addresses, the festival will feature:

- an exhibit from Union's art department displaying works on the cultural impact of the King James Bible.
- Bible exhibits from Michael Morgan and the Green family collection. The Green collection is a display of manuscripts and artifacts considered among the most extensive of its kind in the country. This will be the first display in the Southeastern U.S.
- a presentation of Shakespeare's "The Winter's Tale" by the Union University Players.
- a musical presentation by Union's music department.
- dramatic readings from the King James Bible and poetry from the same era by Nigel Goodwin, a graduate of The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, England, and executive director of Genesis Arts Trust, a ministry for Christian artists around the world.
- a film screening of "KJB: The Book that Changed the World," produced by Norman Stone (who directed "Shadowlands" for BBC) and starring John Rhys-Davis (who appeared in the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy).
- Interdisciplinary analyses by

Union faculty members from theology, history, literature, art, music, science, business, education and political science on the influence of the KJV in their specific fields.

More information about the festival is available at www.uu.edu/events/kjvlegacy. 📖



Timothy George



Leland Ryken



John Woodbridge