

Letter 247
Notes On Triangulation
Part 1
2014-04-28

Dear Dan,

So far I have voice recorded the first two sections of **Angels On Assignment**. But before that and even now I routinely review the chapters so I can get an idea of how to read them. While doing so I am struck in no small way by how much has changed in American culture and the world since angel Gabriel first appeared to Pastor Buck in June of 1978.

The other thing that I kept getting hung up on is the use by Pastor Buck of The Living Bible paraphrase. Over the years I have gravitated toward the more literal translations like NKJ. Having an engineering background, and having the (indirect) tutelage of **Dr. Missler**, who is also an engineer, I had steered clear of all but the most precise translations of the Bible. My very favorite Bible to read from is Young's Literal Translation.

I hadn't seen a passage from TLB in a long time. So as I have been reading the AOA chapters getting ready to audio record, I kept getting alarmed at how much I recoiled at the use of that Bible version. So much so that I actually considered reading from the NKJV or ESV or ISV for any Scriptures used in the AOA book.

But after having just read the WIKI* page on TLB, I saw that the inspiration for this version was for the children of the author. So, at least as far as the narration goes, after becoming better informed, the TLB is no longer a problem for me at this point.

I plan on recording my own introductory audio track, and call it something like Narrator's Special Notes or something like that. With that recording I will address how much things have changed since 1978.

*QUOTE FROM WIKIPEDIA

According to "Ken Taylor, God's Voice In The Vernacular" by Harold Myra in a 1979 issue of Christianity Today, Taylor explained the inspiration for preparing The Living Bible:

"The children were one of the chief inspirations for producing the Living Bible. Our family devotions were tough going because of the difficulty we had understanding the King James Version, which we were then using, or the Revised Standard Version, which we used later. All too often I would ask questions to be sure the children understood, and they would shrug their shoulders—they didn't know what the passage was talking about. So I would explain it. I would paraphrase it for them and give them the thought. It suddenly occurred to me one afternoon that I should write out the reading for that evening thought by thought, rather than doing it on the spot during our devotional time. So I did, and read the chapter to the family that evening with exciting results—they knew the answers to all the questions I asked!"

P. S. A couple weeks ago I was doing laundry in the basement at (G6). Angel Gabriel was standing in the doorway of the small laundry room. While I was working in front of the washing machine, I saw a small pocket knife on the floor. I picked it up and opened the blade to see if my suspicions were true. Yup. You guessed it. It was a Buck Knife! Pastor Buck's brother was the founder of Buck Knives.

Blessings...

R. C. Theophilus