

## GAY ACTIVISTS RELEASE BIBLE TRANSLATION

Critics of contemporary Bibles, including paraphrase and gender-neutral translations, will now have an even more scandalous version to censure. Late last year, gay activists released what they call, *The Queen James Bible*.

The book's description says that, "The Queen James Bible is based upon The King James Bible, edited to prevent homophobic misinterpretation." The advertisement further states, "Homosexuality was first mentioned in the Bible in 1946, in the Revised Standard Version. There is no mention of or reference to homosexuality in any Bible prior to this — only interpretations have been made. Anti-LGBT Bible interpretations commonly cite only eight verses in the Bible that they interpret to mean homosexuality is a sin; Eight verses in a book of thousands! The Queen James Bible seeks to resolve interpretive ambiguity in the Bible as it pertains to homosexuality; we edited those eight verses in a way that makes homophobic interpretation impossible."

Offering justification for the publication's title, it is explained that, "Commonly known to biographers but often surprising to most Christians, King James I was a well-known bi-sexual. Though he did marry a woman, many gay relationships were so well-known that amongst some of his friends and court, he was known as 'Queen James.' It is in his great debt and honor that we name The Queen James Bible so."

The editors argue that they "were faced with the decision to modify existing interpretively ambiguous language, or simply delete it." Saying that simply deleting passages doesn't "address the problem of interpretive ambiguity" and "renders an incomplete Bible," the editors chose the former.

One example of the editorial revisions is Leviticus 18:22 which reads in the KJV, "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is an abomination." The unnamed *Queen James Bible* translators render the verse, "Thou shalt not lie with mankind as with womankind in the temple of Molech: it is an abomination." In defense of their translation, the editors maintain, "Since abominable offenses aren't all punishable by death like this one leads us to believe there was translative error at some point: If having sex with a man is punishable by death, it wouldn't be called an abomination. ... Archetypal pagan rituals for worship of Molech included child sacrifice (literally referenced here in verse 20, and which we know was a 'zimah,' punishable by death), as well as sex with

the male temple prostitutes. In fact, having sex with these male prostitutes in a pagan temple was the most popular form of Molech worship and therefore of 'abominable' pagan idolatry."

Said to be "the perfect Bible for ceremony, study, sermon, gift-giving, or simply to put on display in the home or Church," the 610-page homosexual-friendly version of Scripture is sold on Amazon.com for \$34.95. The website's product page lists God as "Author" and Jesus Christ as "Contributor" of *The Queen James Bible*.

—MKG

## CULT KILLING HAS IHOP CONNECTION

The death of a 27-year-old Kansas City woman has drawn unfavorable attention to the International House of Prayer (IHOP), the Charismatic church and ministry headed up by modern-day, self-proclaimed prophet Mike Bickle.

In late October, Bethany Deaton's body was found inside a minivan with a note which read: "My name is Bethany Deaton. I chose this evil thing. I did it because I wouldn't be a real person and what is the point of living if it is too late for that? I wish I had chosen differently a long time ago. I knew it all and refused to listen. Maybe Jesus will still save me." An empty bottle of over-the-counter pain medication was found with the note and officials said that Deaton's death appeared to be a suicide. Less than two weeks later, that conclusion would change as a story of sex and religion was revealed.

Deaton and her husband, Tyler, were part of a group which worshipped together at IHOP in Grandview, Mo., a Kansas City suburb. In 2009, she and Tyler moved from Texas to Kansas City to take part in a six-month internship at IHOP University, a non-accredited school and ministry for missionaries. The couple married in August 2012, less than three months before her death. Tyler had previously launched his own religious group and designated himself its spiritual leader. The Deatons shared a communal home with other male members of the prayer group.

According to a report in *The Kansas City Star*, "Bethany was sexually assaulted over a period of months while drugged with someone else's prescription anti-psychotic, witnesses in the house told authorities. This was happening, the witnesses alleged, in a period of time that

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