

LINGUISTICS

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Language of Holy Writ: unity or multiplicity? (the discussion about the permissibility of the vernacular Bible translations)

The present paper deals with some aspects, connected with the history of the vernacular translations of the Holy Writ. The arguments of the supporters and opponents of such activity in the Middle Ages and Reformation period are analyzed on the example of the Bible translations in England. It is mentioned, that the supporters of the first view insisted, that Holy Writ is the main and most important source of God's Truth and must be accessible to every Christian. Their opponents postulated from one hand, that the reading of the Bible out of the Church control may lead to heresy, and from the other – that the vernaculars don't have the necessary resources for such translation.

Key words: Bible, translation, language, vernacular, sacred, Catholic, Reformation, Orthodox.

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