

LINGUISTICS

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Functioning of Old Testament bibleisms in British secular Mass Media

The subject is the study of lexical and phraseological units containing Old Testament bibleisms in modern British mass media. The aim is to present peculiarities of bibleisms' functions, their complex and diverse character, to study the biblical expressions usage referring to modern British mass media, to group bibleisms according to the existing classifications. Such functions as evaluative, emotional, manipulative, encrypting are singled out and analyzed. For contextual biblical quotations in titles of secular media it is typical, as a rule, to distinguish one function, that is, monofunctional quotes should be recognized, and, therefore, less universal ones. Their main function – to attract attention. Analysis of the features of the use of contextual biblical Old Testament words in the texts of secular periodicals revealed that they tend to perform multiple functions simultaneously.

Key words: English, functioning, Bibleism, mass media.

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