

# Historical facts about the Spanish translation of the Holy Bible (Reina Valera 1909)

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## ***Origin of the "Bible Spanish translation from Reina Valera ":***

The Reina-Valera, published in 1569 and nicknamed the Bible of the Bear, was the first complete edition of the Bible in the Spanish language .

Casiodoro de Reina (1520-1594), a former Roman Catholic monk and an Independent Evangelical, published his translation of the Bible in 1569. For the Old Testament, This translation was based on the Hebrew Masoretic Text (Bomberg's Edition, 1525), Jewish translation called the Ladino Ferrara Bible (printed 1553) and the Greek Textus Receptus (Stephanus' Edition, 1550). Also, Reina was aided by Vetus Latina for the Old Testament and the Latin Edition of Santes Pagnini throughout. The Old Testament was aided by translations of Francisco de Enzinas and Juan Pérez de Pineda as well.

Casiodoro de Reina had a few problems. It omitted the words "by faith" in Romans 3:28, omitted all of Hebrews 12:29 ("For our God is a consuming fire") and included the Apocrypha. [The Apocrypha remained in the Reina-Valera until the "Santa Biblia" edition in 1862.] One of his friends was Cipriano de Valera (1531-1602+), another former monk. In 1596 Valera published a revised translation of the New Testament, and in 1602 he finished the complete Bible in Spanish, following the Textus Receptus more than Reina had.

The New Testament probably derives from the Textus Receptus of Erasmus with comparisons to the Vetus Latina and Syriac manuscripts. It is possible that Reina also used the New Testament versions that had been translated first by Francisco de Enzinas (printed in Antwerp 1543) and by Juan Pérez de Pineda (published in Geneva 1556, followed by the Psalms 1562). After the publication of the whole Bible by Reina, there was a version from Cipriano de Valera (printed in London 1596) which became part of the first Reina-Valera print (Amsterdam 1602).

This Bible, has undergone numerous revisions, the first of which took place in 1602 under the editorial eye of Cipriano de Valera. Next was the revision of 1862, followed by revisions in 1909, 1960 and 1995.

From 1622 through 1865 many people revised or reprinted the Reina-Valera Bible, changing words at times, (though not their meaning), and the Spanish people benefited from the best Spanish Bible they ever had.

From 1901-1909, the Christians revised the Reina-Valera back in line with the Textus Receptus. Since the 1960 revision was released, there has been much debate among conservative Christian groups which use the Reina-Valera Bible but the 1960 revision became the common Bible of many millions of Spanish-speaking Christians around the world. The preserved line of manuscripts in Spanish is used by the 1602, 1909 and 1960 Reina-Valeras, (although the 1960 clearly changes many verses to match the modern perversions).