

# EMMAUS EQUIPPING

## *COLLEGE BIBLE CLASSES*

### Assignment 1

<b>Quantitative Differences</b>	<b>2</b>
Numeric Pairwise Comparison Table	3
Percentage Differences Matrix	4
<b>Qualitative Differences</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Quantitative</b>	<b>5</b>
Average difference between translations	5
<b>Qualitative</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Combined Comparison</b>	<b>6</b>
Estimated Rating Table	9
Literal vs Thought Comparison Chart	9
<b>APPENDIX A: Textual Difference Table</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>APPENDIX B: Textual Difference Matrix</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>APPENDIX C: References</b>	<b>15</b>

<b>1</b>	Select five Bible translations we've discussed. Select a passage from the Bible (it must be at least two verses long) and write out how the translations render this passage.
----------	---

Selected Bible translations that I analysed are:

Ref	Name
<b>ESV</b>	English Standard Version
<b>MLV</b>	Modern Literal Version
<b>MSG</b>	The Message
<b>NIV</b>	New International Version
<b>NKJV</b>	New King James Version

Table 1: Bible Translations

Bible passage: **Ecclesiastes 5:18-19**

	<b>Ecclesiastes 5:18-19</b>
<b>ESV</b>	<i>Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God.</i>
<b>MLV</b>	<i>Look! What I have seen: It is good and beautiful for one to eat and to drink and to see good in all his labour with which he is labouring under the sun, the number of days of his life which God has given him, because this is his portion. Also every man to whom God has given wealth and possessions and has given him the ability to eat from them and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour; this is the gift of God.</i>
<b>MSG</b>	<i>After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work.</i>
<b>NIV</b>	<i>This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun during the few days of life God has given them—for this is their lot. Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is a gift of God.</i>
<b>NKJV</b>	<i>Here is what I have seen: It is good and fitting for one to eat and drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour in which he toils under the sun all the days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his labour—this is the gift of God.</i>

Table 2: Scripture versions

2

Next, mark the differences among the five translations.

## Quantitative Differences

To analyse the differences amongst the five versions, I counted the total number of words in the source (A) and the comparison (B) version. Then I did the following calculations:

1. Number of words added.
2. Number of words removed.
3. Summed the total changes (added + removed).
4. Then compared the total changes vs the total number of words in both versions to gauge a percentage difference.

The results are summarised in the following tables.

### Numeric Pairwise Comparison Table

- To reverse the comparison the other way between versions, subtract the number.
- Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number to make it easier to read.
- Refer to [APPENDIX A: Textual Difference Table](#) and/or [APPENDIX B: Textual Difference Matrix](#) for text comparisons.

Comparison (A→B)	# Words A	# Words B	Added	Removed	# Changes <sup>1</sup>	% Change <sup>2</sup>
ESV → MLV	76	88	39	26	65	40
ESV → MSG	76	80	80	76	156	100
ESV → NIV	76	74	38	36	74	49
ESV → NKJV	76	83	53	46	99	62
MLV → MSG	88	80	80	88	168	100
MLV → NIV	88	83	56	68	124	73
MLV → NKJV	88	83	31	36	67	39
MSG → NIV	80	74	71	76	147	95
MSG → NKJV	80	83	83	80	163	100
NIV → NKJV	74	83	63	56	119	76

Table 3: Difference comparison

<sup>1</sup> Sum of the number of words added and number of words removed.

<sup>2</sup> The percentage ratio of the number of changes when compared to the total words in scripture version A plus scripture version B.

## Percentage Differences Matrix

The percentage difference between versions, based on the number of words added and removed.

	MLV	MSG	NIV	NKJV
ESV	40	100	49	62
MLV		100	73	39
MSG			95	100
NIV				76

Table 4: Percentage Differences Matrix

## Qualitative Differences

Considering the meaning or thought process portrayed by each version, I derived what I considered to be the top 5 concepts and themes of the passage. These concepts are as follows:

1. **Joy** - Enjoyment of life and labour.
2. **Feasting** - Eating and drinking.
3. **Work** - Labour / toil are integral.
4. **Wealth** - A physical aspect of God's blessings.
5. **Gifts** - Something that has been bestowed by God.

I endeavoured to consider the emphasis each version placed on each of these concepts. I used a simple ratings scale to attempt to quantify the qualitative differences. The scale I used is:

Rating	Emphasis
1	Barely
2	Moderately
3	Strongly

Rating Scale

Assuming that each concept should be strongly emphasised, the highest score a version can achieve is 15/15. By rating each concept for each version and then calculating how close it is to a perfect score I was able to quantify the qualitative thought-for-thought accuracy. The calculation and results are articulated in the following table.

	Joy	Feasting	Work	Wealth	Gifts	Thought
ESV	3	2	3	2	3	87%
MLV	2	2	3	3	3	87%
MSG	3	3	3	2	3	93%
NIV	3	2	3	3	3	93%
NKJV	3	2	3	3	3	93%

Table 5: Thought Comparison

3

Write a paragraph summarising what you have observed by comparing the translations.

Whilst some versions have similar wording, others can be vastly different. This highlights the style of translation used. To say one is more accurate is a very subjective statement, because they are either **all** wrong or they are all very similar in purpose. The quantitative analysis used above illustrates one thing, whereas a qualitative analysis (ie meaning portrayed) is much more difficult to compare.

## Quantitative

Notable characteristics based on the words used in the versions compared are:

- A. MSG is the most different from all the others.
- B. ESV is most similar to all others.
- C. ESV, NKJV and MLV are similar, reflecting their shared emphasis on word-for-word translation style.

### Average difference between translations

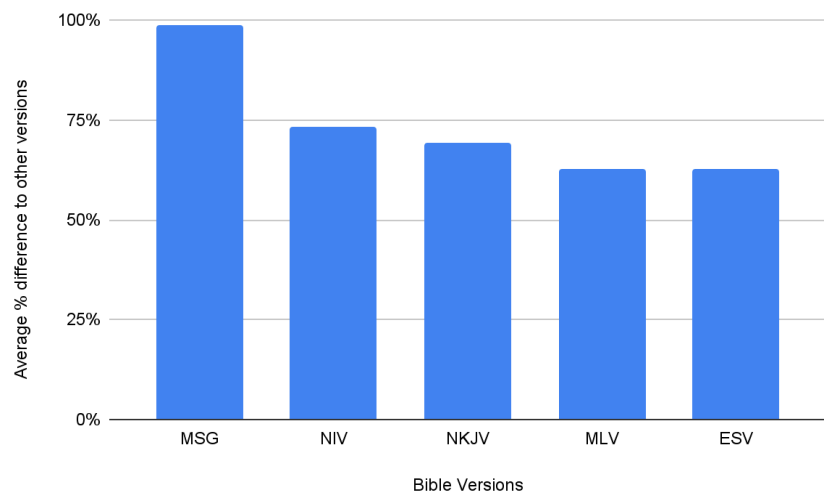
The average difference is based on [Table 4: Percentage Differences Matrix](#).

#### Average Difference

Version	Difference
MSG	99%
NIV	73%
NKJV	69%
MLV	63%
ESV	63%

Sorted by difference

#### Average Difference Comparison



# Qualitative

The variation in thought has been quantified in [Table 5: Thought Comparison](#) in the previous question and summarised here:

Version	Thought Similarity
<b>ESV</b>	87%
<b>MLV</b>	87%
<b>MSG</b>	93%
<b>NIV</b>	93%
<b>NKJV</b>	93%

This analysis concludes that the most accurate thought versions are MSG, NIV and NKJV. However, all translations (when compared with each other) appear to have captured a similar essence of the meaning and thought that the passage is likely to have been intended to deliver.

# Combined Comparison

Considering both quantitative and qualitative comparisons, it appears that the meaning of all translations are extremely similar, which is reasonably comforting to know.

To analytically benchmark a version of “accuracy”, a relative score can be applied based on the similarities of *Thought* and *Word* comparisons.

Version	Word (quantity)	Thought (quality)	Accuracy (relative)
<b>ESV</b>	37%	87%	<b>62%</b>
<b>MLV</b>	37%	87%	<b>62%</b>
<b>MSG</b>	1%	93%	<b>47%</b>
<b>NIV</b>	27%	93%	<b>60%</b>
<b>NKJV</b>	31%	93%	<b>62%</b>

*Similarity Analysis*

## Notes

- The *Word* column is showing the percentage similarity, opposite of the percentage difference calculated previously.
- This result is based on numerous subjective assumptions throughout the above calculations.
- The result is skewed because they only compare these 5 versions with each other and hence potentially has an effect of circular reasoning causing an echo chamber effect.

**4**

*Do you agree that the Bible is a divine-human book? Why or why not?*

Yes.

The continuity of concepts, timespan, historical accuracy and interconnectedness of all the books could not have happened without an overarching creator orchestrating and preserving this record.

My belief the Bible is God's word fundamentally stems from my faith that God exists as is evident through creation, life and consciousness.

**5**

*What is a Bible translation?  
Why is translation not a simple exercise?*

A Bible translation is the process of converting the original biblical texts (written in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek) into another language, such as English.

Translating involves more than just changing the words of the language, but also transferring the meaning and intent of the original text into the other language. This often requires decisions about how to handle language and cultural differences.

Translation is complex for several reasons, including:

**1. Differences in Languages**

English does not include equivalent words that exist in other languages. Eg English uses the word “love”, whereas Greek has more specific words, including agape, philia and eros.

**2. Context**

Words often have multiple meanings depending on their context.

**3. Cultural**

The Bible was written in cultures very different from modern society, especially western society.

**4. Translation Style**

Can balance or lean towards formal word-for-word equivalents versus dynamic thought-for-thought meaning explanations.

**5. Bias**

Regardless of the translation style, an individual translating a version will in no doubt introduce personal bias. A group of diverse translators can minimise bias.

**6. Textual Differences**

Biblical manuscripts can contain minor differences. Textual criticism is when translators try to determine which manuscript is most reliable.



6

*Describe the two main approaches to translation as discussed.*

There are two main approaches when translating Biblical text from one language to another:

1. Word for Word
2. Thought for Thought

Each approach has strengths and limitations. The reader should choose a translation to use based on their purpose and what they want to achieve. It can be prudent to use a combination of both styles for a balanced understanding.

A comparison between translation approaches are outlined in the following table, along with pros and cons for each.

	<b>Word for Word</b>	<b>Thought for Thought</b>
<b>Definition</b>	Translating the text as closely as possible to the original words and structure.	Conveying the meaning and intent of the original text in a way that is natural and understandable.
<b>Differences</b>	Maintains grammar and phrasing, which may feel unnatural.	Focus on readability, potentially to the sacrifice of literal accuracy.
<b>Audience</b>	Those seeking in-depth study.	General readers seeking easy comprehension.
<b>Pros</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High accuracy in reflecting the original text.</li> <li>• Preserves cultural nuances of the original.</li> <li>• Useful for in-depth study.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easy to read and understand.</li> <li>• Captures the intended meaning.</li> <li>• Ideal for general reading.</li> </ul>
<b>Cons</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May sound awkward.</li> <li>• Can be difficult to understand its meaning.</li> <li>• Requires more interpretation to grasp intended meaning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sacrifices precision, potentially missing subtle nuances.</li> <li>• Risk of introducing biases.</li> <li>• Risk of losing important details.</li> </ul>
<b>Examples</b>	MLV, NKJV, ESV	MSG, NIV

*Table: Translation Approaches*

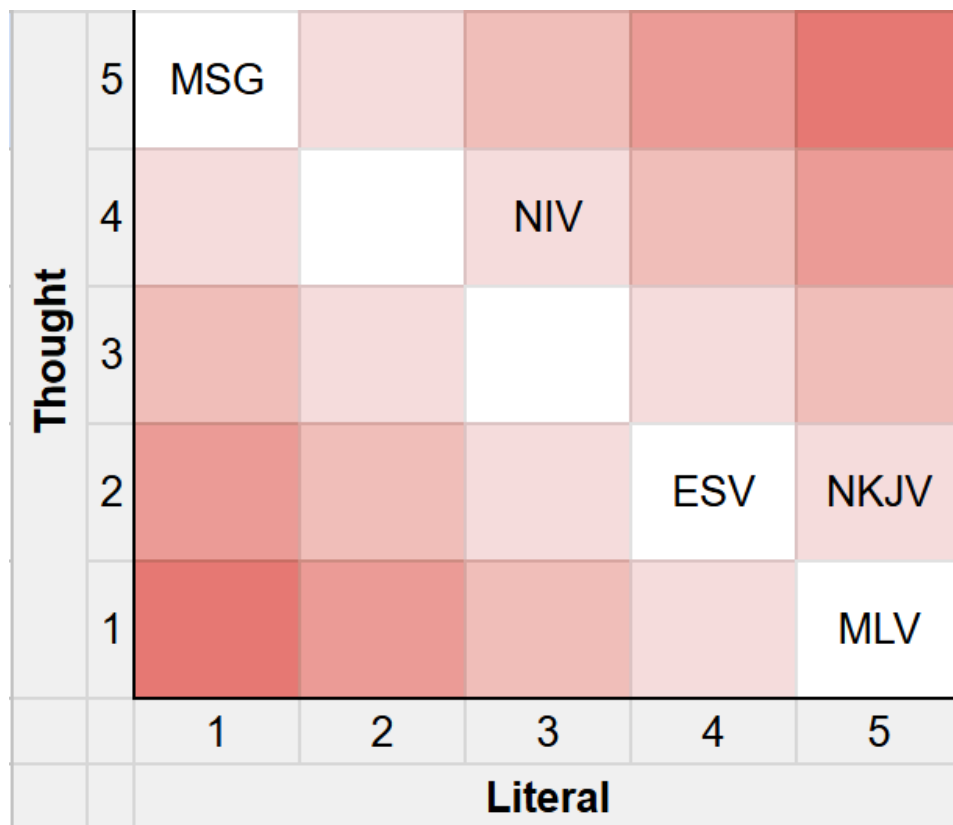
I estimated a rating of translation styles on a scale of 1-5 for the selected translations. Then plotted them on a chart comparing Literal (word-for-word) vs thought-for-thought.

**Estimated Rating Table**

Version	Bible Version	Literal	Thought
NKJV	New King James Version	5	2
MLV	Modern Literal Version	5	1
ESV	English Standard Version	4	2
NIV	New International Version	3	4
MSG	The Message	1	5

*Sorted by Literal then Thought*

**Literal vs Thought Comparison Chart**



## APPENDIX A: Textual Difference Table

- A → B means taking version A and indicating what needs to change in order to make it match version B.

A	B	A → B	B → A
ESV	MLV	<p><del>Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is: It is good and beautiful for one to eat and to drink and find enjoyment in all the toil his labour with which one toils she is labouring under the sun, the few number of days of his life that which God has given him, for because this is his lot. Everyone also portion. Also every man to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy has given him the ability to eat from them; and to accept his lot and take his portion and to rejoice in his toil—labour; this is the gift of God.</del></p>	<p>Look! What Behold, what I have seen: It is good and beautiful for one to be good and fitting is to eat and to drink and to see good find enjoyment in all his labour the toil with which he is labouring one toils under the sun; the number of few days of his life which that God has given him, because for this is his portion. Also every man lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and has given him the ability to eat from power to enjoy them, and to take his portion and to accept his lot and rejoice in his labour; toil—this is the gift of God.</p>
ESV	MSG	<p><del>Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God</del> After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work.</p>	<p><del>After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work</del> Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God.</p>

<p><b>ESV</b></p>	<p><b>NIV</b></p>	<p><del>Behold, This is what I have seen</del><del>observed</del> to be good <del>and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils: that it is</del> appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun during the few days of his life that God has given him, <del>them</del>—for this is his<del>their</del> lot. <del>Everyone also to whom God has given</del>Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and <del>power</del>the ability to enjoy them, and to accept his<del>their</del> lot and <del>rejoice in his</del>be happy in their toil—this is <del>the</del>a gift of God.</p>	<p><del>This is</del>Behold, what I have <del>observed</del>seen to be good: <del>that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour</del> and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun during the few days of his life that God has given them—<del>him</del>, for this is their<del>his</del> lot. <del>Moreover, when God gives someone</del>Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions; and <del>the ability</del>power to enjoy them, and to accept their<del>his</del> lot and <del>be happy in their</del>rejoice in his toil—this is <del>a</del>the gift of God.</p>
<p><b>ESV</b></p>	<p><b>NKJV</b></p>	<p><del>Behold, Here is what I have seen to be: It is good and fitting is</del>for one to eat and drink, and <del>find enjoyment in all the toil with which one</del>to enjoy the good of all his labour in which he toils under the sun <del>the few</del>all the days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. <del>Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his</del>lot which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his toil<del>labour</del>—this is the gift of God.</p>	<p><del>Here is</del>Behold, what I have seen: <del>It is to be good and fitting for one is</del> to eat and drink; and <del>to enjoy the good of all his labour in which he</del>find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun <del>all the few</del> days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his labour<del>toil</del>—this is the gift of God.</p>
<p><b>MLV</b></p>	<p><b>MSG</b></p>	<p><del>Look! What I have seen: It is good and beautiful for one to eat and to drink and to see good in all his labour with which he is labouring under the sun, the number of days of his life which God has given him, because this is his portion. Also every man to whom God has given wealth and possessions and has given him the ability to eat from them and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour; this is the gift of God</del>After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work.</p>	<p><del>After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work</del>Look! What I have seen: It is good and beautiful for one to eat and to drink and to see good in all his labour with which he is labouring under the sun, the number of days of his life which God has given him, because this is his portion. Also every man to whom God has given wealth and possessions and has given him the ability to eat from them and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour; this is the gift of God.</p>

<p>MLV</p>	<p>NIV</p>	<p><del>Look! What I have seen: It is good and beautiful for one to eat and, to drink and to see good in all his labour with which he is labouring under the sun, the number of days of his life which</del> <b>find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun during the few days of life</b> God has given him, <del>because them—</del> <b>for this is his portion.</b> Also every man to whom God has <del>given their lot. Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and has given him the ability to eat from them and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour;</del> <b>the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—</b>this is <del>the</del> <b>a</b> gift of God.</p>	<p><del>This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person</del> <b>Look! What I have seen: It is good and beautiful for one to eat, and to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun during the few days of life</b> <del>see good in all his labour with which he is labouring under the sun, the number of days of his life which</del> God has given <del>them—</del> <b>for him, because this is their lot.</b> Moreover, when God gives <del>someone his portion. Also every man to whom God has given wealth and possessions; and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—</del> <b>has given him the ability to eat from them and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour; this is a</b> the gift of God.</p>
<p>MLV</p>	<p>NKJV</p>	<p><del>Look! What</del> <b>Here is what I have seen: It is good and beautiful</b> fitting for one to eat and to drink, and to <del>see good in</del> <b>enjoy the good of</b> all his labour <del>with which he is labouring</del> <b>toils</b> under the sun, <del>the number of all the days of his life which God has given him, because this is his portion. Also</del> <b>gives him; for it is his heritage. As for</b> every man to whom God has given <del>wealth and possessions</del> <b>riches and wealth,</b> and <del>has given him the ability</del> <b>power</b> to eat <del>from them and to take his portion of it, to receive his heritage and to rejoice in his labour;</del> <b>—</b>this is the gift of God.</p>	<p><del>Here is what</del> <b>Look! What I have seen: It is good and fitting</b> beautiful for one to eat and to drink; and to <del>enjoy the good of</del> <b>see good in</b> all his labour <del>in with which he toils</del> <b>is labouring</b> under the sun <del>all, the number of days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for</del> <b>has given him, because this is his portion. Also</b> every man to whom God has given <del>riches and wealth; wealth and possessions and has given him power</del> <b>the ability</b> to eat <del>of it, to receive his heritage from them and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour—;</del> <b>—</b>this is the gift of God.</p>
<p>MSG</p>	<p>NIV</p>	<p><del>After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty</del> <b>This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun during the few days of life</b> God has given <del>them—</del> <b>for this is their lot.</b> Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and <del>possessions, and the capacity</del> <b>ability</b> to enjoy it, <del>accepting what's given and delighting in the work</del> <b>them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—</b>this is a gift of God.</p>	<p><del>This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun during the few days of life</del> God has given <del>them—</del> <b>for this is their lot.</b> Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and <del>possessions,</del> <b>After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the ability</b> <del>capacity</del> <b>to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil— <b>this is a gift of God</b> <del>it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work.</del></b></p>



<p><b>MSG</b></p>	<p><b>NKJV</b></p>	<p><del>After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work.</del> Here is what I have seen: It is good and fitting for one to eat and drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour in which he toils under the sun all the days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his labour—this is the gift of God.</p>	<p><del>Here is what I have seen: It is good and fitting for one to eat and drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour in which he toils under the sun all the days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his labour—this is the gift of God.</del> After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work.</p>
<p><b>NIV</b></p>	<p><b>NKJV</b></p>	<p><del>This</del> Here is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person <del>seen: It is good and fitting for one to eat, to and drink, and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour</del> enjoy the good of all his labour in which he toils under the sun during all the few days of life God has given them— for this is their lot. Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his labour—this is a the gift of God.</p>	<p><del>Here</del> This is what I have seen: It is good and fitting for one <del>observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat and, to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour in which he toils</del> find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun all during the few days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his labour life God has given them— for this is their lot. Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is the a gift of God.</p>

# APPENDIX B: Textual Difference Matrix

- Same content as above, in matrix format.

	ESV	MLV	MSG	NIV	NKJV	
ESV	-	Behold—what, look! What I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment: see good in all the toil his labour with which one toils is labouring under the sun, the few number of days of his life which God has given him, because this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy has given him the ability to eat from them, and to accept his lot and take his portion and to rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God.	Behold—what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him; for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God.	Behold—what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him; for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God.	Behold: This is what I have seen observed to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun during the few days of his life that God has given him;—for this is his heritage. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions, and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God.	Behold: Here is what I have seen to be: It is good and fitting for one to eat and drink, and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils the good of all his labour in which he toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him; for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God.
MLV	Look! Behold, what I have seen: It is good and beautiful for one to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and to see good find enjoyment in all his labour: the toil with which he is labouring one toils under the sun; the number of days of his life which God has given him, because for this is his portion. Also every man to whom God has given wealth and possessions and has given him the ability to eat from them, and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour;—this is the gift of God.	-	Look! What I have seen: It is good and beautiful for one to eat and to drink and to see good in all his labour with which he is labouring under the sun; the number of days of his life which God has given him, because this is his portion. Also every man to whom God has given wealth and possessions, and has given him the ability to eat from them and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour;—this is the gift of God.	Look! What I have seen: It is good and beautiful for one This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat and to drink and to see good in all his labour with which he is labouring under the sun; the number of days of his life which find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun during the few days of life God has given him;—because of them—for this is his portion. Also every man to whom God has given wealth and possessions, and has given him the ability to eat from them and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour—the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is the gift of God.	Look! What here is what I have seen: It is good and beautiful for one to eat and to drink, and to see good in all his labour with which he is labouring under the sun; the number of days of his life which God has given him;—because of them—for this is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given wealth and possessions and wealth, and has given him the ability to eat from them and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour;—this is the gift of God.	
MSG	After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work.	After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work.	-	After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun during the few days of life God has given them;—for this is their lot. Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is a gift of God.	After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work.	
NIV	This is what I have observed to be good—that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun during the few days of his life that God has given them—him, for this is their lot. Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, and to accept their lot and be happy in their joy in his toil—this is the gift of God.	This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun during the few days of his life which he is labouring under the sun, the number of days of his life which God has given them—him, because this is their lot. Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, and to accept their lot and be happy in their joy in his toil—this is the gift of God.	This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun during the few days of life God has given them—him, for this is their lot. Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, and to accept their lot and be happy in their joy in his toil—this is the gift of God.	-	This is what I have observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat, to drink and to find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun during the few days of life God has given them;—for this is their lot. Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, and to accept their lot and be happy in their joy in his toil—this is the gift of God.	
NKJV	Here is what I have seen: It is good and fitting for one to eat and drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour in which he toils under the sun all the few days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his labour—this is the gift of God.	Here is what, look! What I have seen: It is good and fitting beautiful for one to eat and to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour in which he toils labouring under the sun all the number of days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage from them and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour—, this is the gift of God.	Here is what I have seen: It is good and fitting for one to eat and to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour in which he toils under the sun all the few days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage from them and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour—, this is the gift of God.	Here is what I have seen: It is good and fitting for one to eat and to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour in which he toils under the sun all the few days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage from them and to take his portion and to rejoice in his labour—, this is the gift of God.	Here This is what I have seen: It is good and fitting for one observed to be good: that it is appropriate for a person to eat and to drink, and to enjoy the good of all his labour in which he toils find satisfaction in their toilsome labour under the sun all during the few days of his life which God gives him; for it is his heritage. As for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, and given him power to eat of it, to receive his heritage and rejoice in his labour: God has given them—for this is their lot. Moreover, when God gives someone wealth and possessions, and the ability to enjoy them, to accept their lot and be happy in their toil—this is the gift of God.	

## APPENDIX C: References

- <https://www.esv.org/about/translation-philosophy>
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bible\\_version\\_debate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bible_version_debate)
- [Grasping God's Word, J Scott Duvall, Third Edition](#)