

King James Bible

Should the italics be omitted from
the King James Bible?

“Thy word *is* very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it.” (Psalm 119:140)

“The words of the LORD *are* pure words: *as* silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.” (Psalm 12:6,7)

Why italics?

Italics are used to:

- indicate extra words needed to bring the full sense of the original languages into English.

Sometimes one word in Hebrew or Greek may require several words in English **BUT** this is not adding to the words of God, merely bringing the exact sense of what God wanted to say from one language to another.

“Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any **private interpretation.**”
(2 Peter 1:20)

False doctrine:

“The italics are not in the originals, so we can omit them!”

This is a testable proposition.

Example 1 – Mark 16:20

“And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.”

“And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with ..., and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.”

Example 2 – 1 Corinthians 11:24

“And when he had given thanks, he brake *it*, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.”

“And when he had given thanks, he brake ..., and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.”

Example 3 – Exodus 19:12

“And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, *that ye* go *not* up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death”

“And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, ... go ... up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death”

Example 4 – 1 Samuel 2:3

“Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let *not* arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD *is* a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.”

“Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let ... arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the LORD ... a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.”

Example 5 – 1 Corinthians 14:4

“He that speaketh in an *unknown* tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.”

“He that speaketh in an ... tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.”

Example 6 – Malachi 3:10

“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be room enough to receive it.*”

“Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that ... not ... enough ...”