

Orthography and the King James Bible

**Are Thoroughly and Thoroughly
Different Words?**

Definition of Orthography

- According to Noah Webster's *American Dictionary of the English Language* (1828), orthography is defined as:
 - The art of writing words with the proper letters, according to common usage.
 - The part of grammar which treats of the nature and properties of letters, and of the art of writing words correctly.
 - The practice of spelling or writing words with the proper letters.

Genies 1



THE
FIRST BOOKE
OF MOSES,
called GENESIS.

CHAP. I.

1 The creation of Heauen and Earth, 3. of the light, 6. of the firmament, 9. of the earth separated from the waters, 11. and made fruitful, 14. of the Sunne, Moone, and Starres, 20. of fish and fowle, 24. of beasts and cattell, 26. of Man in the Image of God. 29. Also the appointment of food.

*Psal. 33.6.
and 136.5.
Eccl. 1.4.15.
and 17.24.
Iob. 11.5.

In the beginning God created the Heauen, and the Earth.

2 And the earth was without forme, and voyd, and darknesse was vpon the face of the deepe: and the Spirit of God mooued vpon the face of the waters.

*2. Cor. 4.6.

3 And God said, *Let there be light: and there was light.

4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God diuided the light from the darknesse.

†Hebr. be-
tweene the
light and be-
tweene the
darknesse.
†Hebr. and
the euening
was, and the
morning was
one.

5 And God called the light, Day, and the darknesse he called Night: and the euening and the morning were the first day.

*Psal. 136.
5. Ier. 10.12
and 51.15.
†Hebr. Ex-
pansum.

6 And God said, *Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters: and let it diuide the waters from the waters.

7 And God made the firmament; and diuided the waters, which were vnder the firmament, from the waters, which were about the firmament: and it was so.

8 And God called the *firmament, Heauen: and the euening and the morning were the second day.

*Ier. 51.25.

9 And God said, *Let the waters vnder the heauen be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appeare: and it was so.

*Psal. 33.7.
and 136.5.
Iob. 38.8.

10 And God called the drie land, Earth, and the gathering together of the waters called her, Seas: and God saw that it was good.

11 And God said, Let the Earth bring forth grasse, the herbe yeelding seed, and the fruit tree, yeelding fruit after his kinde, whose seed is in it selfe, vpon the earth: and it was so.

†Hebr. tender
grasse.

12 And the earth brought forth grasse, and herbe yeelding seed after his kinde, and the tree yeelding fruit, whose seed was in it selfe, after his kinde: and God saw that it was good.

13 And the euening and the morning were the third day.

14 And God said, Let there bee lights in the firmament of the heauen, to diuide the day from the night: and let them be for signes and for seasons, and for dayes and yeeres.

*Deu. 4.19
Psal. 136.7.

15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heauen, to giue light vpon the earth: and it was so.

†Hebr. be-
tweene the
day and be-
tweene the
night.

16 And God made two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the starres also.

†Hebr. for
the rule of
the day, &c.

17 And God set them in the firmament of the heauen, to giue light vpon the earth:

18 And to rule over the day, and

*Ier. 31.35

1) In the beginning God created the Heauen, and the Earth.

2) And the earth was without forme, and voyd, and darknesse was vpon the face of the deepe: and the Spirit of God mooued vpon the face of the waters.

3) And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

4) And God saw the light, that it was good: and God diuided the light from the darknesse.

And God called the light, Day, and the darknesse he called Night: and the euening and the morning were the first day.

5) And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters: and let it diuide the waters from the waters.

6) And God made the firmament; and diuided the waters, which were vnder the firmament, from the waters, which were about the firmament: and it was so.

14 ¶ And God said, Let there be
 *lights in the firmament of the heauen,
 to diuide the day from the night: and
 let them be for signes and for seasons,
 and for dayes and yeeres.

*Deu. 4. 19.
 psal. 136. 7.
 † Hebr. be-
 twene the
 day and be-
 twene the

Genesis 1:14
 bee & be

* 1. Iohn 4.
 9.
 16 ¶ For God so loued y^e world, that
 he gaue his only begotten Sonne: that
 whosoever beleueth in him, should
 not perish, but haue euerlasting life.

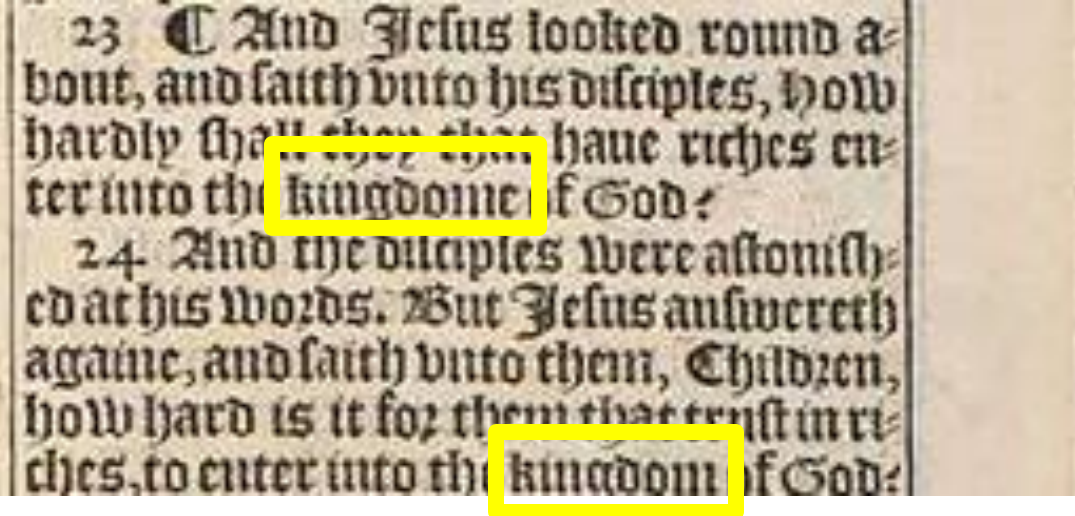
* Chap. 12.
 47.
 17 ¶ For God sent not his Sonne in-
 to the world to condemne the world:
 but that the world through him might
 be saued.

18 ¶ He that beleueth on him, is not
 condemned: but hee that beleueth not,
 is condemned already, because hee hath
 not beleued in the Name of the only
 begotten Sonne of God.

John 3:16, 18
 16)—only
 18)—onely

31 ¶ Hee that cometh from aboue, is
 aboue all: hee that is of the earth, is
 earthly, and speaketh of the earth: hee
 that cometh from heauen is aboue all:

John 3:31
 cometh & cometh



Mark 10:23-24
23)—kingdome
24)—kingdom

By 1769, the spellings of these words had become standardized and the text read accordingly: “be” (Genesis 1), “only” (John 3), “cometh” (John 3), and “kingdom” (Mark 10). Despite the varied orthography exhibited above, no King James Bible Believer views these updates in spelling as altering the doctrinal content of the text.

Other orthographical changes occurred in the English language between 1611 and 1769 such as how to handle the capitalization of words. For example, due to the influence of German (which capitalizes all nouns) on the English language, the 1611 capitalizes many nouns that were not capitalized later on. The type face of the original 1611 was Gothic font. Gothic type is itself Germanic in origin. Therefore, it makes sense that many of these words would have originally be capitalized in the 1611.

31 ¶ When the Sonne of man shall
come in his glory, and all the holy An-
gels with him, then shall hee sit vpon
the throne of his glory:

1769 Convention

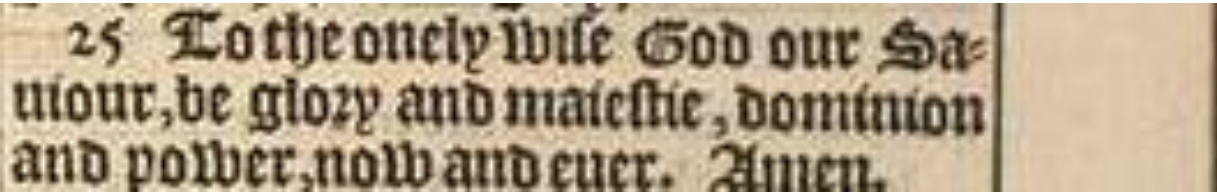
Lower case “a” used
for all angels

41 Then shall he say also vnto them
on the left hand, * Depart from me, ye
curled, into everlasting fire, prepared for
the deuill and his angels.

| Acts 27:9 | Fast | fast |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Acts 28:3 | Viper | viper |
| Acts 28:9 | Iland | island |
| Rom. 1:1 | Gospel | gospel |
| Rom. 1:5 | Apostleship | apostleship |
| <p>¶ Or, to the obedience of the</p> <p>5 By whom we haue receiued grace and Apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for his Name,</p> | | creation |
| | | power |
| Rom. 2:25 | Circumcision | circumcision |
| Rom. 3:13 | Aspes | aspes |

There are more differences between the various editions of the KJB than simply the correction of printer errors, updating of spelling, and punctuation.

| Passage | 1611 | 1769 | Comment |
|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Num. 3:13 | “mine they shall be” | “mine shall they be” | |
| Num. 7:31 | omits “of the weight” | adds “of the weight” | |
| Deut. 23:25 | neighbors (plural) | neighbor (singular) | Singular/plural irrelevant in this context |
| I Ki. 6:1 | fourscore | eightieth | |
| II Ki. 15:15 | “the conspiracy” | “his conspiracy” | Both read “which he made” |
| Ps. 24:3 | “and” | “or” | |
| Zech. 4:2 | “were” | “are” | It is a description of a vision and the verb tense is immaterial |
| Matt. 26:75 | “words” | “word” | |
| Luke 19:9 | “the son” | “a son” | Difference is immaterial in light of the word “also” |
| Jude 25 | “now and ever.” | “ both now and ever.” | The word “both” is inserted in the 1769 edition. |



I threw the ball to Andrew and Daniel.

I threw the ball to **both** Andrew and Daniel.

No, there is no substantive difference in meaning between these two statements; rather they are different ways of saying the same thing without exhibiting “verbatim wording.” So it is with Jude 25, as well as the rest of the examples provided in the table above. King James Bible Believers must be willing to concede that the demand for “exact sameness” in the printed editions of the KJB is excessive if they wish to maintain their position in the face of criticism.

Thoroughly & Thoroughly

- II Timothy 3:17—what does your Bible say? Througly or Thoroughly.
- It is commonly held by King James Bible Believers that these are different words of completely different meaning.
 - Thoroughly = an inside-out type of work
 - Thoroughly = an outside-in type of work
- Bibles that change Thoroughly to Thoroughly are viewed as “corruptions.”
- The same could be said for the following 3 pairs of words:
 - Alway & Always
 - Ensamle & Example
 - Stablish & Establish

| Passage | 1611 | 1769 | Strong's # | Changes Between Eds. |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|---|
| Gen. 11:3 | thorowly | thoroughly | 8316 | thorowly → thoroughly |
| Ex. 21:19 | thoroughly | thoroughly | 7495 | thoroughly → thoroughly |
| 2Ki. 11:18 | thoroughly | thoroughly | 3190 | thoroughly → thoroughly |
| Job 6:2 | thoroughly | thoroughly | 8254 | |
| Ps. 51:2 | thoroughly | thoroughly | 7235 | The <i>Oxford English Dictionary</i> (OED) identifies “thorowly” as the “obsolete spelling of thoroughly.” |
| Jer. 6:9 | thoroughly | thoroughly | 5953 | |
| Jer 7:5 | thoroughly | thoroughly | 3190, 6213 | |
| Jer. 50:34 | thoroughly | thoroughly | 7378 | |
| Eze. 16:9 | thoroughly | thoroughly | 7857 | |
| Matt. 3:12 | thoroughly | thoroughly | 1245 | |
| Luke 3:17 | thorowly | thoroughly | 1245 | thorowly → thoroughly |
| II Cor. 11:6 | thoroughly | thoroughly | 1722, 3956 | |
| II Tim. 3:17 | thoroughly | thoroughly | 1822 | |

3 And they sayd one to another; Goe to, let vs make bricke, and burne them **thorowly**. And they had bricke for stone, and hane had they for moztar.

*† Heb. a man said to his neighbour.
† Heb. burne them to a*

Genesis 11:3
1769 reads throughly

17 whose fanne is in his hand, and he will **thorowly** purge his floore, and will gather the wheat into his garner, but the chaffe he will burne with fire vnquencheable.

Luke 3:17
1769 reads throughly

19 If hee rise againe, and walke abroad vpon his staffe, then shall hee that smote him, be quit: onely he shall pay for [†] the losse of his time, and shall cause him to be **thoroughly** healed.

*† Hebr. cea-
sing.*

Exodus 21:19
1769 reads thoroughly

18 And all the people of the land went into the house of Baal, and brake it down, his altars, and his images brake they in pieces **thoroughly** and slew Mat-
tan the priest of Baal before the altars: and the Priest appointed [†] officers ouer the house of the LORD.

† Heb. affec-

II Kings 11:18
1769 reads thoroughly

Thoroughly & Thoroughly

- The first hint of the word “thoroughly” found in an English dictionary occurs in *An Universal Etymological English Dictionary* from 1763 compiled by Noah Bailey. Bailey’s dictionary contains an entry for the word “through” for which the following definition is provided: “**for thorough.**”
- Noah Webster’s *American Dictionary of the English Language* from 1828 defines “thoroughly” as follows:
 - **THOROUGHLY**, *adverb* thru'ly. Completely; fully; wholly.
 1. Without reserve; sincerely. **[For this, thoroughly is now used.]**
- Likewise, the British publication *A Dictionary of the English Language*, also from 1828 possesses the following entry for “thoroughly.”
 - **THOROUGHLY**, See Thoroughly.

Thoroughly & Thoroughly

- The *Oxford English Dictionary* follows suit by stating that “thoroughly” is an archaic form of “thoroughly.” Please compare the *OED* entries for “thoroughly” and “thoroughly” side by side:

| THROUGHLY, adv. arch. | THOROUGHLY, adv. |
|---|---|
| [f. THROUGH adv. Or adj. + LY . See also THOROUGHLY .] | [f. THOROUGH adv. or adj. + LY , See also THOROUGHLY .] |
| 1. Fully, completely, perfectly; = THROUGHLY | 1. In a way that penetrates or goes through; right through; quite through. Obs. rare. |
| 2. Through the whole thickness, substance, or extent; through, throughout, all through, quite through. arch., poet. | 2. In a thorough manner or degree; in every part or detail; in all respects; with nothing left undone; fully completely, wholly, entirely, perfectly. |
| 2b. Through, from beginning to end; for the whole length of time; all through. Obs. | |

Thoroughly & Thoroughly

- Please note that the *OED* clearly identifies “thoroughly” as an archaic word and tells its readers to “see also thoroughly.” Likewise, the entry for “thoroughly” instructs its readership to “see also thoroughly.”
- *An Etymological Dictionary of the English Language* (1881) by Rev. Walter W. Skeat contains the following entry for thorough: “going through and through, complete, entire. It is merely a later form of the prep. through. . . The use of the adj. probably arose from the use of thoroughly or thoroughly as a adj. in place of the adverbial use of through or thorough.”

Thoroughly & Thoroughly

- All the dictionaries I consulted containing the word “thoroughly” or any form thereof clearly state that it is an archaic form of “thoroughly.”
- In short, the words are identical in meaning despite being spelled differently. The orthographical differences do not equate to a substantive difference in meaning.
- Genesis 11:3—the manufactured definition for “throuhly” breakdown when applied to other occurrences of the word in the Biblical text.
- The type of evidence and argumentation could be provided for the following 3 pairs of words:
 - Alway & Always
 - Ensample & Example
 - Stablish & Establish