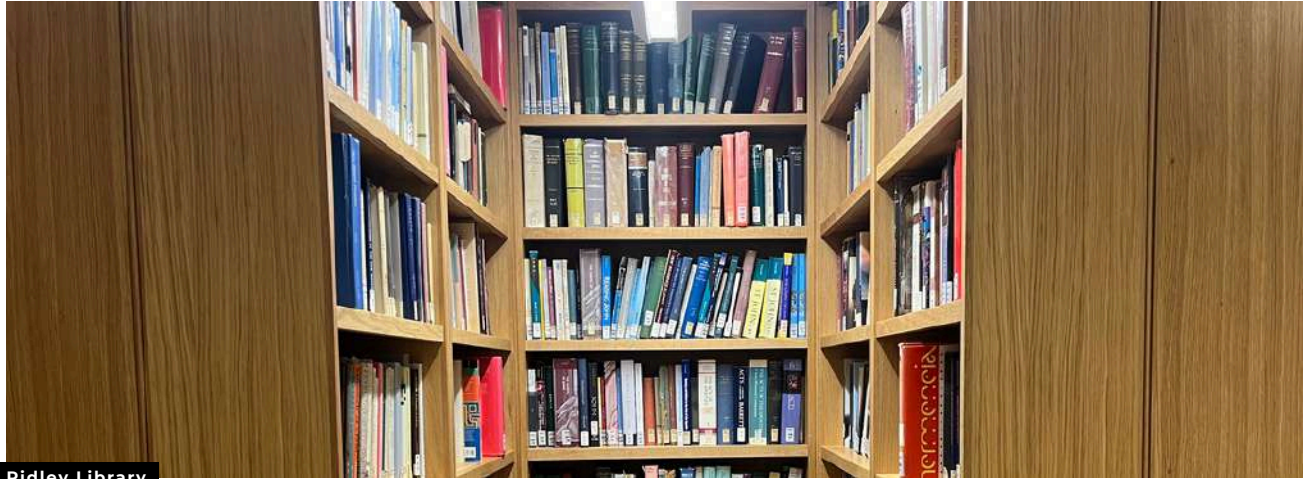


# CTF Library Newsletter

March 2025



Ridley Library

## Welcome to the March issue of the CTF Library newsletter!

Hello everyone, and welcome to the first spring edition of the newsletter in 2025. While enjoying the sunshine, we invite you to browse our monthly library round-up.

March has brought plenty of new print and digital acquisitions, and you can explore where to find everything from Augustine to liberation theology on page 2.

This edition's feature explores Westminster College's collection of Bibles from around the world, offering insight into the history of Bible translation, book bindings, and the study of languages (pages 3-5) — and for those interested in global Christianity, librarian Ruth MacLean has summarised CCCW's latest acquisitions (page 6).

Finally, as the spring evenings get longer and Easter slowly approaches, the librarians have arranged a display of Lent sermons and meditations through the ages in Westcott House Library — you can see photographs on page 7.

As always, do get in touch with us if you have any library problems that need solving!

Jane and Grace  
The Library Team

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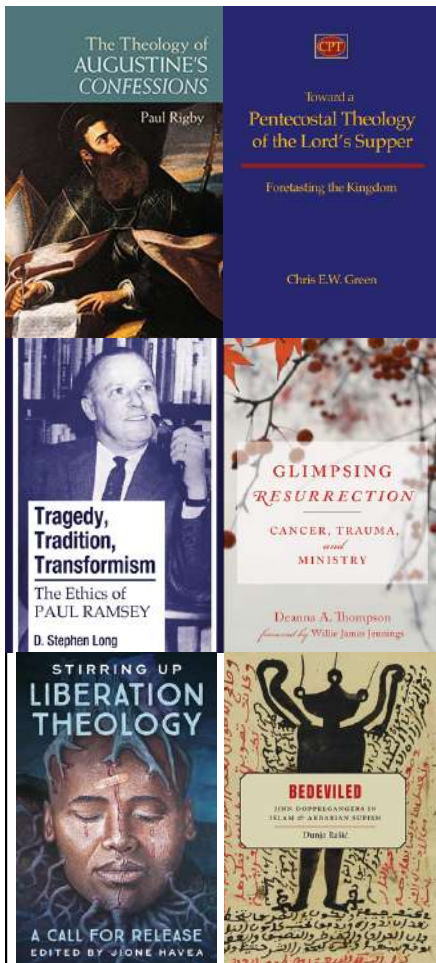
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update, p.7

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## What's new in CTF libraries?

Highlights from collections across the CTF.

- **IOCS:** Rigby, Paul, *The Theology of Augustine's Confessions* (2015).
- **Ridley:** Green, Chris E. W., *Toward a Pentecostal Theology of the Lord's Supper* (2012).
- **Wesley:** Long, D. Stephen, *Tragedy, Tradition, Transformism: the ethics of Paul Ramsey* (2007).
- **Westcott:** Thompson, Deanna A., *Glimpsing Resurrection: cancer, trauma, and ministry* (2018).
- **Westminster:** Havea, Jione, *Stirring up Liberation Theologies: a call for release* (2024).
- **Woolf:** Rašić, Dunja, *Bedeviled: Jinn Doppelgangers in Islam and Akbarian Sufism* (2024).

## What's new in eDiscover?

Explore highlights from this month's new ebook acquisitions & many more on eDiscover.

- Copeland, Rebecca, *Created Being: expanding creedal Christology* (2020)
- Goodhead, Andrew, *A Crown and a Cross: the rise, development, and decline of the Methodist class meeting in eighteenth-century England* (2015)
- Hays, Richard B., *First Corinthians: interpretation; a Bible commentary for teaching and preaching* (2011)
- Jesson, Jill, *Doing Your Literature Review: traditional and systematic techniques* (2011)
- Kynes, Bill, *Wrestling with Job: defiant faith in the face of suffering* (2022)
- Linthicum, Robert C., *Building a People of Power: equipping churches to transform Their communities* (2015)



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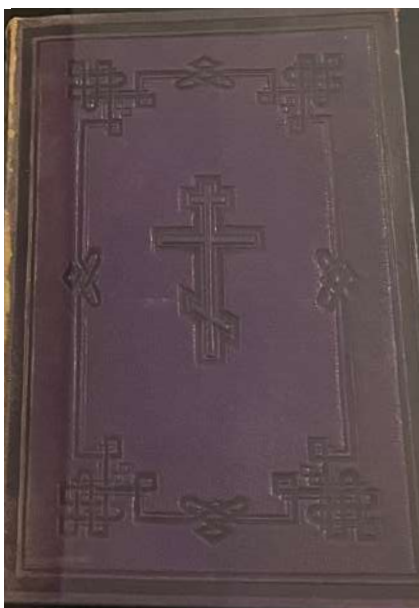
# Digital display: Global Bibles

Westminster College Library has an extensive collection of Bibles in translation from the Biblical languages. This temporary display highlights a curated selection of Bibles from across the globe: visit Westminster Library to view in person, or explore our digital display below.

Mostly published from the 19th to mid-20th centuries, this collection is an important record of the history of Bible translation and scholarship in this period. It highlights scholarly and ecclesiastical debates about linguistic modernisation. It touches on complex questions of European missionary translation work, and also showcases the learned work of Biblical translators around the world.

The books themselves range from beautiful, luxury editions to practical everyday texts, showcasing developments in printing, typography, and bookbinding, and offering glimpses into how they were used by their readers.

## Modernising reading the Bible in the 19th century



### Russian New Testament

This translation of the New Testament into modern Russian, published in 1864 is also known as the synodal translation. It was part of hotly debated 19th-century efforts to modernise Biblical translation and the Russian church, moving away from the Old Slavonic texts used since the 9th century.

*[New Testament, Synodal Translation]*  
(1864)



### Amharic New Testament

Ethiopian Christians read the Bible in the ancient liturgical language Ge'ez from the 4th to the 19th centuries. The Ethiopian monk and traveller Abu Rumi first translated the Bible into Amharic, a modern spoken Ethiopian language, in the 1820s. This 1852 edition was published in London, and Abu Rumi's version remained in use for over a century.

*Novum Testamentum domini nostri et salvatoris in linguam amharicam*  
(Londini: Typis Guillelmi mavori Watts, 1852)



### Bagster's Polyglot Bible

This polyglot (multilingual) Bible's large folio pages contain 8 languages at once, including the King James English translation. The KJV was the dominant English translation for Anglicans between 1611 and the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. In 1769 a revised edition standardised its widely varying spelling and punctuation. A revised translation (RV) was published in 1881-94 - among its translators was Westcott House's namesake Brooke Foss Westcott.

*Biblia sacra polyglotta* (Londini: Sumptibus Samuelis Bagster, 1831).



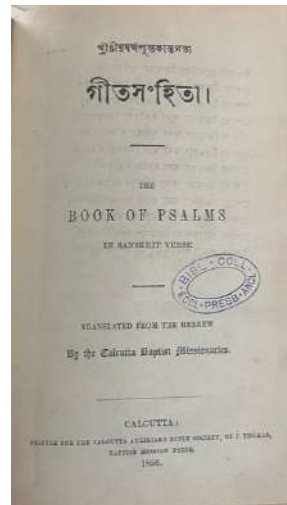
# The craft of printing, binding, and typography



## Arabic Bible

This Arabic Bible was commissioned by SPCK, and translated by Cambridge professor Samuel Lee and Lebanese scholar Ahmad Faris Shidyaaq in 1848. Its stamped decorative binding recalls the foliate and geometric patterns of Islamic art, which had influenced European bookbinding for centuries.

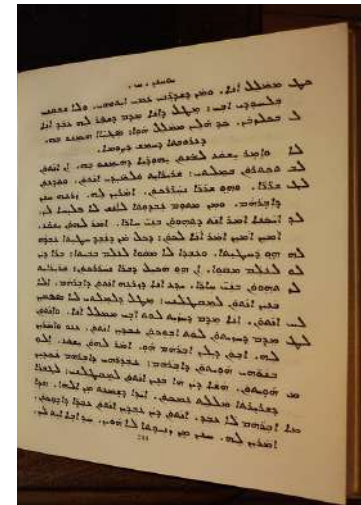
[Arabic Bible], trans. by Ahmad Faris Shidyaaq, Samuel Lee (London: SPCK, 1848)



## Psalms in Sanskrit verse

This verse translation of the Psalms in Sanskrit was published by the Baptist Mission Press in Calcutta. The Press, founded by Baptist missionary William Carey in Serampore in 1801, printed in over 200 languages, and developed innovative typefaces for printing in Indian scripts.

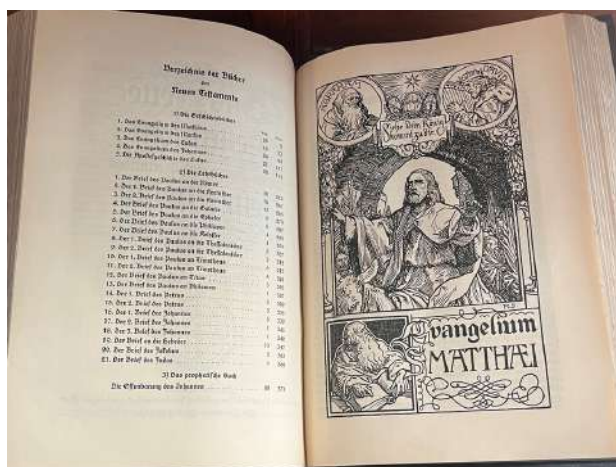
*The Book of Psalms in Sanskrit Verse*, trans. from the Hebrew by the Calcutta Baptist Missionaries (Calcutta: Baptist Mission Press, 1856)



## Syriac Gospels

A note by William Wright, Cambridge professor of Arabic 1870-1889, identifies this book as 'Syro-Chaldaic', or East Syriac written in the Maḡṇḥāyā alphabet. Wright notes that the book was created for the use of Assyrian Christians in Urmia, in what is now Iran.

[Gospels in Syriac] (London: 19<sup>th</sup> century)



## German illustrated Bible

Since the 15th century, most European countries printed using Roman-style typefaces that are still familiar to us (like the one this label is using). Germany was a significant exception. This 1929 Bible uses a blackletter typeface known as 'Fraktur', modeled on medieval Gothic handwriting. Fraktur was widely used throughout Germany until the Nazis banned it in 1941.

*Die Bibel oder die ganze Heilige Schrift des Alten u. Neuen Testaments* (Stuttgart: Privileg. Württembergische Bibelanstalt, 1929).

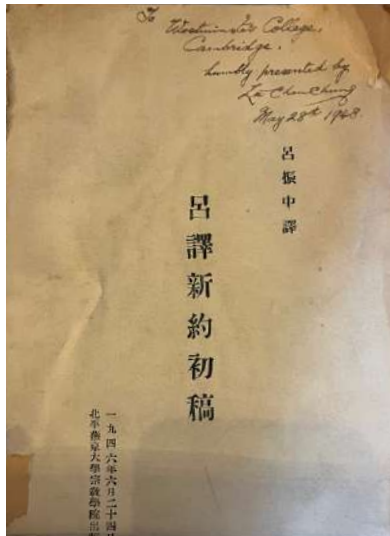


## Kalmyk Acts

The Kalmyks are a Mongolian ethnic group mainly living in Russia. This Kalmyk Bible was printed in 1815 in 'clear script'/Todo Bichig, a vertical writing system based on classical Mongolian but designed in 1648 specifically for Oirat language family, which includes Kalmyk. The script was used extensively until the 19th century but today, Kalmyk is more often written in Cyrillic script.

[Acts of the Apostles in Kalmyk], (1815)

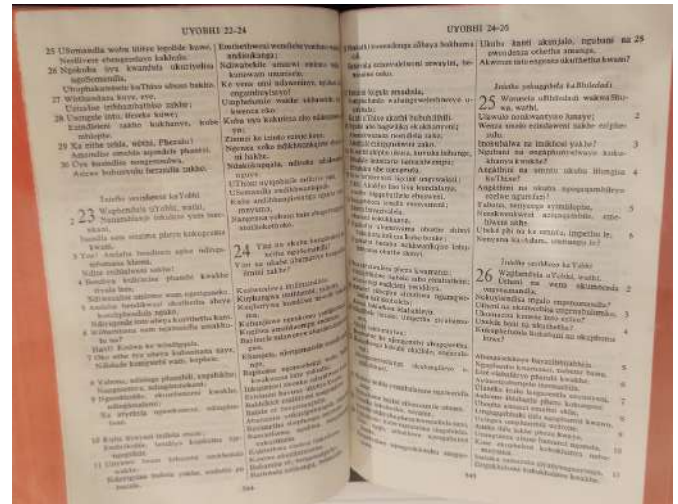
# Translators and the work of translation



## First draft of Lu Chen Chung's translation of the New Testament

This remarkable book is a first draft of Lu Chen Chung's revised translation of the Bible into Chinese. His work on this translation took 30 years, and was published by the Hong Kong Bible Society in 1970. Lu Chen Chung was a member of Westminster College in the 1940s, and donated this draft to the College in 1948.

Lǚ yì xīnyuē chūgǎo, trans. by Lu Chen Chung (1948)



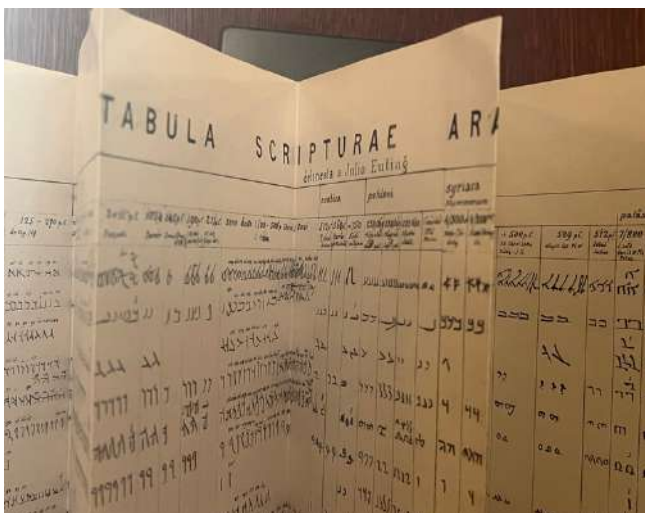
## Xhosa Bible

The Bible was first translated into isiXhosa, spoken by around 8 million people in South Africa, in 1859, by a team including Wesleyan missionary Henry Hare Dugmore and Tiyo Soga, the first ordained black South African. J.W. Appleyard's 1864 revision was criticised for being too unnatural in isiXhosa. The Bible Society of South Africa revised the text in 1975.

[Incwadi yeziBhalo ezingcwele : izezeTestamente endala nezeTestamente entsha](#) (Cape Town: UMButho weBhayibhile woMzantsi-Afrika, 1975).

## Learning Biblical languages

Today, students wanting to read the Bible in its original languages have access to a wealth of online resources. Here, explore some of the ways 19th century students of Biblical languages went about their studies.



## Julius Euting's Aramaic Script Table (1889)

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, students of Semitic languages were likely to turn to Euting's script tables. Euting meticulously detailed Aramaic scripts' development over time and geographic location. The table's title is in Latin, which was considered an essential scholarly language for students throughout Europe.

Julius Euting, *Tabula scripturae aramaicae* (Argentorati: 1889)

## Robert Hill Thornton's Tanakh

This Hebrew Torah was presented to Robert Hill Thornton, a Presbyterian Church of England minister, in 1899. We can see his translations, and detailed notes on the Hebrew grammar and script all over the margins of this book. Perhaps this process looks familiar to anyone trying to read in a foreign language today.

*Sefer torah nevi'im u-ketuvim* (Wien: Adolf Holzhausen)





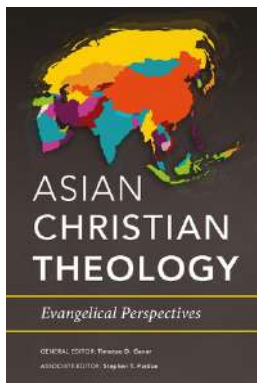
Ruth MacLean, CCCW Librarian, highlights six recent CCCW acquisitions.

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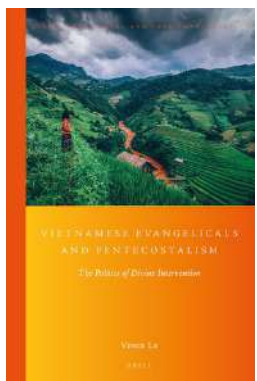
**Collinson, Mark, *Witnessing God's Mission : towards a missional ecclesiology of the Church of England* (2024)**

This PhD thesis is organised into four sections and begins by setting the context and looking at the interface between missiology and ecclesiology in a contemporary context. It moves on to a contemporary discourse on the 'mission-shaped' church as defined by the MSC report. This is followed by an examination of contemporary influences on the ecclesiology of the Church of England. The final section draws earlier threads together to establish a contemporary missional ecclesiology. The conclusion offers four marks of a missional ecclesiology.



**Gener, Timoteo D. and Stephen T. Pardue, *Asian Christian Theology : evangelical perspectives* (2019)**

This text includes sixteen essays by leading evangelical theologians in Asia, representing a wide variety of Asian contexts, address traditional doctrines such as revelation, Christology and eschatology, and also contemporary issues such as cultural identity, religious plurality, the socially oppressed, displaced people groups, and reconciliation. As well as being a key resource for Asian seminaries, this book is important reading for anyone outside Asia interested in global theological perspectives, missions, cross-cultural ministry, and for those serving in contexts with a significant Asian diaspora.



**Le, Vince, *Vietnamese Evangelicals and Pentecostalism : the politics of divine intervention* (2018)**

This book offers an analysis of the historical, theological, and social conditions that give rise to the growth of Pentecostalism among contemporary Vietnamese evangelicals. What emerges is an understanding of how the Pentecostal emphasis on divine intervention has become a grassroots solution in the pursuit of the betterment of life amid social conditions of oppression, marginalisation, and abuse, although examples are given where it falls short to address other concerns for contemporary Vietnamese evangelicals.



**Rhodes, Matt, *No Shortcut to Success : a manifesto for modern missions* (2022)**

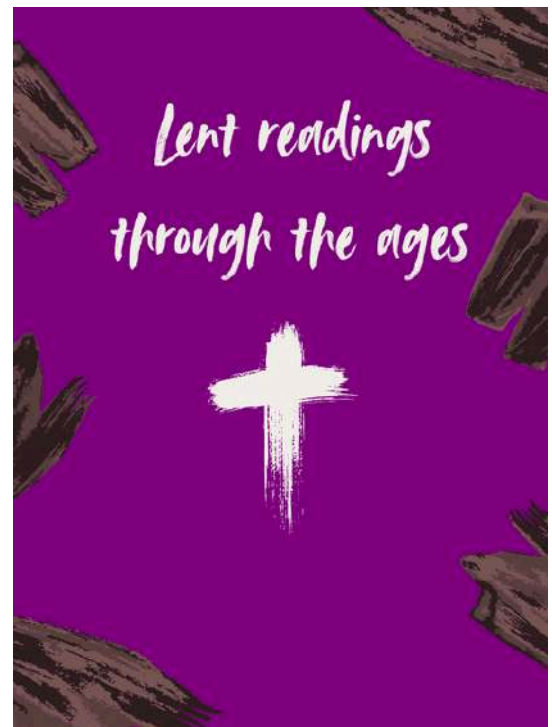
Having lived in North Africa since 2011 as part of a church-planting team to a previously unengaged people group, the author draws on his experience to raise questions about current missions thinking and modern methods being employed. In particular, he challenges new evangelism strategies that promise rapid church planting with very little effort and rapid growth. He asks the question, does this lead to healthy ministries that last, and what if these shortcuts are actually harming the people that they're intended to save? He calls on Christians to put aside these approaches to missions and invest in skills essential for effective evangelism and discipleship, drawing on the Scripture-based strategies of past missionaries.

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## March Library Team Updates

### A display of readings for Lent

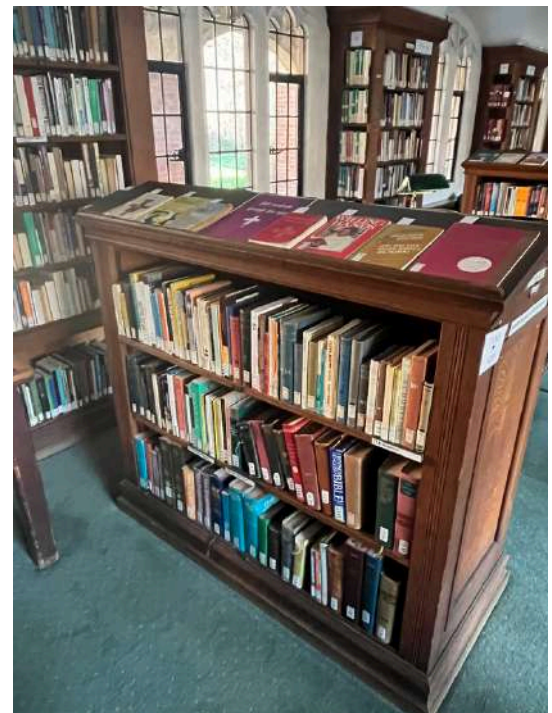
In Westcott House library, the librarians have set up a display of Lent sermons, readings, and meditations through the ages. Explore readings and Biblical criticism, ranging from 1883 to 2018. Next month, watch this space for readings about Holy Week and Easter Sunday.



What else  
we've been  
up to this  
month...



- Asking teaching staff to submit reading lists for 2025-26 modules - yes, this process starts this early!
- Responding to student queries
- Starting our annual reporting of copyright material uploaded to modules to the UK Copyright Licensing Agency



Thank you for reading!

<b>Contact us:</b>	<a href="mailto:library@theofed.cam.ac.uk">library@theofed.cam.ac.uk</a>
<b>Or browse all library resources:</b>	<a href="#"><u>Library and Digital Resources on Hedwig</u></a>

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