

Howe Things Are... ministry news from Sheryl Nelson née Howe

June 2023



Bible Translation News (from Scotland)

06/21/2023 from [the Church of Scotland](#): **The translation of the Bible into Doric is the first ever publication of the entire text in Scots or any of its dialects.**

The full Bible has been translated into [Doric](#). Translator Gordon M. Hay is a Church of Scotland elder and a now retired lawyer. He spent 6 years translating the New Testament "when I had a moment spare" in between working. But the Old Testament, which he has just completed, is approximately three times the length. He says he is "elated" after finishing an epic 17-year project to translate the full Bible into Doric.

The launch party for the Doric Bible is free and will be held Friday, June 30th at 7:30pm if you happen to be in Aberdeen, Scotland. A performance of excerpts of Handel's Messiah in Doric will be featured — excerpts translated into Doric by the same guy, Gordon Hay, who is also an organist commissioned by the University of Aberdeen to put some of the Messiah into Doric.



Unfortunate News

A supporting church is experiencing some financial difficulty and needs to reduce their giving to my ministry with Wycliffe by \$250 per month.

Pray for churches you know who are experiencing financial challenges. Also, please **pray** that God would provide for my ministry need for an additional \$250 per month.

Technically they said they would reduce by \$175/month starting in July through Dec and then from Jan on, reduce by \$250: Pray for God to provide \$175/month starting in July and an additional \$75/month starting in Jan.



How many years of experience was that?

One of the managers on my team will be promoted to a director position in July.

I sent him a template to write a short bio of himself for the announcement of his new role. In order to be clear that he needed to change the number for "years of experience", I'd written: "Devon has 10000 years of experience...". Which in turn inspired Devon to write the number of years of experience in binary (base-2). He has 18 years of experience so he wrote, "Devon has 10010_2 years of experience..". 10010_2 in binary equals 18 in "normal" base 10.

I received two responses right away.

(1) from my boss: "Great announcement about Devon. I think there is something wrong with the number in 'years of experience'." and

(2) from an IT colleague Africa writing Devon: "Congratulations! I pray that your new role will give you fulfillment and that you will work for many more years, at least an additional 10010_2 years."

Both responses made me smile!



and a reading challenge

Doric is a language that English speakers can *almost* understand. This makes a great illustration for why "they have the Bible in a 'related' language" is maybe not helpful.

What if the Bible was in Doric and not English? (see Ecc 3:1-11 in Doric, followed by English):

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 (Doric Bible)

- ¹ Aathin his it's sizzon, an for ilka thing ye dee aneth e hivvens there's a time:
² A time tae be born, an a time tae dee; a time tae shaav, an a time tae hairst;
³ a time tae dee awa wi, an a time tae mak aa better; a time tae pu doon, an a time tae bigg up;
⁴ a time tae greet, an a time tae lauch; a time tae moorn an a time tae dance;
⁵ a time tae scatter steens, an a time tae gaither them up;
a time tae gie a bosie, an a time tae haud back fae gien a bosie;
⁶ a time tae sikk, an a time tae tine; a time tae haud on tae things, an a time tae fling awa;
⁷ a time tae rive, an a time tae sort; a time tae be quait, an a time tae spik oot;
⁸ a time tae loo, an a time tae hate; a time for waar, an a time for peace.
⁹ Fit gweed dis e warker get fae aa his trachles? ¹⁰ A've seen e birn att God his gien fowk tae keep them thrang. ¹¹ He's made aathin bonnie in it's time. He's gien fowk e sense o fit's gaen afore an fit's tae come, bit naebody can unnerstan God's wark fae e yokin till e hinnerein.
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Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 (English Bible, New Living Translation)

- ¹ For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.
² A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest.
³ A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to tear down and a time to build up.
⁴ A time to cry and a time to laugh. A time to grieve and a time to dance.
⁵ A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones.
A time to embrace and a time to turn away.
⁶ A time to search and a time to quit searching. A time to keep and a time to throw away.
⁷ A time to tear and a time to mend. A time to be quiet and a time to speak.
⁸ A time to love and a time to hate. A time for war and a time for peace.
⁹ What do people really get for all their hard work? ¹⁰ I have seen the burden God has placed on us all. ¹¹ Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end.
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How well did you understand Doric? After reading the English translation, can you find the Doric word for 'beautiful'? For 'cry'? 'Laugh'?

Sheryl Nelson, serving in Technology

704-765-2002 / sherylnelson.san@gmail.com

Contributions:

Wycliffe Bible Translators

www.wycliffe.org/partner/sherylhowe / 800-992-4533

Checks to:

Wycliffe Bible Translators,

PO BOX 628200, Orlando, FL, 32862-8200

"Preferred for the Wycliffe ministry of Sheryl Nelson"



* bonnie (beautiful), greet (cry), lauch (laugh)