

## THE DAKE ANNOTATED REFERENCE BIBLE

The Dake Annotated Reference Bible has many special features that make it a valuable tool for Biblical research. Following are some of the special features it includes:

- Nearly 9,000 informative headings which appear in between the verses of text (King James Version), 500,000 cross-references throughout 35,000 notes and comments, and interesting notes at the end of each book of the Bible
- Thousands of amplified texts, many renderings from various versions, important Hebrew and Greek words with definitions and various ways translated, and definitions of obsolete and difficult English words
- Parables, types, symbols, allegories, figures of speech, and numerous idioms
- Enlightening notes on astronomy, Bible animals, birds, plants, minerals, precious stones, weights, measures, coin values, and other things which will enrich the reader's enjoyment of the Word of God

The preface gives an explanation of the many symbols, abbreviations, and marks that are used in the text. Dake's Bible also has a concordance and cyclopedic (encyclopedia-like) index that includes every English word in the Bible as well as other words related to Scripture, all listed in alphabetical order.

The author, Finis Jennings Dake, selected his information, according to the preface, so that the reader "will learn well the lesson of 'rightly dividing the Word of truth' (II Timothy 2:15); and he will see that the Holy Bible is in perfect harmony throughout." As with any human writer, his work must be proved with the foundational keys to Biblical research.

The numerous lists and amplified verses in Dake's Bible have proved very helpful to the Biblical research student. Reviewing any one of the lists that are included often leads you to other places in the Word that you may not have thought about while doing a word study. These lists include all the cities, empires, farm products, nations, rivers, and valleys, as well as all the commands, healings, questions, miracles, prayers, promises, and many other things. Here are a few examples from his list of seventy-four "be" commands on page 544 of the New Testament. Be

1. Exceeding glad (Matthew 5:12)
10. Thankful (Colossians 3:15)
11. At peace among selves (I Thessalonians 5:13)
21. Ready to give an answer of the Hope that is in you (I Peter 3:15)
48. Like-minded (Philippians 2:2)
58. Doers of the Word (James 1:22)
65. Subject one to another (I Peter 5:5)

A great place to start getting comfortable with Dake's is in the beginning of the Bible with Genesis 1:1 and 2. Sixteen side-column notes (letters b to q), including several referrals to longer entries by page number, one referral to the index, and over forty scripture references, are listed in column one for these two verses.

Here are two examples of the side-column notes from Genesis 1:2:

<sup>k</sup>And the earth <sup>l</sup>was <sup>m</sup>without form, and void; and <sup>n</sup>darkness *was* upon the face of the <sup>o</sup>deep.  
And the Spirit of God <sup>p</sup>moved upon the face of the <sup>q</sup>waters.

- l Heb. hayah, became. Trans. became 67 times (Gen. 2:7; 19:26; 20:12; 24:67; etc.); becamest (I Chr. 17:22; Ez. 16:8); came and came to pass 505 times (Gen. 6:1; 11:2; 14:1; etc.); become 66 times (Gen. 3:22; 18:18; 48:19; etc.); come to pass 131 times (Gen. 4:14; 24:43; 27:40; etc.); and be in the sense of become (Gen. 1:3, 6, 9, 14; 3:5; etc.).
- m Heb. tohu va bohu, meaning waste and empty (Jer. 4:23). The earth was not created tohu in the beginning (Isa. 45:18), but became tohu because of sin, as in note l, above.

As you can see, these notes and references add to our understanding of this verse of scripture. In Volume III of Studies in Abundant Living, *The Word's Way*, Dr. Victor Paul Wierwille discussed some of these same truths. On page 9, he stated:

First of all, in examining verse 2 a student of the Word must be aware that in the original Estrangelo Aramaic and Hebrew there was no verb "to be," although there was the verb "to become." This is the reason the first "was" in verse 2 is in regular print while the second "was" is italicized. It points out that there was no Hebrew word in the second usage; there was no word at that place at all, but there was a word for the first usage. The first word "was" should have been translated "became." "And the earth became without form, and void...." The earth was not created in Genesis 1:1 formless and void, but it became that way.

For workmen of the Word, Dake's Bible is beneficial in "re-searching" what has already been worked and taught by our ministry.

Another helpful feature, entitled "Updated Figures (based on 1995 prices)," is found in the back of Dake's Bible on page 163 after the Complete Concordance and Cyclopedic Index. These figures can be utilized to get an idea of the approximate value of some of the things mentioned in the Bible. For example, we learn about Job in Job 1:3:

His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses....

The table of updated figures lists the value of camels, oxen, and she-asses. It does not include sheep, but it does list rams, ewe lamb, and lamb, allowing us to calculate a ballpark amount for the value of Job's livestock. When teaching God's Word, this is helpful to illustrate what is being taught in present-day terminology.

The Dake Annotated Reference Bible will help you as a Biblical research student in your personal study as well as in your preparation to teach God's rightly divided Word. It is available from The Way International Bookstore in a large print, hardbound edition.