

What's in a Translation?

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Translation	Psalm 23	Ecclesiastes
The King James Bible	The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside still waters. He restoreth my soul.	Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities: all is vanity.
The Revised Standard Version	The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want; he makes me to lie down in green pastures. he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.	Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.
The New English Bible	The Lord is my shepherd; I shall want nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, and leads me beside the waters of peace; he renews life within me.	Emptiness, emptiness, says the Speaker, emptiness, all is empty.
The Jerusalem Bible	Yahweh is my shepherd, I lack nothing. In meadows of green grass he lets me lie. To the waters of repose he leads me; there he revives my soul.	Vanity of vanities, Qoheleth says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!
The New American Bible	The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose: Beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.	Vanity of vanities, says Qoheleth, vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!
The Holy Scriptures	The Lord is my shepherd; I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me to water in places of repose; He renews my life.	Utter futility! — said Koheleth — Utter futility! All is futile!
The New King James Version	The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul.	“Vanity of vanities,” says the Preacher. “Vanity of vanities, all is vanity.”
The Living Bible	Because the Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I need! He lets me rest in the meadow grass and leads me beside the quiet streams. He restores my failing health.	In my opinion, nothing is worthwhile; everything is futile.
The Good News Bible	The Lord is my shepherd; I have everything I need. He lets me rest in fields of green grass and leads me to quiet pools of fresh water. He gives me new strength.	It is useless, useless, said the Philosopher. Life is useless, all useless.
The New International Version	The Lord is my shepherd, I shall lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul.	“Meaningless! Meaningless!” says the Teacher. “Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless.”