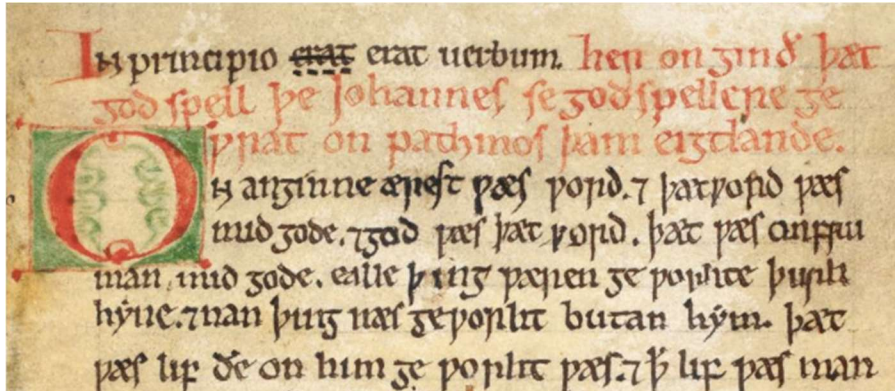


## History of the English Bible

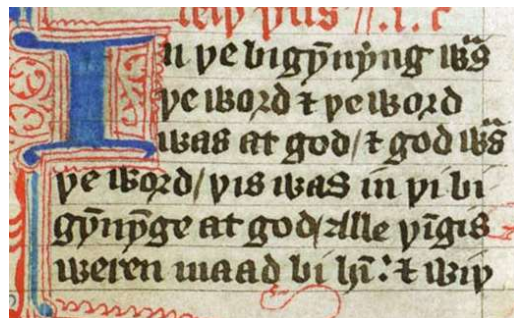
### Steps to the First English Bible

There were early efforts to translate the Latin Bible into Old English, the earliest being in the 7<sup>th</sup> century. Most were either interlinear glosses designed to help the reader or translations of shorter texts or books. The Wessex Gospels are a full translation of the four gospels into a West Saxon dialect of Old English, produced about AD 990. Abbot Ælfric translated much of the Old Testament into Old English in the 11<sup>th</sup> century.



- ▲ **Wessex Gospels**, Old English, c. AD 990, start of John's Gospel.
- ▼ **Wycliffe Bible**, Middle English, c. AD 1382, start of John's Gospel.

The first English Bible was translated by John Wycliffe and his followers about 1382. All are hand-written, as the printing press was not invented until about 1450.



Noteworthy is the use of the following: the letter thorn (þ), resembling the modern letter "y"; The letter "s" was the long f everywhere except at the end of a word; the ampersand is used liberally; there is no letter "j"; spelling is not standardized, nor would it be for centuries.

Benefits:

Drawbacks:

## OTHER VERSIONS

## GREEK BIBLE

