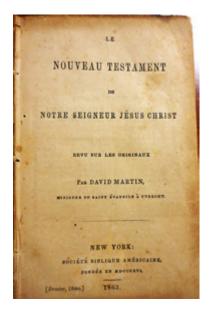
Houston Baptist University - - -

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May 8, 2016, the American Bible Society (ABS) marked its 200th anniversary. The Society grew up with the United States and throughout its 200 year history has played an important role in Bible distribution and translation. In



This 1863 French Bible is dcZd[" %%7 VkZhej VkH] ZY by the American Bible Society in the Dunham's XkaZY Cc#>i 1 Vh\ kZc ïd' Claude Clerc during the Civil War by Chaplain William Allington of the .)i] D] C#

Bibles from such plates. It rapidly acquired plates for printing Bibles not only in English, but in French, German, Gaelic, and Spanish.

The ABS distributed copies of Bibles in prisons, to seamen and boatmen (such as workers on the Erie Canal), and Sunday Schools. European immigrants were given Bibles in their native languages when they arrived in America, and sometimes even at the port of embarkation. The Bible was foundational to the American republic, and it was important that every American know the Scriptures.

Four times in its history, in 1829, 1856, 1866, and 1882, the ABS sought to ensure every family in America had a Bible, sending out representatives to visit every village and farm. In 1890, they sought to make certain every child under

In 1817, the ABS provided 654 Bibles to sailors on the *U.S.S. John Adams*, and since then has provided nearly 60 million free Bibles and resources to military members and their families. During the Civil War, the ABS supplied Bibles for both North and South. 7,420,910 Bibles were distributed to soldiers during World Wars I and II, and with the collapse of the Soviet Empire, the ABS made a commitment of \$23.5 million to provide Bibles to the former Communist countries.

The ABS also issued Bibles translated into the various

William Carey's translation work in India. Working closely

Bibles throughout the world. The ABS also published

the Bibles in the Dunham Bible Museum collection were produced by the American Bible Society.

Eugene Nida, a linguist with the ABS, developed the dynamic-equivalence theory of Bible translation, which

sought to provide a common language version of the Scriptures, avoiding literary and colloquial extremes and focusing on the meaning of the text. Known as Today's *Good*

CZ h[dgB dYZgc B Vc in the 1960's.

The ABS has a strong presence in our digital age, having aps which enhance Bible study and Bible reading and supporting the Digital Bible (digitalbible.org) which has the Scriptures in over 1000 languages. With its main

planning on opening a Faith and Liberty Discovery Center in 2018, focusing on the biblical heritage of our country. 200 years after its founding, the American Bible Society's aim continues: "that all men and women may read and hear

From Elias Boudinot's letter accepting the presidency of the American Bible Society:

>Vb hdXdck/cXZYi] Vi i] Zl] ddZd[i] h V/hcZhi/hi] Zl dg`d[<dY] b hZd! Vhi] h Holy Spirit, that even hoping against hope I am encouraged to press on through good report and evil report, to accomplish his