

## ~World or Age?~

The **KJV** (King James Version) differs from the **NIV** (New International Version) and the **NASV** (New American Standard Version) regarding their translation of the word "aion" in the Bible. The difference has disastrous consequences regarding eschatology. The translations are as follows:

(165) aion, "**an age**; by extens. perpetuity; by impl the world; spec. **(Jewish) a Messianic period**" **age**, course, world

### **Definition:**

- 1) for ever, an unbroken age, perpetuity of time, eternity
- 2) the worlds, universe
- 3) period of time, age (emphasis mine)

### **(A) This is how the KJV translates these verses:**

#### **Matt 13:38-40**

- 38** The field is the **world (kosmos)**, the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;
- 39** the enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the **world (aion)**; and the reapers are the angels.
- 40** As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this **world (aion)**.

Here is one of the most obvious mistranslations of the KJV. In verse 38, the word translated as 'world' in Greek is 'kosmos'. The KJV has translated it correctly. However, in verses 39 and 40, the word translated as 'world' is 'aion' which means 'age'. The KJV has *mistranslated* it as world. It has translated **both** words as world when they are different in the Greek!

*NOTE: The KJV makes it out to read that the harvest is at the end of the **world**, but the original Greek says that the harvest is at the end of the **age**--Jewish age (AD70)*

### **(B) This is how the NIV translates these verses:**

#### **Matt 13:38-40**

- 38** The field is the **world**, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one,
- 39** and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the **age**, and the harvesters are angels.
- 40** As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the **age**.

### **(C) This is how the NASV translates these verses:**

#### **Matt 13:38-40**

- 38** and the field is the **world**; and the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the

sons of the evil.

**39** and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the **age**; and the reapers are angels.

**40** "So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the **age**.

**Do you see the difference?** Why is the KJV inconsistent in these verses? Because, the translators were futurists and, as such, thought Jesus was speaking about the end of the 'world'. The newer versions have correctly translated the word 'aion' in it's natural meaning of "age", rather than reading into it their own preconceptions as did the KJV translators.

**Other Examples of the word aion being translated as 'world' in the KJV:**

**Matthew 12:32** And whosoever speaks a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaks against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this *world* <165>, neither in the *world* to come.

**Matthew 13:39** The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the *world* <165>; and the reapers are the angels.

**Matthew 13:40** As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this *world* <165>.

**Matthew 24:3** And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the *world* <165>?

**Luke 18:30** Who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the *world* <165> to come life everlasting.

Other words that are translated as 'world'

2889 kosmos-{kos'-mos} probably from the base of 2865; AV - world 186, adorning 1

**Definition:**

- 1) an apt and harmonious arrangement or constitution, order, government
- 2) ornament, decoration, adornment, i.e. the arrangement of the stars, 'the heavenly hosts', as the ornament of the heavens.  
(1 Pet. 3:3)
- 3) the world, the universe
- 4) the circle of the earth, the earth
- 5) the inhabitants of the earth, men, the human family
- 6) the ungodly multitude; the whole mass of men alienated from God, and therefore hostile to the cause of Christ
- 7) world affairs, the aggregate of things earthly
- 7a) the whole circle of earthly goods, endowments riches, advantages, pleasures, etc, which although hollow and frail and fleeting, stir desire, seduce from God and are obstacles to the cause of Christ
- 8) any aggregate or general collection of particulars of any sort
- 8a) the Gentiles as contrasted to the Jews (Rom. 11:12 etc)
- 8b) of believers only, John 1:29; 3:16; 3:17; 6:33; 12:47 1 Cor. 4:9; 2 Cor. 5:19

**Examples:**

**Mt 4:8** Again, the devil took him up into an exceeding high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms

of the *world* <2889>, and the glory of them;

**Mt 13:38** The field is the *world* <2889>; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; (165 aion is used in the very next verse 39)

**Lu 11:50** That the blood of all the prophets, which was shed from the foundation of the *world* <2889>, may be required of this generation;

**Joh 1:10** He was in the *world* <2889>, and the *world* <2889> was made by him, and the *world* <2889> knew him not.

**Ro 1:8** ¶ First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole *world* <2889>.

**Ro 11:12** Now if the fall of them be the riches of the *world* <2889>, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fullness?

**1Ti 3:16** And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the *world* <2889>, received up into glory.

### 3625 oikoumene

{oy-kou-men'-ay} feminine participle present passive of 3611 (as noun, by implication of 1093); TDNT - 5:157,674; n f AV - world 14, earth 1; 15

#### **Definition:**

1) the inhabited earth

1a) the portion of the earth inhabited by the Greeks, in distinction from the lands of the barbarians

1b) the Roman empire, all the subjects of the empire

1c) the whole inhabited earth, the world

1d) the inhabitants of the earth, men

2) the universe, the world

#### **Examples:**

**Mt 24:14** And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the *world* <3625> for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

**Lu 2:1** ¶ And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the *world* <3625> should be taxed.

**Lu 21:26** Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the *earth* <3625>: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

**Ac 11:28** And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the *world* <3625>: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.

**Ac 17:6** And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the *world* <3625> upside down are come hither also;

**Re 3:10** Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the *world* <3625>, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

**Re 12:9** And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceives the whole *world* <3625>: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

**Re 16:14** For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole *world* <3625>, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

### 1093 ge

{ghay} contracted from a root word; TDNT - 1:677,116; n f; AV - earth 188, land 42, ground 18, country 2, world 1, earthly + 1537 + 3588 1; 252

**Definition:**

- 1) arable land
- 2) the ground, the earth as a standing place
- 3) the main land as opposed to the sea or water
- 4) the earth as a whole
- 4a) the earth as opposed to the heavens
- 4b) the inhabited earth, the abode of men and animals
- 5) a country, land enclosed within fixed boundaries, a tract of land, territory, region

**Examples:**

**Mt 9:31** But they, when they were departed, spread abroad his fame in all that *country* <1093>.

**Mt 23:35** That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the *earth* <1093>, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.

**Mt 24:30** And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the *earth* <1093> mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

**Mk 13:27** And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the *earth* <1093> to the uttermost part of heaven.

**Ro 10:18** But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the *earth* <1093>, and their words unto the ends of the world.

**Re 1:7** Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the *earth* <1093> shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

**Re 3:10** Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the *earth* <1093>.

**Re 14:15** And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the *earth* <1093> is ripe.

When the disciples came to Jesus in Matthew 24:1-3 and asked Him of the destruction of the Temple, the end of the age and His second coming, they were not speaking of the end of the Planet! They were speaking of the end of the Jewish age. The Bible tells us that the Planet will endure forever:

**Psalms 78:69** And he built his sanctuary like high palaces, like the **earth which he has established for ever.**

**Ecclesiastes 1:4** One generation passes away, and another generation come but **the earth abides for ever.**

**Isaiah 45:17** But Israel shall be saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation you shall not be ashamed nor confounded **world without end.**

Again, by mistranslating the word 'aion' to read 'world' the KJV has done quite a lot of damage, eschatologically speaking. Folks go around telling others that the end of the world is near. WRONG! The end of the 'Jewish age' was near in the 1st century and indeed, it did end--in 70AD!