

in 4 and get Greek first, or to make a try on both of them, but to determine within the first couple of weeks to find out. Don't try to get them both and not get either one. It's far better to take one at a time. Because our work is founded on it.

Now, I don't say that a person can't serve the Lord without Greek and Hebrew. Baalam's ass couldn't even speak English . . . used it as His instruemnt! You don't have to know Greek and Hebrew to serve the Lord. There are seminaries where you get a tiny smattering of the languages or perhaps none, and where you get some good Christian training.

I don't say it's necessary for everyone to take our course in order to serve the Lord. But I believe it is vital that there be some of us who don't have to say, This is what C. I. Scofield, said; this is what Chas. Hodge said. But will say, This is what the Bible says because I can read it in the original and I can see exactly what it means. If you have ever studied any foreign language you know that you cannot translate exactly from one language into another. It is impossible. I don't care what the languages are.

Even two languages as closely related as German and English, you cannot translate exactly. Languages as far as _____ and _____ the KJV did a mighty good job in~~xx~~ translating into the language of 300 years ago. The NIV, I think, has done a very good job in translating into the language of today. But I know places in both of them where I think they made mistakes.

And I don't think they necessarily made mistakes because they didn't understand. It's because it is very difficult to put into one language exactly what you find in another. I've heard it said of Dr. _____ that he once said, This verse in Scripture there have been 264 different interpretations given; now I'll give you the correct one. That is the danger with language study ~~xxx~~ that we are going to think that you can take a very difficult verse and find exactly what it means.

Now if you can, that's fine. But if you've ever studied any other language, you have found that you can look at a sentence of ten and know exactly what it means, but to put it into your own language is very difficult. So if you learn Hebrew and Greek only wekk enough to get by, if that's all, if you learn them well enough that you can look at them == look at a passage and say, This is an imperfect; this is a passive; this is a noun; this is an adjective. If you can just do that, it gives you a big help, in interpretation. A big hlep in understanding the Bible.

Better, of course, to understand it well so you can really understand exactly what they mean. I had a man phone me long distance a couple days ago from Minnesota because he wanted to know the exact meaning of a word. If you learn your Hebrew and Greek thoroughly, you can tell on those verses which are absolutely clear, as the great buik of verses are, but not all of them, you can tell things that you can't get from any translation. Because a translation must stress one part or the other. So I say it is not necessary for Every Christian worker to have our course, but I