

Common Sayings from Scripture

Modern American Sayings Originating from the King James Bible:

These phrases are so ingrained in American culture that we use them every day without a second thought. Most people, even those who think they're atheists, have no idea they're quoting directly from a King James Bible! I'm sure there are more, but these are the 110 I've found so far. *Note: very few of these exist in satan's corrupt new counterfeit (Egyptian) "bibles".*

"A friend of mine", Luk 11:6

"A little bird told me", Ecc 10:20

"A thorn in your side", Jud 2:3, Num 33:55 (cp 2Cor 12:7)

"Beer", Num 21:16, Jud 9:21 - a Hebrew word of Syrian derivation meaning "well of water" or "cold water".

"Behave yourself", 1Sam 18:5, 1st use Deu 32:27

"Beside myself", "Beside ourselves", 2Cor 5:13

"Beware of dog(s)", Phil 3:2 - I wonder how many dog-owners realize this sign in their yard directly quotes a King James Bible?

"(the) Blind leading the blind", Luk 6:39, Mat 15:14

"Breach of promise", Num 14:34

(He/she) "brought down the house", Jud 16:30, the origin of the show biz saying; speaking of Samson killing more people than the 9/11 Muslims

"Brought up", raised from a child, 2Kin 10:1, Luk 4:16

"Busybodies", 1Tim 5:13, 2The 3:11

"By all means", 2The 3:16

"By the skin of my teeth", Job 19:20

"Come on", Exo 1:10

"Cut it short", 2Kin 10:32

(He) "died before his time", Ecc 7:17

"Do as I say, not as I do", Mat 23:3

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"(to) Do his business", Gen 39:11 (see how the modern Laodicean dog owner has corrupted this one)

"Dumb ass", 2Pet 2:16

"Eat, drink, and be merry", Luk 12:19, Ecc 8:15, cp 1Cor 15:32

(The) "Eleventh hour", Mat 20:9

"Every man for himself", Num 31:53

"Eye to eye", Isa 52:8 (as in "seeing eye to eye")

"Ferry boat", 2Sam 19:18

"Free spirit", Psa 51:12

"Frying pan", Lev 2:7

"Gadabout", Jer 2:36

"Give up the ghost", Gen 25:8, Job 11:20

"(as) God is my witness", Rom 1:9

"God save the king", first use 1Sam 10:24

"Going the way of all the earth", Jos 23:14

"Go jump in the lake" (notice it's never pond, river, or stream, but always LAKE), see Rev 21:8

"(the) Golden Rule", Mat 7:12

"Good for nothing", Jer 13:10, Mat 5:13

"Gut feeling": Comes from the use of "bowels" in the KJV: (used as the seat of the emotions in the old days, just like we use "heart" today) When you hear someone snicker about this "quaint, outdated language", remind them this concept is still used today in common English. (Ever have a "gut feeling" about something? Ever "feel it in your gut"?) Also see the articles on the "second brain" in the human stomach.

"Hairs-breadth", "missed it by a hair", Jud 20:16

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"Half baked", Isa 44:19

"High praise", Psa 149:6

(It's) "High time" [something occurs], Rom 13:11 - derived from an hourglass with all its sand in the bottom

"Hold your peace", Exo 14:14, 2Kin 2:3, 5, Neh 8:11, Job 13:5

"Holier than thou", Isa 65:5 (Even though it's not in their "bibles", new version users often quote this KJV phrase when describing KJV-only believers!) ;-)

(The) "Holy Land", Zec 2:12

"Horse laugh", Job 39:25

"How do you do?" greeting, probably from Act 15:36; Cp Eph 6:21

(Get your) "house in order", 1Kin 20:1

"I'll have you know..." 1Cor 11:3

"In God we trust", Rom 15:12

"In his right mind", Mar 5:15

"in these parts", Rom 15:23

"It came to pass", (some 452x), first use Gen 4:3

"Kissing cousins", likely from Gen 29:11, where Jacob kissed his cousin and future wife Rachel

"Learned by experience", Gen 30:27

"Let me alone", Job 7:19, "let it/him alone", 2Kin 23:18

"Life begins at 40", from the idea that 40 years is the age limit for getting healed, cp Act 4:22

"Like a drop in a bucket", Isa 40:15

"Lily of the Valley" (where the flower gets its name), Son 2:1

"Little by little", Exo 23:30, Deu 7:22

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"Made as though", Luk 24:28

"Mart", Isa 3:3 (An old word, even though there's one on every corner today)

"Mess hall", still used in our army and navy, Gen 43:34

"Mind your own business", 1The 4:11

"Moderation in all things", 1Cor 9:25 (meaning of 'temperate')

(It) "Moves me", Act 20:24

"Murphy's law": Actually not Mr Murphy's at all; he stole it from Ecc 10:8, 9

"Nothing but good", as in He's done nothing but good to me, Gen 26:29

"Nowadays", 1Sam 25:10

"Now then", 2Cor 5:20

"Old wife's tales" (fables), 1Tim 4:7

"Operation" (as in surgery): Col 2:12

"Out of the mouths of babes", Psa 8:2

"Passed away", as in "he passed away Thursday; the funeral is on Monday", Job 9:26, Psa 37:36, 90:9, 2Cor 5:17, Rev 21:1, 4

"Place" (as in "at my place", "at your place"), Exo 16:29; 1st mention of "his place" is in Gen 18:33

(the) "Powers that be", Rom 13:1

"Put down", as in "I had to put my dog down", 2Kin 23:5, Isa 10:13, Dan 5:19, Luk 1:52, 1Cor 15:24

"Put him down", 2Chr 36:3 (1960's American hippies borrowed this one, too)

"Put them in their place", Neh 13:11

"Put words in my mouth", Jer 1:9, Exo 4:15

"Range" (for cooking), Lev 11:35

"Red sky at morning, sailor take warning...", Mat 16:3

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"Red sky at night, sailor's delight...", Mat 16:2

"Right on!" Pro 4:25

"Rose of Sharon" (where the flower gets its name), Son 2:1

"Rose among thorns", Son 2:2

"Safe and sound", Luk 15:27

"Signs of the times", Mat 16:3

"So am I", 2Cor 11:22, also Job 7:3

"Soul-winner", Pro 11:30

"Stand still": Exo 14:13, Num 9:8, Act 8:38, others

"Stick to it", "stick with it": Psa 119:31

"Stuff", as in my stuff, etc, Gen 31:37

"Suburbs", Lev 25:34, others (this is an old word, which surprised me)

"Such like", Eze 18:14

"Tell on us", "tell on me", as children say it, "he told on me", etc: 1Sam 27:11

"The apple of my eye", Pro 7:2, Zec 2:8

"The good Lord", 2Chr 30:18

"The other day", Jud 13:10

"The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak", Mat 26:41

"This and that", Psa 87:5

"Toss and turn", Isa 22:18

"Turn your back", (on God): Jer 32:33

"Unstable as water", Gen 49:4

"Upside down", 2 Kin 21:13, Psa 146:9, Isa 24:1, 29:16, Act 17:6

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"Walk the talk", Deu 23:23

"Way of life", Prov 6:23

"What do you know?" Job 15:9

"Won't lift a finger to help", Mat 23:4

"Wrap it up", Mic 7:3 (also see Act 5:6, where a man's body was "wound up")

"You said it", Mar 15:2, Luk 23:3

"Your Highness", "His Highness", referring to a king, Job 31:23