The main Library and the golden rule in the centre

Review of Bibleworks 10

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**Good, better, best ... super best**

The text of the Bible is the heart, is in the centre of BibleWorks.

**Focus on the text** – that was the aim with BibleWorks 9. Focus on the text – this still is the aim with version 10.

In BibleWorks 10 there is a sharpening of the focus on the text. This is how I want to describe version 10 with its new functions and modules.

The **Bible with it’s 66 books** is the main library which Christians must use in their exegesis. **Comparing Scripture with Scripture** (sacra scriptura sui ipsius interpres) is the golden rule to understand the text. BibleWorks with its focus on the text, is building on this rule. This is Sola Scriptura and Solus Christus in BibleWorks 10.

BibleWorks 9 was the best Bible software. Now the best even became better – yes, super best.

It is impossible in a short article as this one to tell you everything. In a glimpse I want to show you some of the most important features and books of BibleWorks. If you want to know more, I refer you to the brochure on the homepage of BibleWorks at [http://www.bibleworks.com/downloads/bw10brochure.pdf](http://www.bibleworks.com/downloads/bw10brochure.pdf).

If you want to see what is new in Version 10, go to [http://www.bibleworks.com/content/new.html](http://www.bibleworks.com/content/new.html).

Seeing is believing: At [https://www.youtube.com/user/BibleWorksVideos/videos](https://www.youtube.com/user/BibleWorksVideos/videos) there are various videos, which will persuade you and will let you see what BibleWorks can do.

The program can be ordered at [http://www.bibleworks.com](http://www.bibleworks.com).

Go to [http://www.bibleworks.com/content/new.html](http://www.bibleworks.com/content/new.html) if you want to see a full list of what is new in BibleWorks 10.

**The Manuscript Project – see the main Library with your own eyes**

Working with the text yourself, seeing with your own eyes what is written, this is what this project is all about.

The BibleWorks Manuscripts Project is a **project whose goal is:**

1. to provide **new transcriptions** of the most frequently cited Greek New Testament manuscripts,
2. to **morphologically tagg** the transcribed text.
3. and to accompany them with **manuscript images which have verse locations tagged** so that you can see what it was that the transcriber was seeing.

Transcription and morphological tagging is not yet complete for all manuscripts.

With BibleWorks 9 full transcriptions of the following manuscripts were completed: Sinaiticus, Alexandrinus, Vaticanus, Bezae, Boernerianus, Washingtonensis, and GA1141. Of those so far, only Sinaiticus and Vaticanus is morphologically tagged, but the rest will be made available as updates when they are ready.

**Two new manuscript transcriptions** have been added in BibleWorks 10: Ephraemi Rescriptus (M-04) and Claromontanus (M-06). Neither has morphology yet. Both are based on Tischendorf transcriptions. Neither has image sets, but M-04 does have images of the Tischendorf transcription.

In the **Analysis Window**, you must go to the MMS-tab. **The MMS-tab opens in three panes:**

1. The **collation pain**, displaying a collation of all of the installed manuscript transcriptions. Differences between the manuscripts are highlighted. Here is Matthew 6:13 as sample:
2. The **image pane**, which shows an image of the manuscript if available.

![Image of manuscript]

3. The **transcription notes**, displaying any transcriber notes that are available for the current verse and manuscript.

To see the **transcriptions** of the Sinaiticus, etc. you must go to the **Browse Window**.

These transcriptions are fully searchable.

**Several important Greek texts and revisions** have also been **added** to BibleWorks 10:


Differences between the various manuscripts can also be seen in the **Browse Window** by pressing “e”. The **differences** between the manuscripts (in this case the Nestle-Aland and Scrivener texts) are **highlighted**:

**Matthew 6:13**
An Old Testament-Hebrew Manuscript and important Old Testament translations

BibleWorks 10 not only contains images of New Testament manuscripts.

In version 10 there is now also a set of high resolution images of the Leningradensis Codex, the manuscript behind the Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia and Groves-Wheeler Westminster Hebrew Morphology version 4.16. The images are tagged for verse locations and displayed on a dedicated tab.

Several important Old Testament texts and translations have also been added to BibleWorks 10:

- Hebrew Samaritan Pentateuch (includes modified WTT Pentateuch for comparison searches);
- Leiden OT Peshitta;

This additions is really very important for Old Testament scholars. In this we get the working with the Old Testament text yourself, seeing with your own eyes what is written and a sharpening of the focus also on the Hebrew text

I am looking forward to a morphological tagged edition of the Old Testament Peshitta and also a Syriac lexicon. The Magiera Peshitta NT (PEM and PMH) is already morphological tagged.
The Stuttgart Original Languages Module

This is also a great addition to BibleWorks.

The Stuttgart Original Languages Module (SOLM) is a set of datasets published by the German Bible Society. They are not included in the BibleWorks base package; but must be purchased as separate add on modules.

The Stuttgart Original Languages Package New Testament Edition includes the following:

- Nestle-Aland Greek New Testament 28th Edition including apparatus and morphology. The NA28 is available with two morphology options, the BibleWorks morphology and Friberg morphology;
- Bruce Metzger, A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament;
- Biblia Sacra Iuxta Vulgatam Versionem (Latin Vulgate 2013) with apparatus;
- Kassühlke Greek-German Dictionary;
- The United Bible Societies Greek New Testament (5th edition) with apparatus has not been published yet but when it becomes available owners of the SOLM New Testament Edition will receive it free of charge.
- The Gospel of Thomas

The Stuttgart Original Languages Package - Old Testament Edition includes:

- Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia with apparatus;
- Biblia Sacra Iuxta Vulgatam Versionem (Latin Vulgate 2013) with apparatus;
- Rahlfs-Hanhart Septuagint including morphology and apparatus
- A Greek-English Lexicon of the Septuagint, Volumes 1 & 2 (Lust, Eynikel, Hauspie, Chamberlain);
- Biblia Hebraica Quinta.
The Leningrad Tab

The Leningrad Tab displays high resolution images of the Leningrad Codex (Codex Leningradensis). This is the oldest complete manuscript (1009 A.D.) of the Hebrew Bible in Hebrew, using the Masoretic text and Tiberian vocalization. This manuscript forms the basis for the Hebrew text used in the Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia as well as the Westminster Hebrew Old Testament Morphology used in BibleWorks.

The verse locations in the manuscript are tagged so you can easily locate a verse on a page and the display is linked to the Browse Window so when you change verses there, the appropriate image is loaded automatically. The verse tag that corresponds to the current Browse Window verse will have a red tab handle. Moussing over a verse label will pop up the text of the verse in Hebrew and English.
Tools and an optional fourth column that displays more info

An optional fourth column

The Analysis Window can now be split in two and you can customize BibleWorks to show your favorite two resources simultaneously.
Use Tab – another opportunity to compare text with text

Capitalizing on BibleWorks’ lightning speed, the new Use Tab in the Analysis Window takes the word under your mouse cursor and instantly shows all occurrences of the word in either the current book, pericope, custom range or entire version, all without clicking!

This works for any language. With your mouse cursor on the word “law” in Psalm 1 in the ESV in the Browse Window, you can see in the Use Tab all the occurrences of the Word in the Psalms (35), in Psalm 1 to 41 (5) or the whole ESV (405).

In the Greek and Hebrew texts you can choose whether it reports back on the form or the lemma of the word, and you can easily export your results to the search list.

If you click on a verse in the occurrence list, the verse will be displayed in the Browse Window.
With the show pop-ups verse option selected, the full text of each verse will be displayed as you move the mouse over the verses in the Use Tab verse list.

The Use Tab give one the opportunity to compare text with text, the use of the word “law” in other texts.

Verse Tab

The Verse Tab tracks with any Bible version. For the current verse under the mouse, it instantly displays the relevant sections in resources such as the CNTTS apparatus, the NET Bible textual notes, the Tischendorf apparatus, Metzger's Textual Commentary (requires unlock), and the ESV Study Bible (requires unlock).
**Context Tab**

The context, the context in which a word stands, is of the utmost importance for interpretation of the word.

This Tab shows you which words appear in the pericope, chapter and Bible book you are busy with, as well as their frequency. The word “law” for instance is used twice in Psalm 1 and 35 times in the book of Psalms. This may help you to recognize lines and themes in Bible books, important words in a pericope, etc.

**KWIC-function – context again**

The KWIC-function (Key Word in Context) is in my opinion one of the most important and most valuable functions in BibleWorks. This function will help you to see in what context a word is used, thereby helping you to better understand the meaning of a word.

You can for instance find out which words are used within 5 words (or however many you choose) of the word “(take) refuge” in the Psalms. Thus you will see that the word “in” often appears together with “(take) refuge”. This leads to the discovery that the word “(take) refuge” is used only in connection with God – take refuge “in” God.
The Forms Tab

A new Forms tab gathers together usage statistics for morphologically tagged Greek and Hebrew texts. At a glance you can see which forms of a lemma occur and how they are used.

Comparing Bible translations and the original texts

Bible translations and the original texts can be displayed next to each other, below each other and can be compared to each other. BibleWorks will show the differences between the translations by marking them.
The important work of E Tov and F Polak and the Septuagint

The important work of E Tov and F Polak is also included in BibleWorks: The Hebrew and Greek texts of the Old Testament (Septuagint) are compared to each other to show which words are used to translate the Hebrew words. This allows you to easily ascertain which Greeks words are used (nomos and logos once) to translate the Hebrew word Torah (“law”).
Here I also want to mention the NETS/NETSX or New English Translation of the Septuagint (2007). It is important to use this translation in conjunction with the work T.o.v. and Polak.

I have to stop here. I have opened the door to BibleWorks and its riches just a tiny fraction, but I trust that it will be sufficient to whet your appetite.

**Users modules and text-criticism**

It is also possible to create your own modules. At The BibleWorks Blog([http://bibleworks.oldinthenew.org/](http://bibleworks.oldinthenew.org/)) you can download modules created by users, free of charge. Available modules include, amongst others, Calvin’s commentaries and that of Keil en Delitzsch.

Very important with regard to **text-criticism** is that you can download the following modules from the blog:

- The SBL Greek New Testament (SBLGNT) with apparatus;
- Hermann Freiherr von Soden’s Die Schriften des Neuen Testaments with apparatus;
- Wieland Wilker’s An Online Textual Commentary on the Greek Gospels.
For those interested in the Latin Versions:

- Latin Transcription of Codex Bezae (Pasquale Amicarelli)
- Sistine Vulgate (1590 ed.) (Pasquale Amicarelli)
- Textum Clementinum (1592 ed.) (Pasquale Amicarelli)
- Vulgata Clementina (1598 ed.) and Glossa Ordinaraia Migne (Pasquale Amicarelli)
- Codex Vercellensis (Pasquale Amicarelli)
- Codex Veronensis (Pasquale Amicarelli)
- Codex Bobbiensis (Pasquale Amicarelli)
- Jerome’s Latin Psalter based on the Hebrew (Mark G. Vitalis Hoffman)

**Hours of tutorial video and more**

With the program is supplied a comprehensive and easy to use manual, telling you exactly how to use BibleWorks.

BibleWorks also has extensive context-sensitive help. This mean that if you hover with your mouse over the Leningrad Tab and press the F1 key, you are taken to the explanation of the Leningrad Tab in Help manual.

But that is not all. At [https://www.youtube.com/user/BibleWorksVideos](https://www.youtube.com/user/BibleWorksVideos) there is a mass of How to videos,

With such a Help there is almost no need to go on a course to master the program.

**Pricing and upgrades**

The list price is $389, only $10 more than the previous version.

This is despite all the new resources included in BibleWorks 10.

With regard to the Manuscript Project Michael Bushell, the owner of BibleWorks, says: The cost of developing these texts is astronomical, especially for a small company, and especially given the fact that we don’t feel right about charging extra for them. If we charged what they are worth only a small handful of people could afford to buy them (we should be charging $200 for each manuscript)

Upgrading from BibleWorks 9 is $189 and from Version 8 $229.

Group discounts are available.