

### **New Bible highlights issues that connect with today's world**

A new Bible which connects Scriptures with some of the biggest issues of our day has been launched by Bible Society.

*The Poverty and Justice Bible* is the first ever to highlight more than 2,000 passages that speak of attitudes to poverty and injustice. Challenging the notion that the Bible is a dusty, outdated rulebook, it shows that, on the biggest issues of our day, the Bible got there first.

The Rt Revd Dr Tom Wright, Bishop of Durham and Bible Society's president, said, 'Poverty and justice are two of the biggest issues of our day, challenging the minds of politicians and social activists around the world.

'The imbalance of global wealth, famine, water shortages, exploitation and corruption are all issues that invoke outrage – and demand attention. But *The Poverty and Justice Bible* shows that, in speaking out on these issues, God got there first.

'Before the Make Poverty History movement, before Sir Bob Geldof's Live 8 and before politicians began debating these issues, the Bible spoke loudly and clearly on poverty and justice.

'*The Poverty and Justice Bible* opens our eyes to that. It highlights – literally – that the Bible has something to say about issues that resonate today. This Bible connects with the very fabric of today's world, with all its problems and messiness – and has something powerful to say.'

The idea to develop *The Poverty and Justice Bible* was born out of a comment by US pastor Rick Warren, who said that if Christians don't speak out against poverty and injustice, they lose their credibility. U2 lead singer Bono also said, 'It's no coincidence that in the Scriptures, poverty is mentioned more than 2,100 times. It's not an accident. That's a lot of airtime.'

Bible Society staff and experts spent months scouring the Contemporary English Version (CEV) Bible, locating verses relating to poverty and justice.

After weeks of debate, they were left with more than 2,000 sections. From Genesis to Revelation, almost every page emphasised just and fair behaviour.

*The Poverty and Justice Bible* also has a focus on 'doing', helping today's Christians link social action with Scripture. Produced with support from aid agency World Vision, it includes a 32-page study guide written by bestselling authors Nick and Claire Page. Topics range from equality to education, farming to Fairtrade.

The studies highlight that concern for the oppressed is foundational to faith, and encourage action – from giving, to praying, to living responsibly.

Bible Society's Chief Executive James Catford said, 'In this country, in the United States and among the affluent of the world, the issues of poverty and justice have become front and centre. It's what we are increasingly talking about.

'But what people will discover is that the Bible got there first. Poverty and justice have always been on the heart of God. The Bible is not full of rules, finger-wagging and old-fashioned ideas. The Bible has something to say about life and, in fact, there's nothing on earth that we can experience that the Bible doesn't tackle.'

### **About Bible Society**

The British and Foreign Bible Society (known as 'Bible Society') is a Christian charity that exists to make the Bible heard throughout the world. The majority of its work is overseas, making the Bible available in a language people can understand and at a price they can afford. Here in England and Wales, the Society works to build bridges between the Bible and people's everyday lives, as well as to rebuild confidence in its enduring message.

### **Contact information**

For an interview, to request an article, or for more information please contact;

- Claire Smith, Head of Communications, Bible Society, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon SN5 7DG T: 01793 418290 M: 07771 505063 E: [claire.smith@biblesociety.org.uk](mailto:claire.smith@biblesociety.org.uk)
- Yemi Folayan, Public Relations Officer, Bible Society, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon SN5 7DG T: 01793 418255 F: 01793 418118 E: [yemi.folayan@biblesociety.org.uk](mailto:yemi.folayan@biblesociety.org.uk)

***The Poverty and Justice Bible* can be ordered at [www.povertyandjusticebible.org](http://www.povertyandjusticebible.org) at a special introductory price of £9.99.**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE **Bible Society**, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon SN5 7DG  
**T: 01793 418100 F: 01793 418118 [www.biblesociety.org.uk](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk)**  
Charity Registration No 232759