

*'Illuminating and fascinating – how rich a past the Bible has, how little most of us know about it, and how well Alister McGrath makes all things clear.'*

FAY WELDON

First published 400 years ago, the King James Bible is a landmark in the history of the English language. It formed our language and enabled normal people to understand their faith as never before. But it can also be seen as a social, economic and political text. Both those seeking to overthrow the English monarchy and those wanting to retain it sought support from the same Bible.

So how did this remarkable translation come to be written? To answer this question is to throw open the doors of a lost world – a world in the process of being transformed by the new technology of printing. In reading about the greatest English text ever produced we must close our eyes to our own world – in which books are plentiful and readily available – and enter another, very different, universe.

**ALISTER McGRATH** is a leading authority on the history of Christian thought, especially in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and is the author of many studies in this field. He is Professor of Theology, Ministry and Education, and Head of the Centre for Theology, Religion and Culture at King's College, London.

ISBN 978-0-340-78585-0



Christian Books £8.99

www.hodderfaith.com  
Cover illustration © Rayston Knipe

where faith is inspired

# IN THE BEGINNING

ALISTER  
McGRATH

H  
HODDER

