



Aramaic OT

The God of the Old Testament

Unquestionably God’s sovereignty over all creation—His supreme kingship over people and nations and over the course of history—is the most basic metaphor and pervasive theological concept in the Old Testament. As the Sovereign Lord, He displays His unfailing love, transcendent greatness and goodness to all creatures under heaven.

God’s holiness is also axiomatic in the Old Testament. His holiness refers to His incomparably awesome majesty—the mysterious, overwhelming presence of His infinite power before which the whole creation trembles. It also refers to His absolute moral virtue, a quality so infinitely pure that it un.masks and judges every moral flaw or fault.

- **Thank the Lord for being the matchless portion that He is to His people.**
- **Pray that the Aramaic team will draw upon God’s greatness, holiness and strength as they strive to provide the Old Testament for the mother-tongue speakers.**

Busy Beavers

The Aramaic translators’ first order of business these days is to complete their draft of the Psalms. Once that’s finished, a dozen Old Testament books will be done in initial draft, including the recently drafted 2 Samuel (plus the first nine books in the Old Testament and Esther).

This year the team is translating another four books: Ezra, Nehemiah, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes. They’re also busy with later steps in the translation process for books they’ve already drafted to ensure that these meet their standards of accuracy, clarity and naturalness. All these later steps are now completed for Genesis, Joshua, Ruth and Esther and nearly finished for Exodus and Judges.

“Seek My Face”

The Lord says, “Seek My face!” in Psalm 27:8. The New Living Translation takes the figurative expression “Seek My face” and makes the sense plainer (“Come and talk with me”). This captures the meaning well. One minority language expresses it, “Draw close to Me.” It captures the relational aspect.

This verse reminds us that we shouldn’t just seek God’s hand, but His face. God actually wants fellowship with us and our mutual enjoyment of each other even more than He wants to show us His powerful hand. This is a truth that the Aramaic Old Testament hopefully will convey to many mother-tongue speakers.



For security reasons, pseudonyms have been used for the language name and names of individuals.

- **Location: East Mediterranean**
- **Number of Speakers: 1,000,000**
- **Year Project Began: 1999**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2014**

- **Pray for the team as they draft more books and get others ready for printing.**

- **Pray that the Aramaic Bible will deepen many people’s relationship with God.**