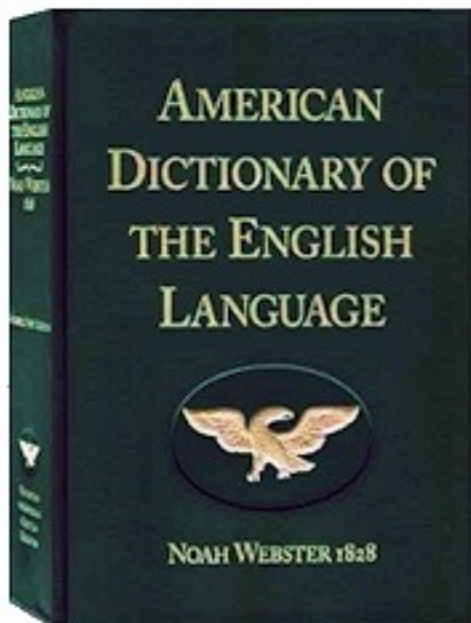


UNICORN

The following is what is commonly accepted as a blatant error in the KJV yet is not an error at all. We often hear people who scoff about the bible being a fictitious book, saying any book that talks about unicorns can't be taken seriously. They say this because the King James version talks about unicorns in the translations of eight verses in the bible. That is enough to turn many people off to the entire book. At first, it does sound strange indeed, but when you look into it, you will find it not so strange after all. Let's dive into some deep water here and have a look.



As per the original Noah Webster's dictionary of 1828 it explains that the word "unicorn" is used to describe "an animal with one horn; the monoceros. This name is often applied to the rhinoceros." If you look up the word rhinoceros, it says there are two species, one with a single horn and one with two horns (bicornis). They are natives of Asia and Africa. Today these rhinos are called "Asian one horned Rhinoceros" (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) and the Black Rhinoceros (*Diceros Bicornis*). Their names today came from the original Latin "unicornis". If you compare for example the "unicorn" word used in the verse in Ps. 92:10 of the KJV, you will see that the Latin bible uses the word "unicornis".

The word "unicorn" is used in eight verses in scripture: Job 39:9-10, Num. 23:22, 24:8, Ps. 29:6, Deut. 33:17, Ps. 22:22, 92:10, and Isa. 34:7. In these verses the word translated unicorn has five different translations in Latin: rinoceros, rinocerotis, rinocerota, unicornium, and unicornis.

Why are there five different translations?

If you look closely you will see in some verses like Job, it refers to a very powerful animal. In **Job 39:9-12** *Will the unicorn be willing to serve thee, or abide by thy crib? 10 Canst thou bind the unicorn with his band in the furrow? or will he harrow the valleys after thee? 11 Wilt thou trust him, because his strength is great? or wilt thou leave thy labour to him? 12 Wilt thou believe him, that he will bring home thy seed, and gather it into thy barn?*



Then we look in Psalms and we see it referring to an animal with one horn. **Ps. 92:10** *"But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil".*

If you read in Deuteronomy it talks of an animal with horns, rather than a singular horn. **Deut. 33:17** *His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh.* It says "horns", so it is translated as a two horned rhino. Then we see something prophetic that jumps right off the page once we understand the original meaning. The "ten thousands of Ephraim" is one horn, "the thousands of Manasseh" is the other horn. Moses is prophesying, he is saying that Joseph's two horns are his two sons. One will be greater than the other. One says "he shall push ten thousands" and one says "he will push thousands". In the KJV it reads "unicorns" (plural) with a marginal (study guide) note. If you check out the marginal note you will see in the Hebrew it shows it as a singular "unicorn", (r'em..singular), but the word translated "horns" is "qarney" in Hebrew, meaning plural possessive. Basically, this means the plural horns are being possessed by the singular horn. That's why the verse in Latin doesn't say "unicornis", but rinocerotis, the two horned rhino. This makes a lot of sense because when you look at a Black Rhino, which is larger than the single horn African, Asian Rhino, it has two horns.

Now let's go a little deeper, let's look at Jacob's blessing of Ephraim and Manasseh back in **Gen. 48:19** *And his father refused, and said, I know it, my son, I know it: he also shall become a people, and he also shall*

be great: but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his seed shall become a multitude of nations." Jacob prophesied that Ephraim would be greater (two horned Rhino) than Manasseh (one horned Rhino). The Black Rhino's two horns, one greater than the other, represent Ephraim and Manasseh.

When we look closely at languages, words, we will see that all languages, other than Hebrew, are always changing. As you can see, the word unicorn used in the King James bible is not crazy at all when we understand the meaning of those words at that time. To sum it up, in these verses we have the physical strength, shape, and power of the rhinoceros described as a unicorn in the KJV version, and included with those ideas, we even have a prophesy of Moses thrown in for a bonus. Though there are no doubt thousands of translation errors in the KJV, this is not one of them.

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