

**THA HALGAN GODSPEL  
ON ENGLISC. THE  
ANGLO-SAXON VERSION  
OF THE HOLY GOSPELS**

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Tha Halgan Godspel on Englisc. The Anglo-Saxon Version of the Holy Gospels by Benjamin Thorpe

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**BENJAMIN THORPE**

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**THE ANGLO-SAXON VERSION**  
**OF**  
**THE HOLY GOSPELS.**

EDITED BY  
**BENJAMIN THORPE, F.S.A.,**  
FROM THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS.

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REPRINTED BY **LOUIS F. KLIPSTEIN, AA. LL. M. AND PH.D.,**  
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## PREFACE.

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TO DR. MATTHEW PARKER, Archbishop of Canterbury, the preserver of our Saxon manuscripts and restorer of Saxon learning, we owe the first edition of the Anglo-Saxon version of the four Gospels.\* The second edition is that of DR. MARSHALL,† Rector of Lincoln College, Oxford, accompanying the Gothic version, as given by Francis Junius. With respect to the text of these editions, that of Parker's may be regarded as a faithful impression of a late manuscript,‡ showing the tongue in its decline, and when rapidly verging towards that state of barbarism into which it sank about the beginning of the twelfth century. Marshall's edition exhibits an earlier, though, perhaps, not a purer text, which the singularly unfortunate idea of its editor, of supplying the omissions of the Saxon version, sometimes (and not always grammatically) by his own words, and at others, from the old Northumbrian glosses,§ has, moreover, greatly contributed to vitiate.

\* In small quarto, printed at London in 1571, with a dedication to Queen Elizabeth, by Foxe, the martyrologist.

† In quarto, printed at Dordrecht in 1665. Some copies bear on the title-page "Amstelædami, A<sup>o</sup> 1684."

‡ Apparently Bodl. No. 441.

§ MS. Cott. Nero D. 4. and Gl. Rushw. MS. Bodl.

These works having become extremely scarce, it was thought that a new edition of THE EARLIEST ENGLISH VERSION OF THE GOSPELS, free from the objections above mentioned, and in form more convenient than the preceding ones, even though without pretension to the character of critical, would not be unacceptable at a time, when our old language and literature were gradually emerging from the state of neglect in which they long had lain, in the birthland of Beda, of Alcuine, of Aelfred, and of Aelfric.

The basis of the present text is the Cod. Bibl. Pub. Cant. li. 2. 11, collated with Cod. C.C.C.C. S. 4. 140. In doubtful cases Cod. Bodl. 441. and Cod. Cott. Otho, C. 1. have also been consulted.

The monkish character has been rejected. The accent, or rather mark indicating a long syllable, will be found, as in the manuscripts, rather capriciously applied. In the division of syllables I have deemed it more advisable to separate the servile portion of a word from its root, than to follow the rules of modern English or German orthography. The punctuation, as far as the different genius of the two languages, or occasional variations of translation admit, is conformable to that of the authorized English version.

B. T.



P R E F A C E  
TO THE AMERICAN EDITION.

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IN issuing the ANGLO-SAXON or "EARLIEST ENGLISH" VERSION OF THE GOSPELS from the American Press, the Editor has not deviated in the least particular from the text as set forth in the following Preface, with the exception of one further change in the characters employed--the substitution of *th* for *Ð*, and of *th* for *ƿ*, as in his "Grammar of the Anglo-Saxon Language," and in his "Analecta Anglo-Saxonica." By this change the typography is rendered more uniform, and the general appearance of the text improved.

This reprint is now laid before the public with the hope that it may conduce to the study of the language of our forefathers, as well as to a still higher purpose.

ST. JAMES' SANTEE, S. C., April 1, 1846.

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Horizontal line of text in the middle section of the page.

Small cluster of text or a signature in the lower middle section.

Horizontal line of text in the lower section of the page.

Small mark or text on the left side of the page.

Small mark or text on the left side of the page.

Small mark or text at the bottom center of the page.

## THAET GODSPEL

AFTER MATHEUS GERECEDNYSSE.

I. HER is on cneorisse béc Haelendes Cristes, Dauides suna, Abrahames suna. Sothlice Abraham gestrynde 2 Isáac; Isáac gestrynde Iacob; Iacob gestrynde Iudam and his gebrothra; Iudas gestrynde Phares and Zaram 3 of þam wife the waes genemned Thamar; Phares gestrynde Esrom; Esrom gestrynde Aram; Aram gestrynde 4 Aminadab; Aminadab gestrynde Nááson; Nááson gestrynde Salmon; Salmon gestrynde Booz of þam wife 5 Rááb; Booz gestrynde Obeth of þam wife Ruth; Obeth gestrynde Iesse; Iesse gestrynde þone cyning Daud; 6 Daud cyning gestrynde Salomon of þam wife the waes Urias wif; Salomon gestrynde Roboam; Roboas gestrynde 7 Abíam; Abía gestrynde Asa; Asah gestrynde 8 Iosaphath; Iosaphath gestrynde Ioram; Ioras gestrynde Ozíam; Ozías gestrynde Ioatham; Ioatham gestrynde 9 Achaz; Achaz gestrynde Ezechiam; Ezechias gestrynde 10 Mannasen; Mannases gestrynde Amon; Amon gestrynde Iosíam; Iosías gestrynde Iechoníam and his ge- 11 brothru, on Babilonis geleorednesse: and aefter Babilo- 12 nis geleorednesse, Iechonías gestrynde Salathiel; Salathiel gestrynde Zorobabel; Zorobabel gestrynde Abiud; 13