Welcome to this podcast number 5 in the NE series of the Daily Bible Reading Podcast.

The whole purpose of these podcasts is to promote the reading, understanding, and fully believing of God’s Word. The NE series podcasts are for reading the New English Translation. I plan to talk more about the relative strengths and weaknesses of the different kinds of Bible translations in the companion Comments issue for this number 5 podcast. You can find information about the two other Bible translations I have recorded at dailybiblereading.info in a blog post entitled More about Bible translations, and linked in today’s episode notes.

http://dailybiblereading.libsyn.com/website/more-about-bible-translations

Because of my Bible translation experience, there are things that I want to tweak in any translation. Listeners to the podcasts from 2014-16 have not accused me so far of making controversial changes or of being doctrinally biased. The little tweaks I make to the GNT/NLT are intended to help listeners understand the meaning contained in the Biblical source languages, and they are documented at the bottom of the episode notes.

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GENESIS 9-10:
In chapter 8 the flood waters receded. After everyone came out of the boat, Noah made a sacrifice.

JOB 5:
In chapter 4 Eliphaz implied that Job’s guilt was the reason he was being punished:

Job 4:6 NLT How come [Doesn’t] your reverence for God [doesn’t/0] give you confidence? [Perhaps you place too much confidence in your own integrity./Doesn’t your life of integrity give you hope?]
Job 4:6 NET Is not your piety your confidence, and your blameless ways your hope?
7 Call to mind now:
Who, being innocent, ever perished?
And where were upright people ever destroyed?
8 Even as I have seen, those who plow iniquity and those who sow trouble reap the same.

MARK 4a:
In chapter 3 we have seen that opposition to Jesus was mounting from the Jewish religious leaders. They were already plotting to kill him and saying he performed miracles by the power of Satan.

I want to comment briefly about the sin of blaspheming or reviling the Holy Spirit that we heard about at the end of chapter 3. Some people worry about whether they have done this and committed
the unforgivable sin. Note the context here. The experts in the Law were saying the Jesus was working by the power of Satan. But Jesus was working by the power of the Holy Spirit. A person in a frame of mind like those Law experts will never repent. It is actually that non-repentance that brings the result of not being forgiven. So I want you to know this: If you worry about whether in some past time you have blasphemed the Holy Spirit, then you haven’t! If you are the kind of person who feels sorrow for sins already committed and are ready to repent on the occasions where you trip up and commit a sin, then you have never blasphemed the Holy Spirit, nor are you likely to ever do so.

**NET translation notes:**

- **Genesis 9:5** [If you are killed,] For your lifeblood I will surely exact punishment, from every living creature I will exact punishment. From each person [who commits murder] I will exact punishment for the life of the individual since the [person killed//man] was [his/her] relative. [I can’t believe that this lack of gender sensitivity got past the correctness editors!]

- **Genesis 10:5** [NLT Their descendants became the seafaring peoples that spread out to various lands, each identified by its own language, clan, and national identity.//NET From these the coastlands of the nations were separated into their lands, every one according to its language, according to their families, by their nations.]

- Genesis 10:15 NET Canaan was the father of Sidon his firstborn, [then] Heth,

- Gen. 10:20 [NLT These were the descendants of Ham, identified by clan, language, territory, and national identity.// NET These are the sons of Ham, according to their families, according to their languages, by their lands, and by their nations.]

- 31 [NLT These were the descendants of Shem, identified by clan, language, territory, and national identity.//NET These are the sons of Shem according to their families, according to their languages, by their lands, and according to their nations.]

- 32 [NLT These are the clans that descended from Noah’s sons, arranged by nation according to their lines of descent. All the nations of the earth descended from these clans after the great flood.//NET These are the families of the sons of Noah, according to their genealogies, by their nations, and from these the nations spread over the earth after the flood]

- **Job 5:1** NET “Call now! Is there anyone who will answer you? To which of the holy [heavenly beings//ones] will you turn?

  2 For wrath kills the foolish person, and anger slays the [stupid//silly] one.

  3 I myself have seen [a//the] fool taking root, but [I called a curse down upon his household, saying,//suddenly I cursed his place of residence.]

  4 [“May his children always lack security. May no one defend them when they are brought to trial, and may they receive all the punishment they deserve.//His children are far from safety, and they are crushed at the place where judgment is rendered, nor is there anyone to deliver them.]
5 May hungry people eat up that foolish man’s harvest, even plucking every last grain from among the thorns. And may thirsty people swallow up all his ill-gotten wealth.”//The hungry eat up his harvest, and take it even from behind the thorns, and the thirsty swallow up their fortune.

11 he sets the lowly on high, [so] that those who mourn are raised to safety.

15 [But God saves the poor and helpless from the cutting words of the powerful.//So he saves from the sword that comes from their mouth, even the poor from the hand of the powerful.]

16 [So at last the poor and helpless find their hopes fulfilled, while evil people are silenced.//Thus the poor have hope, and iniquity shuts its mouth.]

21 You will be protected from malicious gossip, and will not be afraid of [the] destruction when it comes.

23 [God’s blessing will extend even to not being bothered by large stones in your fields or by wild animals attacking your flocks.//For you will have a pact with the stones of the field, and the wild animals will be at peace with you.]

24 And you will know that your home will be secure, and when you inspect [all that you own//your domains], [you won’t find that things are missing.//you will not be missing anything.]
What a pity they won’t repent, because then I would forgive them!”

NET although they look they may look [and look] but not see, and although they [keep on listening, they won’t understand//hear they may hear but not understand], so they may not repent and be forgiven. ”

13 He said to them, [“How could you fail to understand the meaning of that parable? If so, you will be hopeless at understanding all my other parables!”//“Don’t you understand this parable? Then how will you understand any parable?] [Jesus is using two rhetorical questions as a mild rebuke.]

14 The sower sows [God’s message//the word].
15 [Remember that some of the seed fell on the path. That seed pictures people who hear the message, but// These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: Whenever they hear,] immediately Satan comes and snatches away the word that was sown in them.]
16 [Remember that some of the seed fell//These are the ones sown] on rocky ground: [This pictures people who— the moment//As soon as] they hear the word, they receive it with joy.

17 But they have no root in themselves and do not endure. Then, when trouble or persecution comes because of the [message//word], immediately they fall away.

18 [Some other seeds fell//Others are the ones sown] among thorny plants: [This pictures people who hear the message//They are those who hear the word,]
19 but worldly cares, the seductiveness of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke [out the message//the word], and [that the message doesn’t help them at all.//produces nothing.]

20 But [remember the seed that was//these are the ones] sown on good soil: [That pictures people who//They] hear the [message//word] and receive it[,] and bear fruit[.//,] [Some people are like single stalks that produce 30, 60, or even 100 grains of wheat.//one thirty times as much, one sixty, and one a hundred.”

21 He also said to them, “A [lighted] lamp isn’t brought [out] to be put under a basket or under a bed, is it? [We always put lamps on lampstands!//Isn’t it to be placed on a lampstand?] [Greek has a 'gar' connector here which is often translated as 'for'. But 22 is not a REASON for 21, but instead is showing the point of similarity with 21.]

22 [Similarly//For] nothing is hidden [now] except to be revealed, [NLT and every secret will be brought to light.//and nothing concealed except to be brought to light.] [Greek has a 'gar' connector here which is often translated as 'for'. But 22 is not a REASON for 21, but instead is showing the point of similarity with 21.]

23 [If you have//Whoever has] ears to hear [with, you] had better listen!”
24 [PET Then Jesus said to them again, “Each of you must save the things I’m teaching you in your hearts. Because however much you endeavor to understand My teachings, in the same measure also God will add to your ability to understand them. In fact, He will add even more insight.//And he said to them, “Take care about what you hear. The measure you use will be the measure you receive, and more will be added to you.”

Our Lord Jesus, this parable— of the sower, or of the different kinds of soil, is so important to us! O Lord, may we be found to be good soil, the kind that bears good fruit, the kind that perseveres, the kind that resists Satan and does not allow him to snatch away the Word as it is planted in our hearts.
Lord we pray that we would be the kind of people that allow your Word to sink deeply into our hearts and minds. Let it take root in us. And let us be the ones that when persecution comes, we won’t give up easily. O Lord, protect us, because the cares of this life, the desire for riches, or approval from the crowd, we experience that these things choke out your message, Lord. May we be the kind of people who will be given more insight, because of paying attention to what we hear. So we pray that these ideas will be in our minds today, that we might be like a lamp set on a lampstand, helping others to see your glory.