

T.W. MINISTRIES (U.S.A.)  
Post Office Box 36941  
Phoenix, Arizona 85067-6941 USA  
Telephone: (001) 1-602-939-7288  
Fax: (001) 1-602-841-0422

Friday, October 29, 1993

To: THAILAND BIBLE SOCIETY  
Fm: DARYL WESTFALL  
Re: THAI LANGUAGE BIBLE PRODUCTION

Dear Sirs:

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Not long ago, we purchased a Thai Bible in a local bookstore. It was published by the Thailand Bible Society in 1992, and the ISBN is listed as 974-8183-00-9.

We noticed that it was printed in the United States. We also noticed that the Bible's binding, endsheets, and maps were identical in style to the English-language *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures*, published by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York.

Would we be correct in assuming that your Thai Bible was printed by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society? If so, could you suggest someone we could contact at the Watchtower Society for information on Bible production in foreign languages?

Please reply by airmail if possible. If airmail is not possible, please send us a reply by FAX at (001) 1-602-841-0422. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

May you continue to bring glory and honor to God through your distribution of his Holy Word!

Sincerely,

Daryl Westfall  
T.W. Ministries (U.S.A.)



**สมาคมพระคริสตธรรมไทย**  
**THAILAND BIBLE SOCIETY**

พจ.ดร.สมดี ภูสอยดี  
 Rev.SOMDEE POOSAWTSEE Ph.D.  
 GENERAL SECRETARY

P.O.BOX 4-198 BANGKOK 10400 THAILAND  
 TELEX: 84854 "ATTN.BIBLE SOCIETY"  
 TEL. 279 8341-2

319/52-55 วิภาวดีรังสิต  
 กรุงเทพฯ 10400

November 1, 1993

Mr. Daryl Westfall  
 T.W.Ministries (USA)  
 Post Office 36941  
 Phoenix, Arizona 85067-694  
 U.S.A.

cc: Dr. Jen Li Tsai  
 Mr. Vartan Sahagian

Dear Mr. Westfall,

Greetings to you in Jesus's name.

I received your Oct. 29, fax concerning the Thai Bible OV83. May I briefly answer your question as follow:-

1. This Thai Bible is an old version normally used by older denominations and organizations.
2. In 1992 the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of New York (The Jehovah's Witnesses) received permission to print this Bible in the use. We bought 500 copies for sales to churches in Thailand. Perhaps the copy you have must be one of these.
3. As far as information about printing Bibles in other languages, you may inquire the WTBTS in New York.
4. Usually Bibles are copy-wrighted by the National Bible Society in countries where the language is spoken. Therefore you can request permission to print the languages concerned from the appropriate Bible Society.

I suggest you inquire at the American Bible Society since you are in the United States. The address is:-

1865 Broadway  
 New York, N.Y. 10023  
 U.S.A.

Tel. (212) 408-1200  
 Fax. (212) 408-1512

The person you may contact is Mr. Vartan Sahagian.

I hope my answers are helpful to you.

Yours sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Somdee Poosawtsee  
 General Secretary

SP:sc

พระวจนะของพระเจ้า เป็นความหวังสำหรับทุกคน  
 GOD'S WORD: HOPE FOR ALL

TBS

T.W. MINISTRIES (U.S.A.)  
Post Office Box 36941  
Phoenix, Arizona 85067-6941 USA  
Telephone: (001) 1-602-939-7288  
Fax: (001) 1-602-841-0422

Saturday, December 4, 1993

To: REV. DR. SOMDEE POOSAWTSEE  
From: DARYL WESTFALL  
Re: THAI LANGUAGE BIBLE PRODUCTION

Dear M. Poosawtsee,

Greetings once again in the name of our our Lord Jesus Christ!

Your prompt response to our FAX of October 29 is greatly appreciated. Your answers were very helpful to us, and answered most of our questions. We thank you very much for your kind assistance.

We understand that the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society received permission to publish the TBS Thai Bible OV83. According to the photocopy that was included in your letter, the WTBTs published 4,500 (4.5M) copies of OV83 in 1992. This edition of the Bible listed the WTBTs as the publisher of the Bible "by permission of the Thailand Bible Society." I am presuming from the photocopy you enclosed that the 500 which were purchased by the TBS were from this particular printing.

We are confused, since our copy of OV83 lists the Thailand Bible Society as the publisher, and the WTBTs is nowhere mentioned on the copyright page. Also, the Bible we have lists a print run of 2,000 copies (2M). Are we correct in assuming that the WTBTs published an additional 2,000 copies of OV83 specifically for the use of the Thailand Bible Society? If this is the case, might we ask if these 2,000 copies were sold to the Thailand Bible Society, or were they donated?

(We recognized our copy of OV83 to be published by the WTBTs because the maps on the inside front and back covers are identical to those printed in the English-language "New World Translation" (NWT). Also, the maps that follow the text in the back of the Bible are identical to those printed in the NWT. In addition, the style of binding is identical. Please see the enclosed photocopy comparisons.)

I understand from your letter that OV83 is an older Thai translation. Could you explain how it varies from a more modern Bible in the Thai language? Could you perhaps mention a few of the older denominations which prefer the translation of OV83? Does OV83 translate the Tetragrammaton (Jehovah, Yahweh) in the Old Testament, or does it substitute "Lord" as the Greek Septuagint does?

I realize that my questions are many and unusual. And I do appreciate the time and effort you have provided to respond to my inquiries. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to assist your ministry efforts in the future. We are a Trinitarian Christian ministry that provides Biblical answers to the claims of controversial religious groups. We plan on publishing a newsletter, as well as producing tracts and booklets. I would be more than happy to send copies to you as they become available. If our information would prove helpful to Christians in Thailand, you would be more than welcome to translate them into Thai and distribute them with our permission.

We will continue to pray that God would use you and the Thailand Bible Society to help spread the good news of God's free salvation to the people of Thailand. Your nation and its people are in our prayers.

Sincerely,

Daryl Westfall  
T.W. Ministries (USA)

Enclosure

cc: David Brown

THAI HOLY BIBLE  
© 1988 - V. 094  
BY  
THAILAND BIBLE SOCIETY,  
OV83 ISBN 974-8183-00-9

ผู้พิมพ์โฆษณา:  
WATCHTOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY  
OF NEW YORK, INC.  
International Bible Students Association  
Brooklyn, New York, U.S.A.  
BY PERMISSION OF  
THAILAND BIBLE SOCIETY

โดยได้รับอนุญาตจาก  
สมาคมพระคริสตธรรมไทย

Made in the United States of America  
1992

ทำในประเทศสหรัฐอเมริกา

THAI BIBLE OV 83  
TBS-1992- 4.5M

OV 83

(Watchtower Edition, Per Your  
Photocopy)

THAI HOLY BIBLE  
THAILAND BIBLE SOCIETY  
BANGKOK, THAILAND

© 1988-V. 094  
by

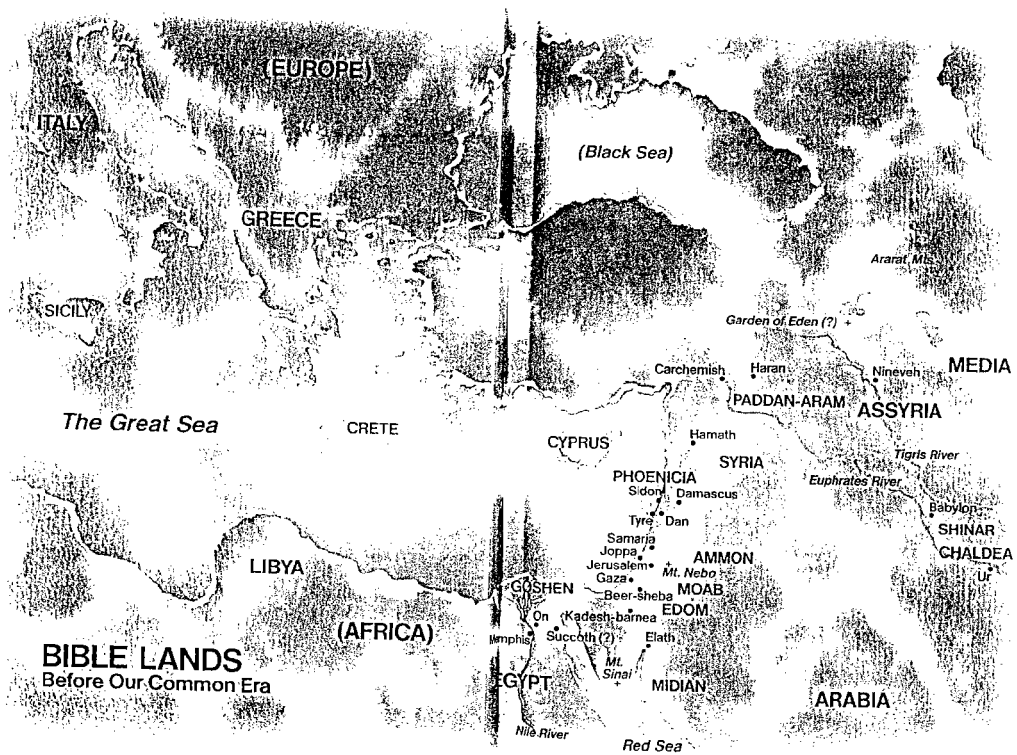
THAILAND BIBLE SOCIETY  
BANGKOK, THAILAND  
OV83 ISBN 974-8183-00-9

Made in the United States of America

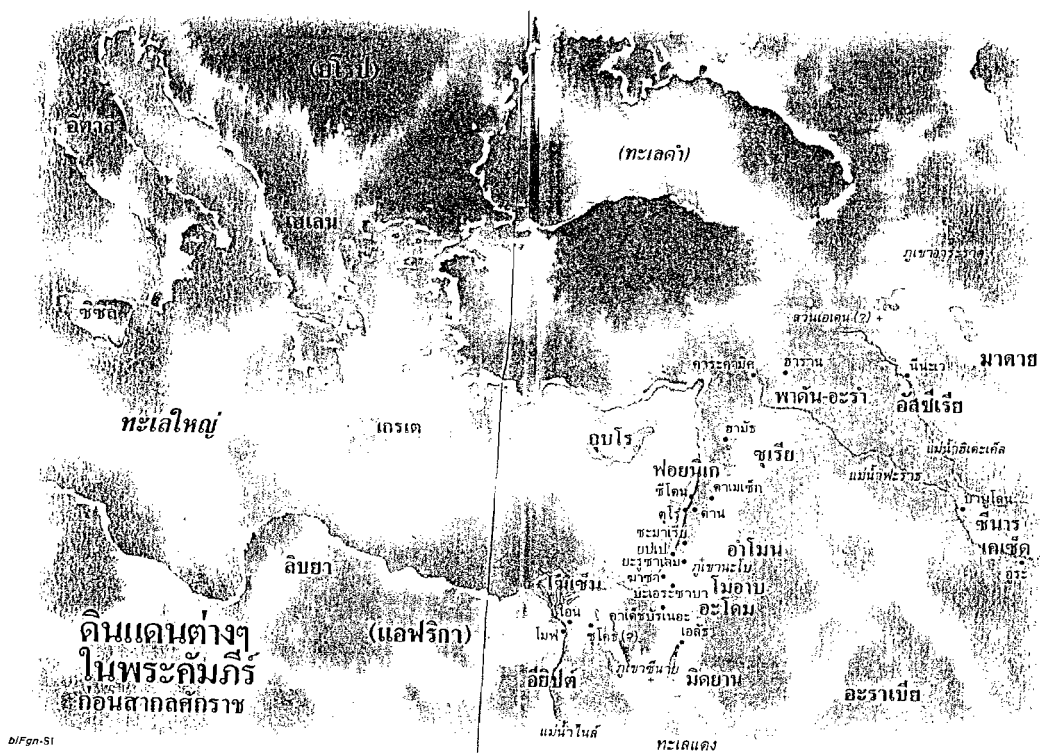
THAI BIBLE OV 83  
TBS - 1992 - 2M

OV 83

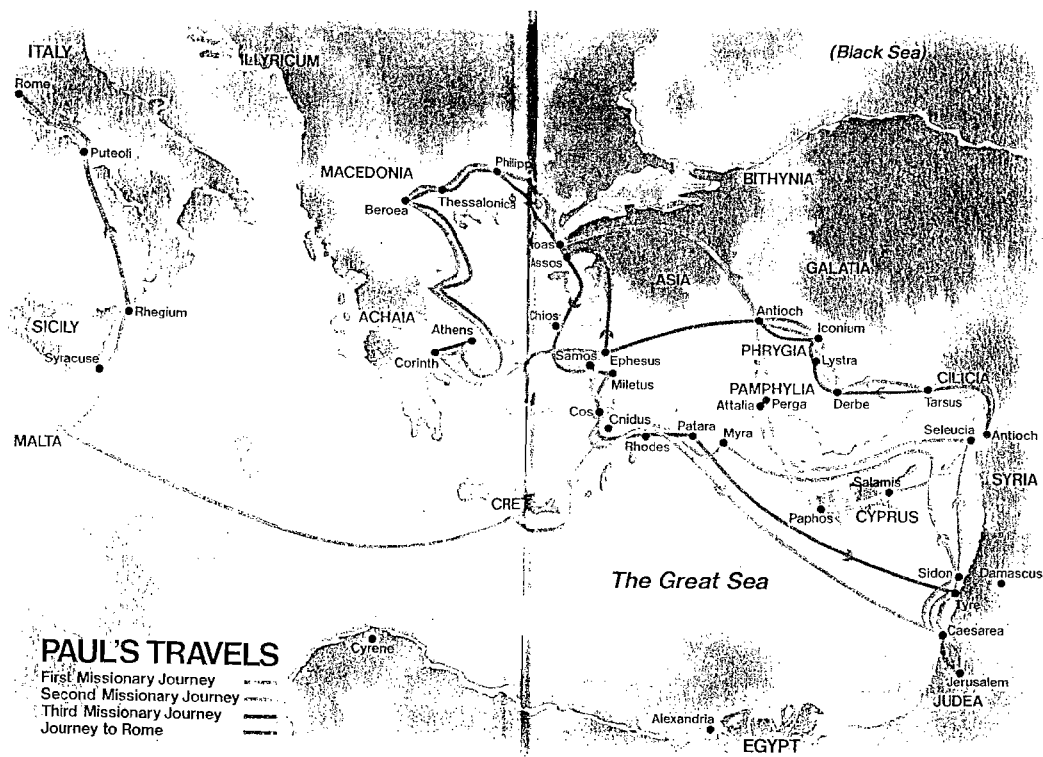
(Our Copy, No Watchtower  
Imprint)



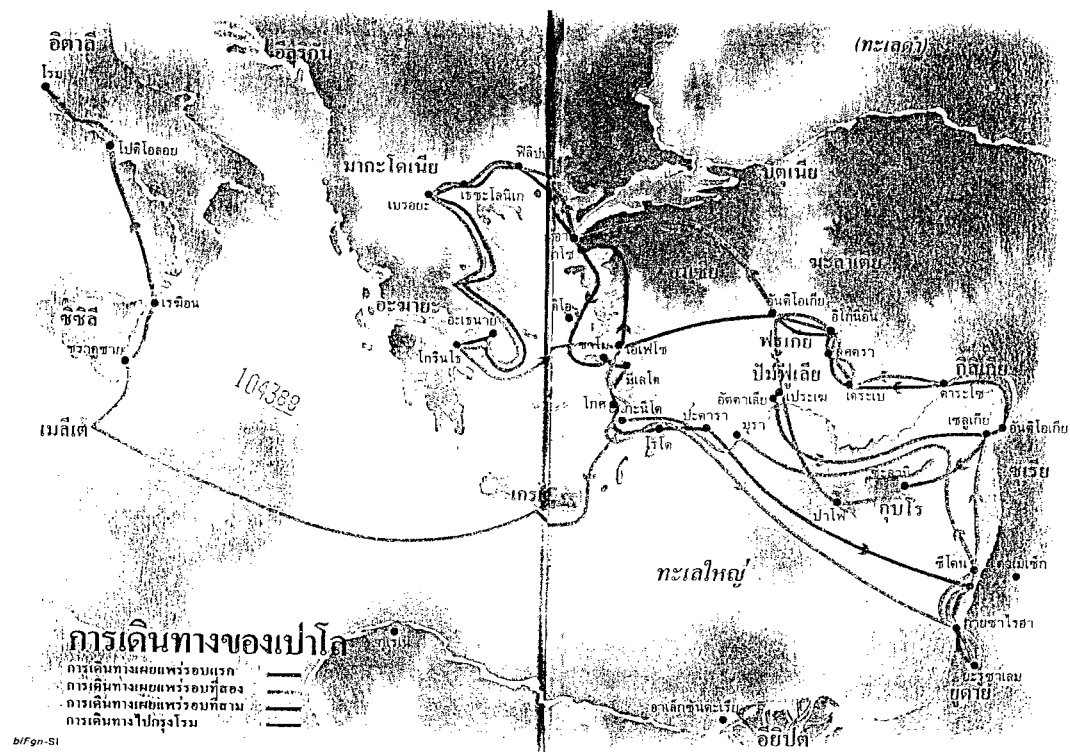
map # 6A  
(New World Translation)



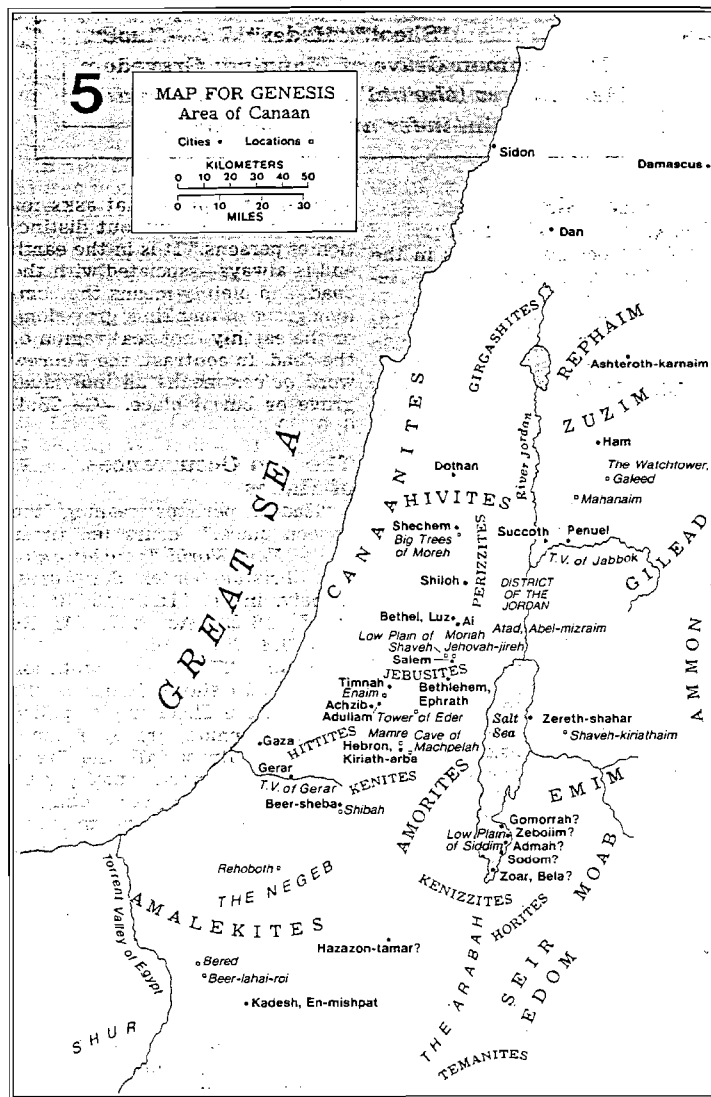
Map # 6B  
(OV 83-Our Copy)



Map # 5A  
 (New World Translation)

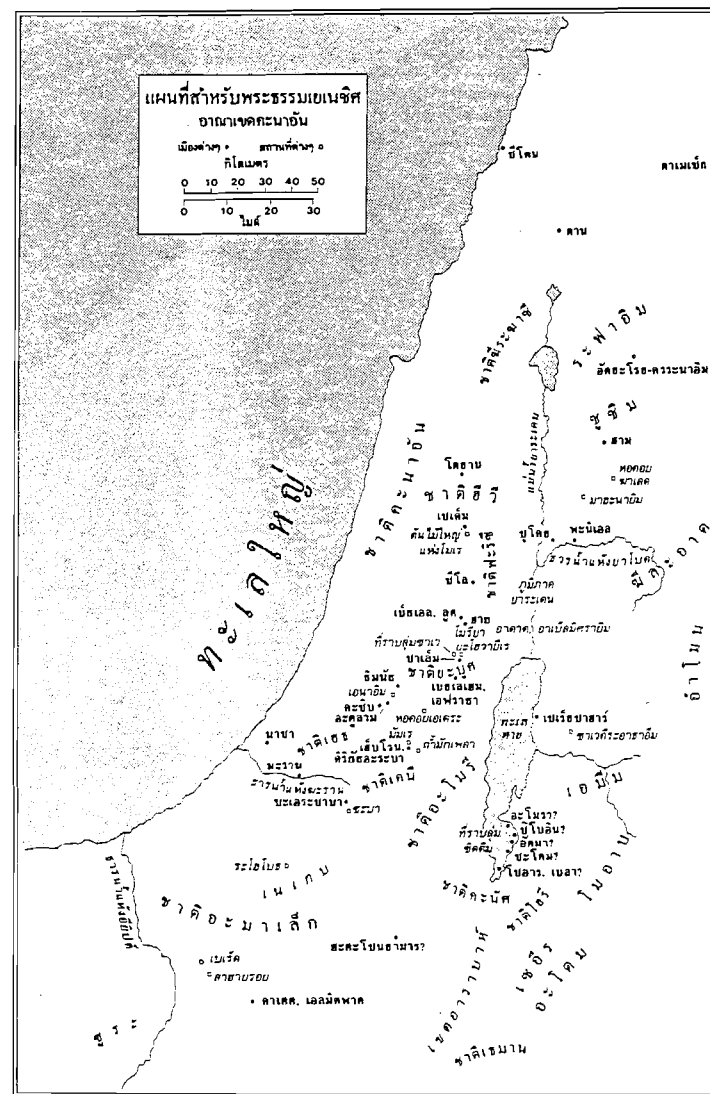


Map # 5B  
 (ov 83 - Our Copy)

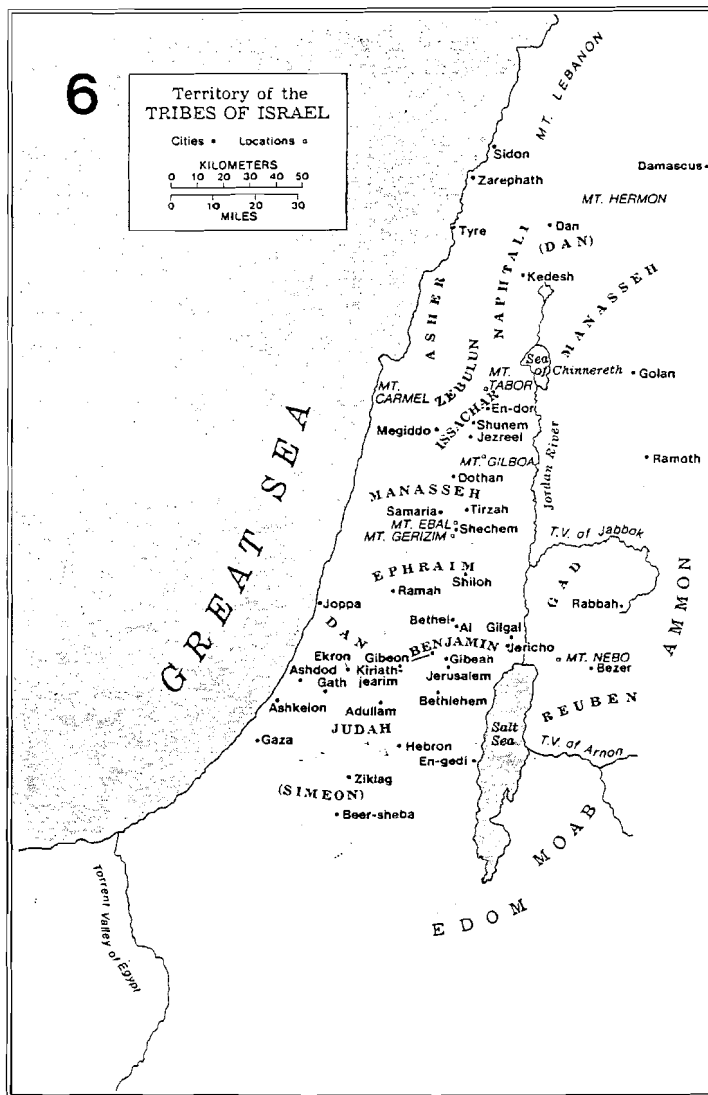


1644

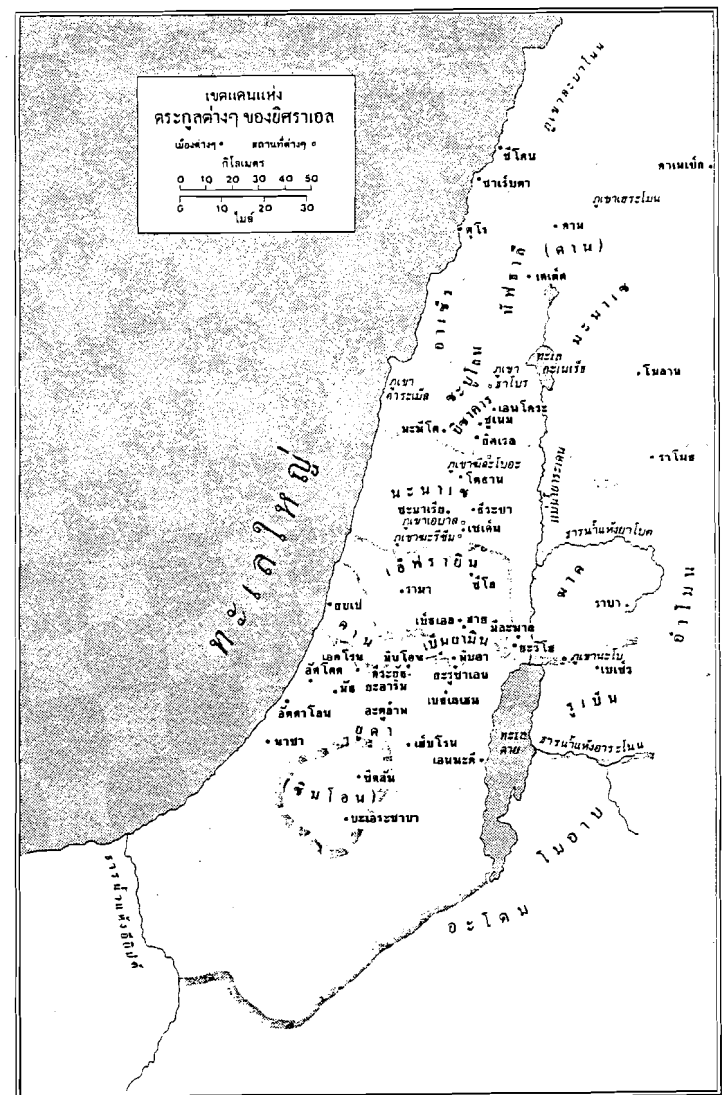
Map # 1  
(New World Translation)



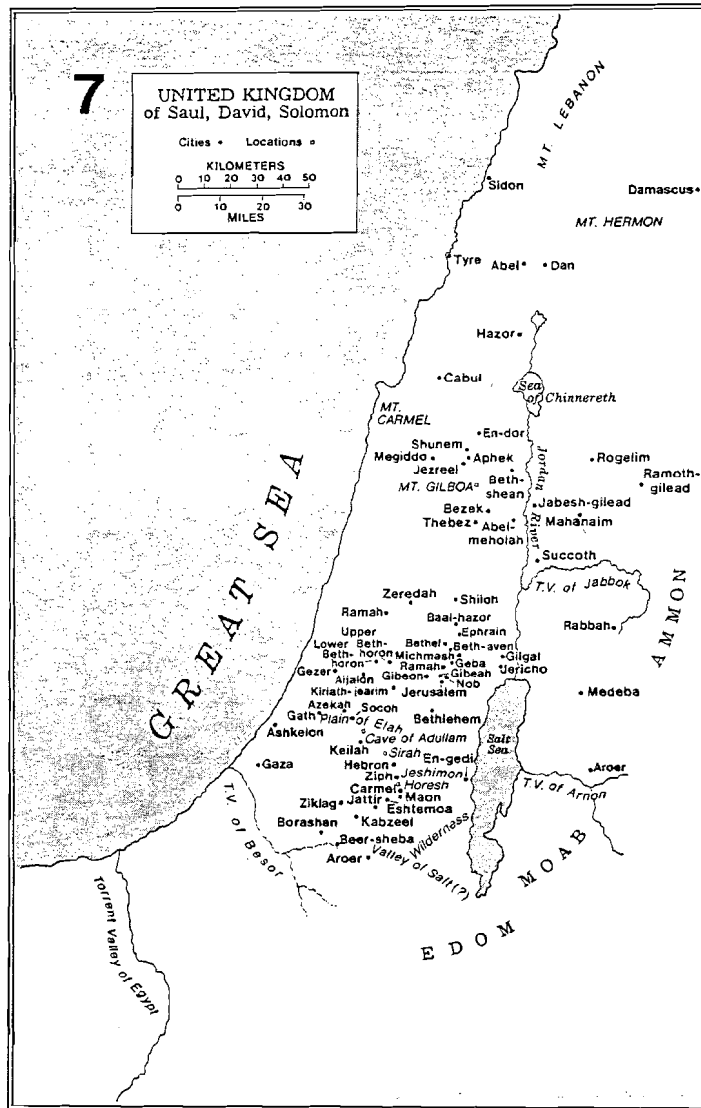
Map # 1  
(OV 83 - Our Copy)



Map #2  
(New World Translation)

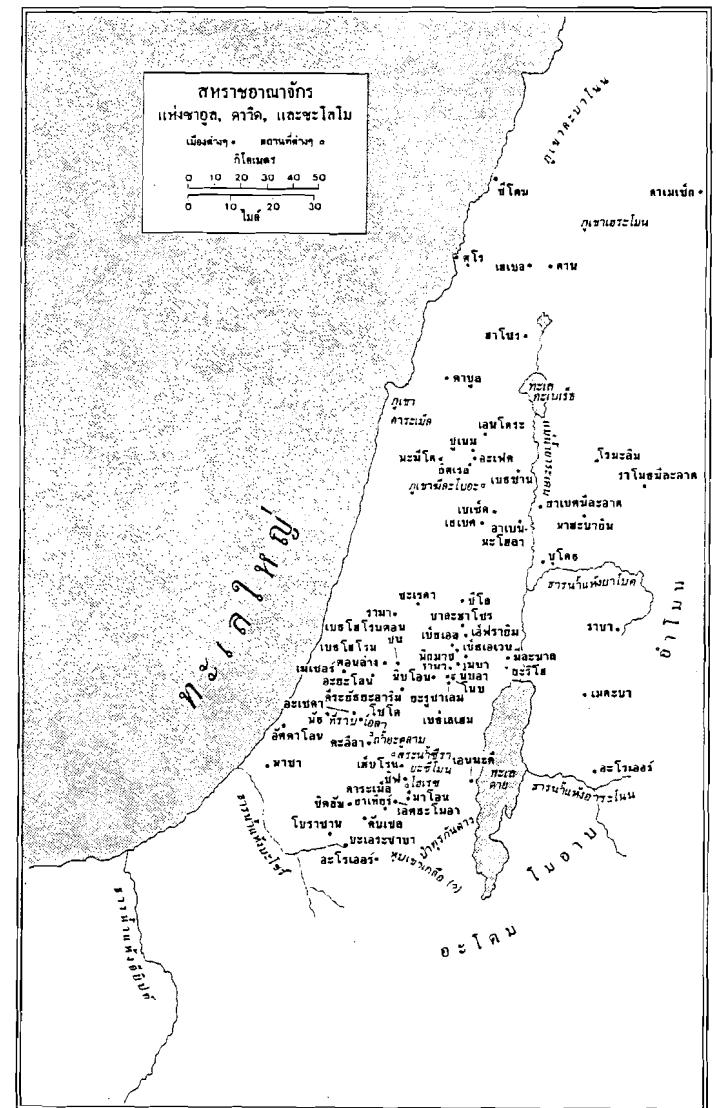


Map #2  
(OV 83 - Our Copy)

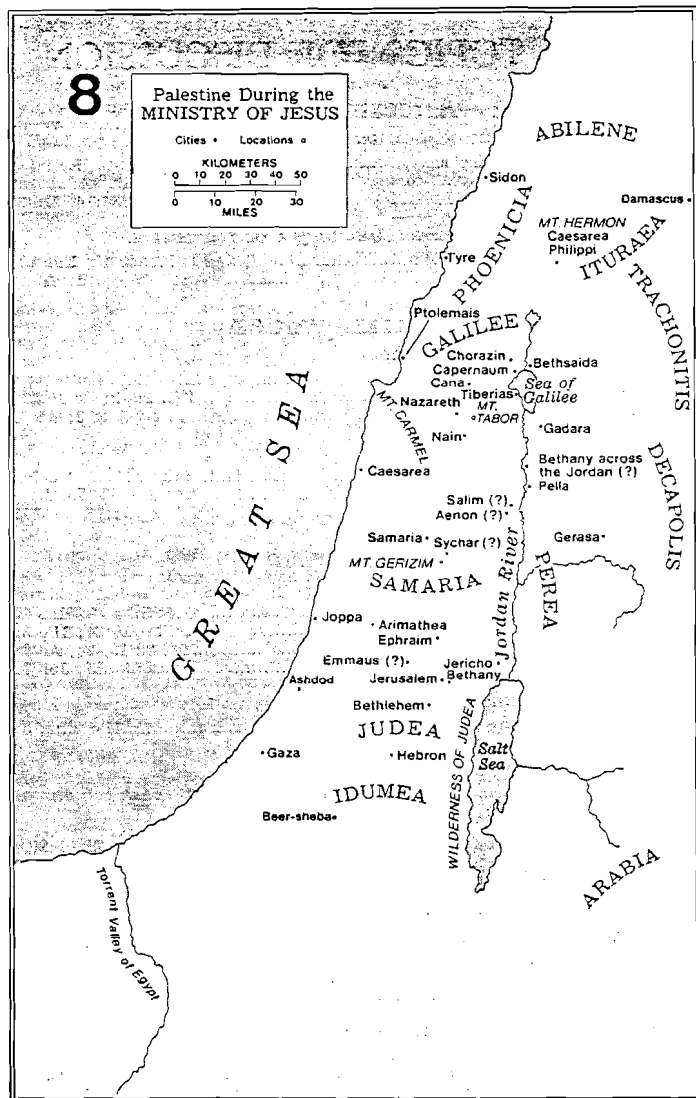


1646

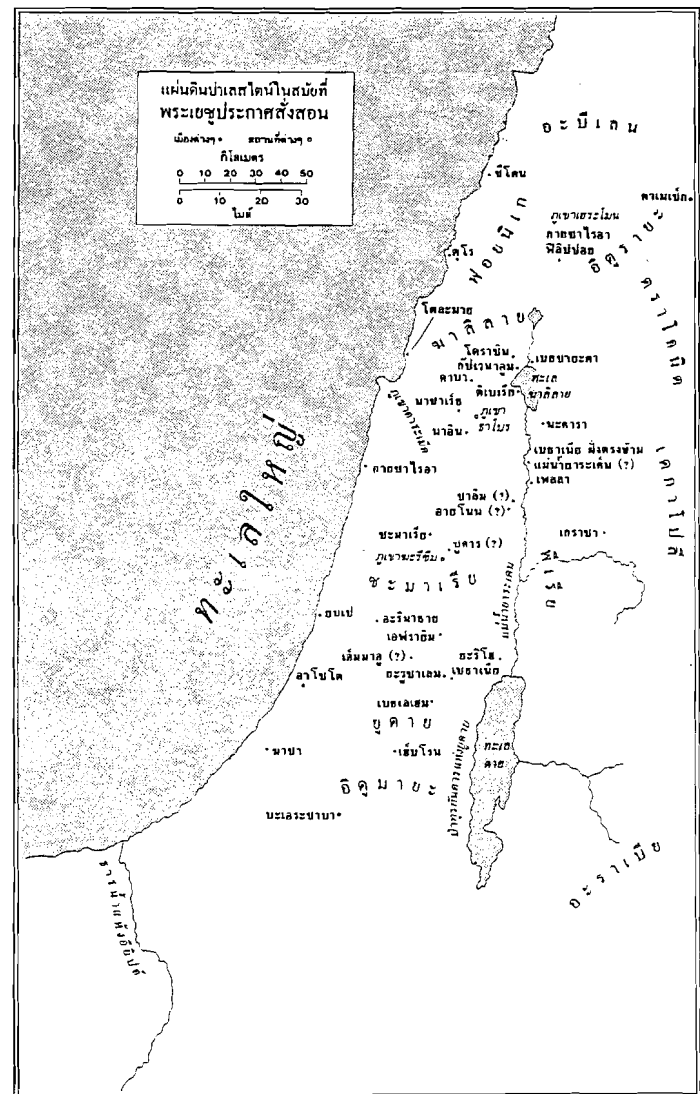
Map # 3  
(New World Translation)



Map # 3  
(OV 83 - Our Copy)



Map #4  
(New World Translation)



Map #4  
(ov 83 - Our Copy)



สมาคมพระคริสตธรรมไทย  
THAILAND BIBLE SOCIETY

ศจ.ดร.สมดี ภูสอยดี  
Rev.SOMDEE POOSAWTSEE Ph.D.  
GENERAL SECRETARY

P.O.BOX 4-198 BANGKOK 10400 THAILAND  
TELEX: 84854 "ATTN.BIBLE SOCIETY"  
TEL.279 8341-2

319/52-55 วิภาวดีรังสิต  
กรุงเทพฯ 10400

January 6, 1994

Mr. Daryl Westfall  
T.W. Ministries (U.S.A.)  
Post Office Box 36941  
Phoenix, Arizona 85067-6941  
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Westfall,

I would like to respond to your letter of December 4.

The OV83 is an older Thai version of the Bible . It is preferred by the Jehovah Witnesses and the Apostolic Church. It uses the word Jehovah in the Old Testament. It differs from the more modern translations mostly because the more recent ones take into account the natural changes a language experiences in its use over the years. Also because more recently discovered manuscripts were the basis for translation, the more modern version is considered more accurate.

I hope this is helpful to you.

Thank you very much for praising for TBS and for Thailand.

Yours sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Somdee Poosawtsee  
General Secretary

SPsc

T.W. MINISTRIES (U.S.A.)  
Post Office Box 36941  
Phoenix, Arizona 85067-6941 USA  
Telephone: (001) 1-602-939-7288  
Fax: (001) 1-602-841-0422

Friday, January 28, 1994

To: SOMDEE POOSAWTSEE  
Fm: DARYL WESTFALL  
Re: OV83 BIBLE

Dear Somdee,

Thank you once again for your quick and courteous reply to my letter of December 4th.

Your answer to my "technical" questions concerning the OV83 translation are most helpful. Not speaking the Thai language myself, and not personally knowing anyone who does, I was unable to learn this information on my own. Your assistance, therefore, is greatly appreciated.

However, two of the questions posed in my previous correspondence to you remain unanswered. I might consider it an oversight, were it not for the fact that nine pages of photocopies directly related to these two questions were enclosed with the letter. I hope that you might be able to respond to these questions. I will ask them again.

- 1. Were 2,000 additional copies of OV83 published by the WTBTs specifically for the use of the Thailand Bible Society?*
- 2. If so, were these 2,000 copies sold to the Thailand Bible Society or were they donated?*

Permit me to explain why I ask these questions, Somdee. I work at a Christian bookstore in Phoenix, Arizona. In October, our store purchased a copy of the OV83 Thai Bible from the American Bible Society in New York.

This Bible attracted the attention of a friend and ministry associate of mine, Mr. David Brown. Mr. Brown is an ex-Jehovah's Witness and former worker in the Society's Bethel printshop in Brooklyn, New York. He is familiar with the binding processes employed in producing Watchtower literature. When he spotted the OV83 Bible in our "Foreign Languages" department, he remarked that

it looked very similar to the small, black *New World Translation Bible* published by the Society. Upon opening the Bible, he was astonished to discover that the maps printed on the inside covers and in the back of the Bible were identical to those printed in the *New World Translation*. (The only difference being that the text in the maps was in Thai rather than in English.) Despite the fact that the Society's name is nowhere to be found in this Thai Bible, all indications left no doubt to Mr. Brown as to where it was printed.

This discovery is astonishing when you realize the position that the WTBTs maintains concerning ministries such as your own. Permit me to explain.

Jehovah's Witnesses declare themselves to be the only religion that truly serves God and operates under his direction. In their book *You Can Live Forever in Paradise on Earth*, the Watchtower Society says: "Did Jehovah ever use more than one organization during any period of time? ...Jesus Christ foretold that there would be only *one source of spiritual instruction* for God's people...This organization of God's servants is known as *Jehovah's Witnesses*." (page 193, emphasis mine) In the July 15, 1987 edition of *The Watchtower*, it is said that "we cannot hope to receive holy spirit if we ignore the *earthly channel Jehovah is using today*, 'the faithful and discreet slave,' *represented by the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses*. Without help from this 'slave,' we would *neither be able to understand the full import of what we read nor know how to apply what we learn*." (page 19, emphasis mine)

All other churches, and Christian organizations in the world are under the control of Satan (according to the WTBTs) and thus are an abomination to God. (This would include the Thailand Bible Society.) They believe that all of these groups comprise the "whore of Babylon" spoken of in Revelation chapters 17 through 19. The Society book, *Revelation - Its Grand Climax At Hand!* says: "We recognize Babylon the Great as being *all of false religion*. She is 'the mother of all harlots' because all the individual false religions in the world, *including the many sects in Christendom*, are like her daughters, *imitating her in committing spiritual harlotry*." (page 244, emphasis mine) The book goes on to say that "[a]s the principal part of Babylon the Great, *Christendom will become a lifeless ruin*, as so vividly depicted by Jerusalem's desolate condition after 607 B.C.E...*Good riddance when her final destruction takes place!*" (pages 270 and 271, emphasis mine) Suffice it to say that Jehovah's Witnesses do not like us very much.

But it is not enough for a Jehovah's Witness to *hate* the churches and organizations of "Christendom," it must have *nothing whatsoever* to do with them! The *Revelation* book continues: "Is it really so urgent to flee out of Babylon the Great, withdrawing from membership in the world's religions and making a *complete separation*? It is, for we need to take God's view of this *age-old*

*religious monstrosity, Babylon the Great...In a similar way, the voice out of heaven warns God's people today to flee from Babylon the Great in order not to receive part of her plagues...God's people need to separate themselves from false religion if they themselves do not want to suffer these plagues and ultimately die with her.*" (pages 265 and 266, emphasis mine) Jehovah's Witnesses are warned not to involve themselves in any way with "Christendom," except to persuade us to become Jehovah's Witnesses. Those who do involve themselves with organizations of "Christendom" (churches, Bible study groups, Christian relief agencies, Bible societies, YMCA, etc.) are often disfellowshipped (excommunicated) from the organization for committing "spiritual fornication." Such a person is expected by Witnesses to share in the plagues mentioned at Revelation 18:4.

Permit me to present a hypothetical scenario that would explain this. Let us say that an individual Jehovah's Witness owned his own printing business. This Witness decided that he wanted to publish a Bible in the Thai language (that included the name "Jehovah") to provide to Thai-speaking Jehovah's Witnesses. He contacted your organization, and asked for permission to publish your Bible - in this case, OV83. Once having received permission from you, this Jehovah's Witness published a certain number of copies for his own use, and then published an additional number of copies specifically for the use of the Thailand Bible Society. (Now, this Jehovah's Witness would have to conduct all of this business secretly, for if it were known that he was transacting business with the Thailand Bible Society - an organization of "Christendom" - the "Great Whore of Babylon" - he would face a judicial committee and would likely be disfellowshipped from the organization. This individual would be "shunned" by his former friends and associates within the organization, who would not be permitted to say a greeting to him or even acknowledge his presence. (The practice of "shunning" a disfellowshipped Jehovah's Witness is mandated by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society.)

I hope you can see where I am leading. The Watchtower has involved itself in the very sort of practice that it forbids its own members to do - under threat of excommunication, no less! By publishing copies of OV83 for the Thailand Bible Society, the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses - the self-professed "faithful and discreet slave" - has been neither "faithful" nor "discreet." They are guilty of using "dishonest scales" (Proverbs 11:1) - telling their members one thing, and doing exactly the opposite.

Now, please understand that we *do not seek to accuse your organization of any wrongdoing*. We believe the Thailand Bible Society to be a fine, upstanding Bible-publishing ministry organization. We would urge the financial and prayer support of all Christians to further the fine outreach work conducted by the Thailand Bible Society. Nor do we feel that the Thailand Bible Society acted improperly in accepting copies of OV83 published by

the WTBS. We would seek to defend the integrity of the Thailand Bible Society at all costs.

But perhaps you can better understand my reasons for asking the questions I am asking. I pray and work for the release of Jehovah's Witnesses from spiritual bondage to an earthly organization. It is my desire, rather, that they come to know and serve the living Christ, who does not wish to see us placed under a yoke of slavery, but to serve in freedom as adopted sons and daughters of God. It is my prayer for them to know the certainty of forgiveness of sins, and not (as taught under the organization) that they must work to merit their resurrection and earn their own salvation. The good news of free forgiveness through the blood of Christ is theirs, too. But sometimes, they must come to know that the organization that they strive to live so righteously for, does not play by the same set of rules it demands of its own followers. They need to know of this in order to decide for themselves whether it is right or wrong to serve a human institution in an attempt to gain eternal life. They need to know this before they will freely come to Jesus Christ for life everlasting.

And this is why I hope you are willing to provide the answers to the questions I pose to you in this letter, Somdee. The eternal destiny of a human life may depend upon it (James 5:19-20).

Yours Most Sincerely,

Daryl Westfall  
T.W. Ministries (U.S.A.)

cc: David Brown



สมาคมพระคริสตธรรมไทย  
THAILAND BIBLE SOCIETY

ศจ.ดร.สมดี ภูสอด้  
Rev.SOMDEE POOSAWTSEE Ph.D.  
GENERAL SECRETARY

P.O.BOX 4-198 BANGKOK 10400 THAILAND  
TELEX: 84854 "ATTN.BIBLE SOCIETY"  
TEL. 279 8341-2

319/52-55 วิภาวดีรังสิต  
กรุงเทพฯ 10400

February 8, 1994

Mr. Daryl Westfall  
T.W. Ministries (U.S.A.)  
Post Office Box 36941  
Phoenix Arizona 8507-6941  
U.S.a.

cc : Rev Dr Jen-li Tsai  
Asia Pacific Regional Secretary.  
: The Most Rev George Pimphisan  
Borad Chairman; Member of UBS  
Executive Committee; Member of  
ASPREC; Member of UBS Transla-  
tion Subcommittee

Dear Daryl,

Thank you for your fax of Feb. 1, 1994. It was indeed a very informative letter and I thank you for your concern.

As you are well aware, the Thailand Bible society is a part of the 165 member countries of the non-profit organization-the United Bible Societies. As members of one organization our aims and policies are uniform world-wide. Our mission wide is to provide Scriptures at prices people can afford locally and in languages that people can understand.

Our translations are strictly true and faithful to the original texts. We sell to all who want and need the Word of God, and we encourage and support all those who want to reach the people with Gods God, irrespective of the religion of the target audience.

Thailand is a Buddhist country and the Bible today is placed in none Buddhist hands than ever before. We are glad to let you know that one of our projects is Bibles for Buddhist Temples, whereby the Holy Bible is making its way to monastery libraries. And praise God, wonderful things are happening here, all for His glory.

We may not agree with the doctrine preached by many sects and denominations, but we remain faithful to our mission of safe-guarding the scriptures in their truest form and spreading them to all peoples.

The Thai Bibles OV83 published by the WTSTS is a copy right of the Thailand Bible Society and there has been no violation of the contract with us.

It is a fact that the Thailand Bible Society ordered for an additional 2,000 copies of the Thai Bible OV83 following the normal procedures of buying and selling. One half of the order was stocked with the American Bible Society for ease in sale & distribution.

I hope that this letter has cleared many of your doubts and that it has also given a wider understanding of our mission of making Gods Word open to all.

May God bless you and thank you once again for your concern.

พระเจ้าข้า พระเจ้า เป็นความหวังสำหรับทุกคน  
GOD'S WORD: HOPE FOR ALL

Best regards,

Rev. Dr. Somdee Poosawtsee

General Secretary

SP:sc

พระคัมภีร์  
ไบเบิล

พระคัมภีร์ไบเบิล

