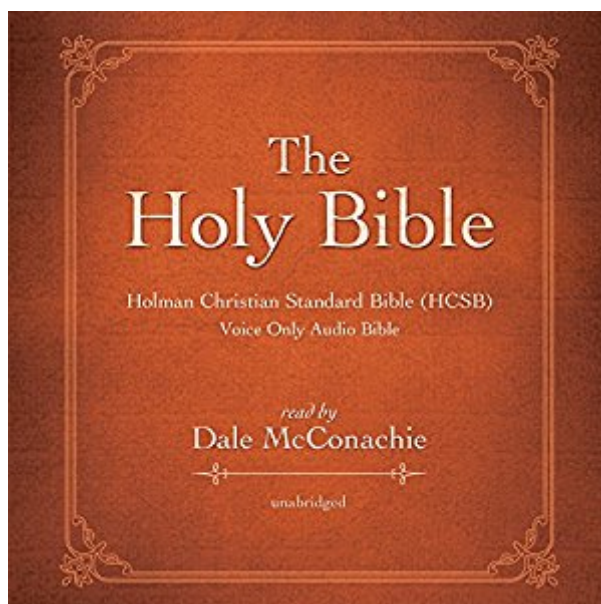


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# The Holy Bible: Holman Christian Standard Bible (HCSB)



## Synopsis

The Holman Christian Standard Bible is one of the most accurate translations of the scriptures. Let professional voice artist Dale McConachie, narrator of over 100 audiobooks, take you on a journey through God's Word, where you will discover his holiness, love, power, mercy, and grace. Do you often feel you're too busy to sit down and read the Bible, yet you know you need time with God? Well now you can hear from God from virtually anywhere with this digital recording of the Holman Christian Standard Audio Bible. Dale McConachie's goal in recording this is for you to feel, when driving down the road, as if your best friend is in the front seat reading the Bible to you. It is the reader's prayer that many will let the Word of Christ richly dwell in them. People in all 50 states and most foreign countries have purchased audio Bibles recorded by Dale.

1. Part a - Track 1 - starts Genesis  
2. Part a - Track 7 - starts Exodus  
3. Part a - Track 13 - starts Leviticus  
4. Part a - Track 17 - starts Numbers  
5. Part b - Track 5 - starts Deuteronomy  
6. Part b - Track 9 - starts Joshua  
7. Part b - Track 12 - starts Judges  
8. Part b - Track 15 - starts Ruth  
9. Part b - Track 16 - starts 1st Samuel  
10. Part c - Track 4 - starts 2nd Samuel  
11. Part c - Track 8 - starts 1st Kings  
12. Part c - Track 12 - starts 2nd Kings  
13. Part c - Track 16 - starts 1st Chronicles  
14. Part d - Track 3 - starts 2nd Chronicles  
15. Part d - Track 7 - starts Ezra  
16. Part d - Track 8 - starts Nehemiah  
17. Part d - Track 10 - starts Esther  
18. Part d - Track 11 - starts Job  
19. Part d - Track 15 - starts Psalms  
20. Part e - Track 7 - starts Proverbs  
21. Part e - Track 10 - starts Ecclesiasticus  
22. Part e - Track 11 - starts Song of Songs  
23. Part e - Track 12 - starts Isaiah  
24. Part f - Track 1 - starts Jeremiah  
25. Part f - Track 8 - starts Lamentations  
26. Part f - Track 9 - starts Ezekiel  
27. Part f - Track 16 - starts Daniel  
28. Part g - Track 1 - starts Hosea  
29. Part g - Track 2 - starts Joel  
30. Part g - Track 3 - starts Amos  
31. Part g - Track 4 - starts Obadiah  
32. Part g - Track 5 - starts Jonah  
33. Part g - Track 6 - starts Micah  
34. Part g - Track 7 - starts Nahum  
35. Part g - Track 8 - starts Habakkuk  
36. Part g - Track 9 - starts Zephaniah  
37. Part g - Track 10 - starts Haggai  
38. Part g - Track 11 - starts Zechariah  
39. Part g - Track 12 - starts Malachi  
40. Part g - Track 13 - starts Matthew  
41. Part g - Track 17 - starts Mark  
42. Part g - Track 20 - starts Luke  
43. Part h - Track 1 - starts John  
44. Part h - Track 5 - starts Acts  
45. Part h - Track 9 - starts Romans  
46. Part h - Track 11 - starts 1st Corinthians  
47. Part h - Track 13 - starts 2nd Corinthians  
48. Part h - Track 14 - starts Galatians  
49. Part h - Track 15 - starts Ephesians  
50. Part h - Track 16 - starts Philippians  
51. Part h - Track 17 - starts Colossians  
52. Part h - Track 18 - starts 1st Thessalonians  
53. Part h - Track 19 - starts 2nd Thessalonians  
54. Part h - Track 20 - starts 1st Timothy  
55. Part I - Track 1 - starts 2nd Timothy  
56. Part I - Track 2 - starts Titus  
57. Part I - Track 3 - starts Philemon  
58. Part I - Track 4 - starts Hebrews  
59. Part I - Track 5 - starts James  
60. Part I - Track 6 - starts 1st Peter  
61. Part I - Track 7 - starts 2nd Peter  
62. Part I -

Track 8 - starts 1st John 63. Part I - Track 9 - starts 2nd John 64. Part I - Track 10 - starts 3rd John 65. Part I - Track 11 - starts Jude 66. Part I - Track 12 - starts Revelation

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

As a pastor who has used the New International Version for years, I was very interested in a new translation that would be more accurate than the NIV yet still be readable. That is a tall order, but the Holman Christian Standard Bible fills the order. The HCSB is also more precise and accurate than the NIV. In the Gospel of Mark, eight times the NIV fails to translate the uniquely favorite Greek word of Mark, *euthus*, translated "immediately," but the HCSB is always careful to translate this word. In Matthew 26:64, when the high priest asks Jesus if he is the Christ, the literal Greek rendering is "You said it." However, this is an idiomatic expression which means "yes." So how should this reply be translated? The NIV has, "Yes, it is as you say." The HCSB has the more literal, "You have said it," and adds a footnote explaining that this as an affirmative expression. In Ephesians 6:10-13, the apostle Paul speaks of the armor of God. In the NIV, both verse 11 and verse 13 urge the believer to "put on the full armor of God." However, the Greek words are different in each verse, and the HCSB picks up this difference, translating verse 11, "put on the full armor of God" but verse 13, "take up the full armor of God." While being more accurate than the NIV, the HCSB is often more contemporary than the NIV as well. For example, Psalm 90:2 in the HCSB: "Before the mountains were born, You gave birth to the earth and the world, from eternity to eternity, you are God." This language is more modern than the NIV, which says, "Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God." In Esther 3:6, the NIV refers to "who Mordecai's people were," but the HCSB refers to "Mordecai's

ethnic identity.

Every Bible translation, starting from another language, is a mixed bag. Overall, I would recommend this Bible for daily use, memorization and study. The translators were careful; this is a no-nonsense translation and should be taken seriously. The Holman Christian is more literal than the NIV, but doesn't read as smoothly. This is to be expected, since the NIV paraphrases more for stylistic reasons. But the HCSB does read clearly. It is precise. The HCSB is less "word for word" than the NASB, which is good and bad; the NASB doesn't read as smoothly as the HCSB, due also in part to the awkward verse paragraphing employed by the NASB publishers. Also, the HCSB will footnote major excursions from the literal, keeping the process fairly honest. Still, since the HCSB is not a purely literal translation (ie. the translators give themselves the freedom to paraphrase as deemed necessary for your understanding), one is never sure where the God's word ends and the interpretation begins. (I guess that problem exists with all translations, doesn't it?) To compare, the English Standard Bible (ESV), another new conservative translation now available, reads more elegantly than the HCSB. However, part of the "elegance" is due to the fact that the ESV employs sayings and phrases comfortable amongst older Bible folk (ie., it retains some archaicisms for that effect.) For example, the ESV in Matthew 7:1 reads, "Judge not, that you be not judged." Do you know anyone that talks that way? Or "Fret not yourself because of evildoers" (Ps. 37:1 ESV). Sure, it's quaint, but wouldn't you be embarrassed reading that to a current audience? The HCSB will always read like modern literature, in wording, sentence structure and sentence length.

The Holman Christian Standard Bible stands at the crossroads of being a great achievement and a slight disappointment. The HCSB was a work of some of the best scholarship there is out there and it shows. The passages are very accurate to the scriptures for the most part (though see my remarks below on Matt. 23), there is little to dispute about that. Now, Holman wanted to make a translation that was both literally accurate and dynamic. This has been tried before by two translations: God's Word [to the Nations] and the International Standard Version. Where and how a translation maneuvers between the two types of translation technique often determines if it will ultimately be successful and these two were not. Happily, I am glad to say that the Holman Christian Standard Bible does pull off this translation style a great deal better than its two predecessors. I also must commend Broadman & Holman for the terrific helps they have incorporated into this version, such as plan of salvation and endless footnotes. Still, this grandiose effort quite often falls a bit short when everything is put together. The few slight problems in the HCSB come when this jumbled

mixture of literalness and just-when-needed dynamic translation are then taken and formed into phrases, sentences, and paragraphs that the normal English-speaker will understand and appreciate. A lot of passages in the Holman bible seem very "contrived", going against the natural flow of the English language, and especially against the smooth poetry and prose normally given to the translation of scripture. This translation also is perhaps unnecessarily over-modernized, becoming almost chatty.

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