



## Christmas 2011 400 years after its publication, the King James Bible inspires the new issue

The 400th anniversary of the publication of the King James Bible is the inspiration behind this year's Christmas stamps. Having been commissioned by James I in 1604, the King James Bible was first published in 1611, following the work of six 'companies of translators'.

James I hoped that the new translation would secure peace and stability in religious matters, following growing tensions between Anglicans and Puritans. But it was not until the late 17th century that this Bible was generally recognised and became very popular. Since then many of its

distinctive sayings have found their way into our everyday way of speaking – more than 200 phrases, such as 'the apple of my eye', a 'den of thieves' and 'the land of the living', have become part of modern English.

Seven stamps, as shown on these pages, will be issued on 8 November, each carrying an image inspired by the accounts of the Nativity in the Gospels of Luke and Matthew.

Additional information inside the Cover and Pack, outlining the history and influence of the King James Bible, is written by Revd Professor Alistair McGrath, Chair in Theology, Ministry, and Education at King's College London ●

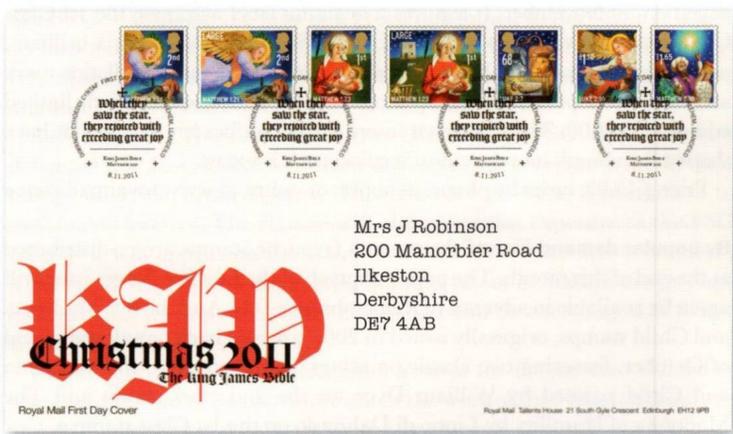


### Christmas 2011 Stamp Specifications

Number of stamps	Seven
Design	Together Design
Illustration	Peter Malone/The Artworks
Stamp Format	Standard: portrait. Large: landscape
Stamp Size	Standard: 20mm x 24mm. Large: 30mm x 24mm
Printer	De la Rue Security Print
Print Process	Gravure
Number per Sheet	50
Perforations	Kiss die-cut simulated perforations
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	Self-adhesive



Above: Talents House postmark and alternative BETHLEHEM, LLANDEILO. Right: First Day Cover (mail orders for Serviced (stamped and postmarked) First Day Covers have to reach Royal Mail by 8 November)



Mrs J Robinson  
200 Manorbier Road  
Ilkerton  
Derbyshire  
DE7 4AB



# Christmas 2011 The King James Bible

**1** And she shall bring forth a son, and these shall call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

**2** Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted, is, God with us.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And she shall bring forth a son, and these shall call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

**2** Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted, is, God with us.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And she shall bring forth a son, and these shall call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

**2** Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted, is, God with us.

**1** And she shall bring forth a son, and these shall call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

**2** Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted, is, God with us.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And she shall bring forth a son, and these shall call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

**2** Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted, is, God with us.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

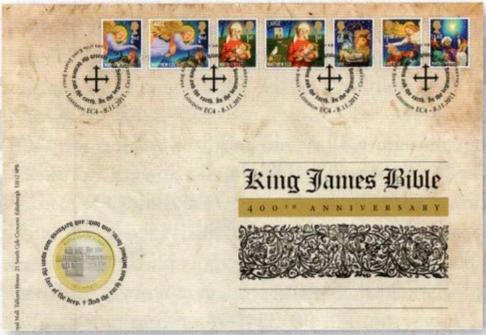
And she shall bring forth a son, and these shall call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

**2** Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted, is, God with us.

**The Authorised Version 1611**

smilers® Royal Mail®

The King James Bible, as published between 1604 and 1611, is the most widely read and loved version of the Bible in the world.



### Christmas 2011 Prices

Stamp Set	£5.58
Miniature Sheet	£5.58
Presentation Pack	£6.10
First Day Envelope	30p
First Day Cover, Stamps	£7.17
First Day Cover, Miniature Sheet	£7.17
Stamp Cards (8 in set)	£3.60
12 x 1st Class Stamp Book	£5.52
12 x 2nd Class Stamp Book	£4.32
Coin Cover	£15.95
Generic Sheet, comprising 8 x 1st, 8 x 2nd, 2 x 68p, 2 x £1.10	£10.45
Christmas Smilers® Personalised Sheets	
20 x 1st	£14.95 for one sheet
10 x 1st	£8.30 for one sheet
20 x 2nd	£10.95 for one sheet
Stamp sheet format	Sheets of 50, per stamp value



From top: Generic Sheet, Coin Cover and Miniature Sheet

Unlike the Geneva Bible of 1560, the King James Bible contained very few images. One of the most striking of these is the imposing frontispiece, which is richly illustrated with biblical

These Companies met regularly between 1604 and 1610. Each Company was then represented at Stationers' Hall in London, when the final version was