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Wycliffe USA Policy for Translation of Divine Familial Language

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WYCLIFFE USA POLICY FOR TRANSLATION OF DIVINE FAMILIAL LANGUAGE

The policy of Wycliffe USA concerning the translation of divine familial language in the Scriptures in projects in which Wycliffe USA human and material resources are involved:

We affirm our belief in one God, who exists eternally in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and we affirm our commitment that translations in which we are involved must give full access to this truth.

In the great majority of language projects, the original Greek terms for Father (*pater*) and Son (*huios*), including its occurrence in the phrase “Son of God,” will be translated using the common receptor language equivalents.

In certain languages, if it has been clearly demonstrated that a translation of “Son of God” using the common equivalent for “son” would communicate wrong meaning, a different expression meaning “son” may be used. This different expression must maintain the concept of “sonship,” indicating the familial “Father–Son” relationship. Decisions on different expressions meaning son must be made in full consultation with all parties involved in the project and with review and approval by translation consultants outside the project. Likewise for the translation of “father.”

Where necessary, translations should include an explanation of the meaning of the phrase “Son of God,” in accord with conservative Biblical scholarship. This may be in an introduction, in one or more footnotes, or as a glossary entry, as seems appropriate to the situation.