

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INK AND BLOOD: DEAD SEA SCROLLS TO THE ENGLISH BIBLE A WORLD CLASS TRAVELING EXHIBIT IN KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, CHRONICLING THE HISTORY OF THE BIBLE

November 11, 2004—KNOXVILLE, TN— Authentic Dead Sea Scroll fragments are just one part of an extraordinary display of rare ancient Biblical manuscripts and historic Bibles coming to Knoxville on February 5, 2005. This once-in-a-lifetime exhibit, known officially as *Ink and Blood: Dead Sea Scrolls to the English Bible*, contains fragments from the Dead Sea Scrolls, including portions of Genesis and Isaiah, and numerous Bibles including a medieval manuscript Wyclif Bible from the 15th Century, the first translation of the Holy Book into English. As the name of the exhibit implies and the exhibit presents, the Bible has been transmitted through the diligence of scribes and the blood of martyrs.

Some of the other rare items include several 5,000-year-old pictographic clay tablets from ancient Mesopotamia, the earliest form of writing in history, and a 2,600-year-old scroll containing the oldest known Hebrew writing on papyrus in the world and the earliest known written example of the Hebrew name for God, *Elohim*. The exhibit also features a working replica of Gutenberg's press, the greatest invention of the millennium, as well as on-site historians, multimedia presentations and scheduled lectures given by visiting scholars.

This dramatic collection of authentic artifacts, Jewish and Medieval manuscripts, and rare Reformation Bibles from around the world comes together to tell a unique story seldom told—the complete history of the Bible, focusing on the Bible in English. “I believe the story of the Bible is intriguing, educational, and moving,” says Dr. William H. Noah, *Ink and Blood* Curator.

“This extraordinary collection invites you to experience the captivating history and story of the Bible. The exhibit will appeal to anyone of any age or background.”

The exhibit will begin in Knoxville on February 5 and run until April 17 at the Knoxville Convention Center located at 701 Henley Street. Tickets can be purchased by calling 1-877-33BIBLE or by visiting the web site at www.InkAndBlood.com. Adult tickets are \$15.00 each; Matinee, Senior Citizen and Student tickets are \$12.00 each; Children 8 - 18 are \$8.00 each; children under the age of 8 are free. Group rates are available. A great educational and entertaining activity for school groups, church groups, families, and clubs.

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FACT SHEET

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WHAT: *Ink And Blood*
Dead Sea Scrolls to the English Bible Exhibit

One of the most fascinating collections of authentic ancient biblical texts and historic Bibles ever assembled will be exhibited at the Knoxville Convention Center in Knoxville, Tennessee to tell a unique story. Fragments from the Dead Sea Scrolls—considered the archeological discovery of the century by many scholars—including portions of Genesis and Isaiah, which have been dated to around 100 B.C. are a part of this amazing exhibit. This awe-inspiring collection of artifacts, manuscripts, and books from around the world comes together to tell a unique story seldom told—the history of the Bible, especially the Bible in English.

WHEN: February 5 – April 17, 2005

WHERE: Knoxville Convention Center
701 Henley Street
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

FEATURES:

- Biblical Dead Sea Scroll fragments, including excerpts from *Genesis* and *Isaiah*, the very earliest Biblical fragments in existence.
- Greek *Exodus* fragments from the 4th Century and a *Leviticus* fragment from the 3rd Century both from the Bible translation called "The Septuagint." Some of the oldest Septuagint fragments outside the British Museum and the Vatican Library in the world.
- An excerpt of The Gospel of John (8:14-22) from the 3rd Century. One of the earliest witnesses in existence to any portion of *The New Testament*.
- Complete Bibles with beautiful hand-illuminated pages in Latin, from the 13th to 15th Centuries—the period during which the Bible is divided into standardized Chapters for the first time.
- Many important 16th Century Bibles in English including the 1st Edition Geneva Bible of 1560, the first complete Bible published with verse divisions.
- First Editions of the King James Bible from 1611.
- The first Bible in English ever printed in America: The "Aitken" Bible of 1782, also called "The Bible of the Revolution"—endorsed by the United States Congress.

COST: Adult tickets - \$15.00 each
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INFO: Tickets can be purchased by phone at 1-877-33BIBLE or by visiting the web site at www.InkAndBlood.com.