

BIBLICAL COMMENTARY AND TRANSLATION IN LATER MEDIEVAL ENGLAND

Drawing extensively on unpublished manuscript sources, this study uncovers the culture of experimentation that surrounded biblical exegesis in fourteenth-century England. In an area ripe for revision, Andrew Kraebel challenges the accepted theory (inherited from Reformation writers) that medieval English Bible translations represent a proto-Protestant rejection of scholastic modes of interpretation. Instead, he argues that early translators were themselves part of a larger scholastic interpretive tradition, and that they tried to make that tradition available to a broader audience. Translation was thus one among many ways that English exegetes experimented with the possibilities of commentary. With a wide scope, the book focuses on works by writers from the heretic John Wyclif to the hermit Richard Rolle, alongside a host of lesser-known authors, including Henry Cossey and Nicholas Trevet, and many anonymous texts. The study provides new insight into the ingenuity of medieval interpreters willing to develop new literary-critical methods and embrace intellectual risks.

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BIBLICAL COMMENTARY
AND TRANSLATION IN
LATER MEDIEVAL ENGLAND

Experiments in Interpretation

ANDREW KRAEBEL

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Abbreviations and Conventions

BAV	Vatican City, Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana
BL	London, British Library
BM	Bibliothèque municipale
BnF	Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France
BodL	Oxford, Bodleian Library
<i>BRUC</i>	A. B. Emden, <i>Biographical Register of the University of Cambridge to 1500</i>
<i>BRUO</i>	A. B. Emden, <i>Biographical Register of the University of Oxford to A.D. 1500</i>
CBMLC	Corpus of British Medieval Library Catalogues
CCCM	Corpus Christianorum, Continuatio Mediaevalis
CCSL	Corpus Christianorum, Series Latina
CSEL	Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum
CUL	Cambridge, University Library
<i>DMLBS</i>	<i>Dictionary of Medieval Latin from British Sources</i> (logeion.uchicago.edu)
<i>EAEB</i>	<i>Earliest Advocates of the English Bible</i> , ed. Mary Dove
EETS	Early English Text Society
es	Extra Series
os	Original Series
HEHL	San Marino, Henry E. Huntington Library
<i>JMEMS</i>	<i>Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies</i>
<i>MÆ</i>	<i>Medium Ævum</i>
<i>MED</i>	<i>Middle English Dictionary</i> (quod.lib.umich.edu/m/med)
MGT	Troyes, Médiathèque du Grand Troyes
<i>MMBL</i>	N. R. Ker et al., <i>Medieval Manuscripts in British Libraries</i>
ÖNB	Vienna, Österreichische Nationalbibliothek
<i>PG</i>	<i>Patrologia Graeca</i>
<i>PL</i>	<i>Patrologia Latina</i>

PNK	Prague, Národní knihovna
Stegmüller	Friedrich Stegmüller, <i>Repertorium Biblicum Medii Aevi</i> (cited by entry number)

The range of sources on which this study draws has required a somewhat unusual set of conventions for the presentation of texts, though I have tried to keep things as simple as possible. Apart from consistently rendering Latin *j* as *i*, I have preserved the orthography of all quotations as they appear in the cited manuscripts and printed editions, but I have standardized capitalization and punctuation, sometimes repunctuating earlier editions to reflect my understanding of the text. Abbreviations are generally expanded, though some conventional abbreviations (&, w^t, y^d) are retained in the early modern material quoted in the Epilogue. Corrections to quotations from manuscripts and early printed sources, sometimes drawn from other witnesses to the text and sometimes simply required by the sense of the passage, are given in square brackets; only more elaborate corrections receive comment in the notes. Square brackets in my translations either note ambiguities in the text or function as short explanatory glosses. Translations are my own, though I note earlier renderings that I have consulted in the case of particularly dense texts. For the sake of space, Latin quotations in the notes have not been translated, and I have generally only supplied them when the quoted material is unpublished.