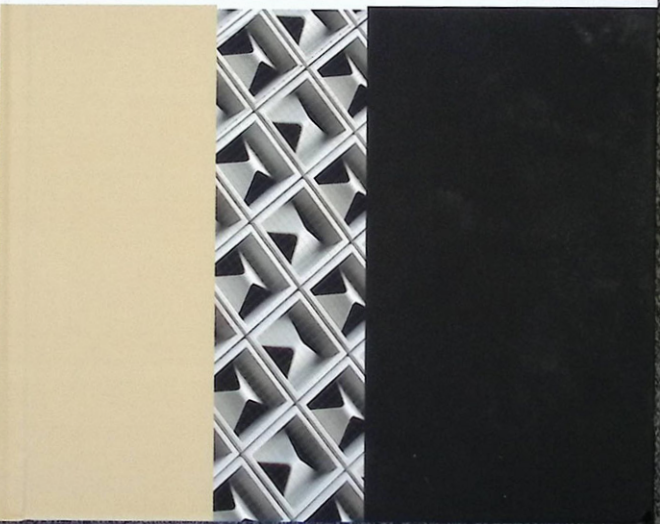


Rubricated American
Heritage Bible
Vol. 1

Genesis - Job

Historian John DiCesare, M.A.
Contributor Louis Klopsch



Rubricated

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Revealing the
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Holy Bible Red Letter Edition

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that Emphasized
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Red-Letters

Museum & Library of the Bible Press
by Historian John D.Cesare, M.A.

Rubricated American Heritage Bible
Vol. 1 of 2, Genesis – Job

A facsimile of the

Holy Bible

Red Letter Edition

Containing the Old and New Testaments,
Teachers' Edition

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This book is an archival and preservation work of public history. This book is comprised of an historical narrative preface that is the work of this author, and also a facsimile of an owned hardcopy of the contributor's, Louis Klopsch, published Red-Letter Bible 1901 (formerly and dissolved publishing NY: The Christian Herald - Bible House). The historical narrative preface describes the contributor's background and his Bible. The facsimile is a PDF digital reproduction of the contributor's Bible. Both digital and printed formats are the product of this work.

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Dedication

I want to dedicate the publication of this Bible to Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, whose words gave me life through His shed blood. Also, to my beloved wife, Renee Denise DiCesare, for her help in life, without whom I could not have accomplished my academics or this publication; how precious her service is. I thank her for her encouragement throughout my education and this reproduction process of six arduous months from research, writing, editing, scanning, and designing to publishing. Likewise, great gratitude to my sons Kyle Isaiah DiCesare and Casey Elijah DiCesare, for their support and being the most incredible children I could have. To my late beloved Father Fred DiCesare and Mother Mildred DiCesare, who loved like Jesus Christ and raised me in the Lord. I also owe tremendous gratitude to the following:

- The late Louis Klopsch and contributor, whose legacy of Words of Christ in red, helped me understand who my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was and what He did for me.
- The late Dave Carver, who inspired me by gifting me an antique Family Bible.
- The late Pastor Chuck Smith, for his personal influence and outstanding teaching of the Word of God.
- My Professors at American Public University for their academic freedom.

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"This cup is the new testament in
my blood, which is shed for you"

~Jesus, Luke 22:20

An Historical Preface

The First Complete Bible that Emphasized **Jesus Christ** with Rubrication: Volume 1

This "Holy Bible Red Letter Edition" by Louis Klopsch 1901 A.D. was the first to emphasize Jesus Christ with rubrication. Newly republished here as the "Rubricated American Heritage Bible (RAHB)." The RAHB provides a historical background preface and a facsimile of the first complete *Holy Bible Red Letter Edition* by Louis Klopsch. This Bible is unique among red prints because Klopsch included the Old Testament rubrication in his Bible that emphasizes the Jewish Jesus and unveils the Messianic Christ.

The Bible contained herein is the first complete Bible published with the words of Christ in Red Letters. Until this reproduction, this Bible was fading into history and has gone out of circulation. Yet, this Bible is significant to understanding Christ, the Messiah, and the Jewish Jesus that can easily be overlooked within the monumental pages of the Bible. **Rubrication** emphasizes text, headings, or lines in a book with **red ink**. In the case of this Bible, rubrication aids the reader in distinguishing Jesus' character, His Jewish roots, and Messianic role. Historically, this technique became commonplace and a mainstay for the New Testament (N.T.) publishing of Bibles in America, making it a uniquely

American heritage and the inspiration for the title of this book. Still, subsequent publishers neglected to accentuate the Old Testament (O.T.) rubrication since the first decade of the 20th century.

Consequently, this first rubricated complete Bible shows that Bible publishers were still losing Jesus in the pages of the Bible by neglecting to apply this common technique of rubrication to the O.T. as Klopsch did. To this, there is the necessity for its historical innovation to print this Bible. This printing aims to maintain an ongoing historical work for public access.

While the concept of rubrication was not new and was used throughout the Middle Ages in both manuscripts and print, this Bible was the first time rubrication was explicitly applied for enhanced comprehension of the person of Jesus Christ. As a result, the publisher, Louis Klopsch, made it simpler to distinguish and understand who Jesus was, what he said, and what he did. Klopsch unveiled Jesus on the New and Old Testament pages just the same, with red ink, transforming how Americans read their Bibles. Klopsch's first printing was of the New Testament in 1899, and he completed the Old Testament in 1901, with this being that product. In the N.T., words spoken by Jesus were emphasized or accentuated in red print. As the appearance of Jesus occurred in the N.T., what are the red letters in the O.T?

Klopsch explains in his *explanatory note on page xvi* regarding the O.T., *passages, and incidents quoted or referred by Jesus were printed in red*, and the center column *cross-references in red corresponds* to Jesus's reference in the N.T. Likewise, "*prophetic*" references of Jesus are marked with a red star (★). This O.T. enhancement made this Bible unique among red print editions, unlike any other. As a result, the rubrication feature became extensively adopted in Bible publishing of the N.T. throughout the 20th century, yet Klopsch's O.T. red print emphasis went neglected.

Jesus uses the historiography principle of primary sourcing. At the time of Christ, the N.T. did not exist. In Luke 24:25-27, 32, 44-49 Jesus **pointed to the O.T. scriptures** (Tanakh) concerning himself, saying,

"These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were **written in the law of Moses [O.T. scriptures], and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me**. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the **scriptures**." (See also John 5:39)

Likewise, the O.T. is what the Apostles and early Church Fathers used to preach from as the N.T. was in development, so understanding Christ in the O.T. is crucial to understanding Christianity. The Apostle Paul points to the **O.T. witness of Christ Messiah** in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4,

"Moreover, Brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in *memory* what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ *died* for our sins according to the [O.T.] scriptures; And that he was *buried*, and that he *rose again* the third day according to the [O.T.] scriptures..."

One Such example of the O.T. passages is that of Isaiah 53.

A tremendous amount of work went into this Bible.

According to Klopsch, his Bible was based on original manuscripts. He writes on the title page, "Translated out of the original tongues: with former translations diligently compared and revised." Thus, his work must have included scholars of Hebrew and Greek. Likewise, to incorporate the diacritics, he must have included English scholars. Then, for him to accomplish the rubrication he would have included Christian theologians, which is confirmed as Charles M. Pepper writes that Klopsch commissioned many "distinguished Bible scholars" to assist him.

"He engaged the services of a number of distinguished Bible scholars, including several leading college professors in this country and abroad. To each of these he wrote explaining the nature of the work, and giving to each a certain part of the books of the Old and New Testaments to mark for the 'Red Letter' edition. When the entire Bible was finished,

the separate books were then interchanged among these workers, so that each eminent scholar practically went over the entire Bible and annotated the work already done by others. Many months were occupied in this interchange, but at last the task was accomplished."

Louis Klopsch was born in Lubben, Prussia, on March 7, 1852. He emigrated to America with his Father after his mother's death in 1853, settling in New York City. Klopsch was a German-American journalist and publisher by trade who married May E. Merritt, daughter of Reverend Stephen Merritt, in 1886.

Klopsch's decisive moment came when he traveled to Europe and the Holy Land with Thomas De Witt Talmage (not his Mormon brother, James E. Talmage). While in England, Klopsch positioned to become the proprietor of Rev. Michael Baxter's American edition of the religious newspaper, *The Christian Herald*. Klopsch experienced tremendous success with this endeavor when he, with consultation from Talmage, published the **Red Letter Edition** of the Bible. Klopsch contrived the concept from reading the communion passage, "**This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.**" Luke 22:20, by associating the color red with the Savior's blood. Klopsch also had close relations with D. L. Moody, a renowned preacher of the day.

Previously, translators debated whether dominical words should be italicized or encapsulated with quotation marks, and both have been done. However, neither technique is in the

original texts. Consequently, Klopsch, for the first time, used rubrication to emphasize dominical words that would make it visually stand out. Klopsch was passionate about Bible distribution, and "he wanted people to read the Bible and understand it— particularly what it says about Jesus Christ." Pepper writes of Klopsch's purpose for this Bible,

"Modern Christianity is striving zealously to draw nearer to the great Founder of the Faith [Jesus Christ]. Setting aside mere human doctrines and theories regarding Him, it presses close to the Divine Presence, to gather from His own lips the definition of His mission to the world and His own revelation of the Father.... The Red Letter Bible has been prepared and issued in the full conviction that it will meet the needs of the student, the worker, and the searchers after truth everywhere."

Pepper further explained Klopsch's intents, writing,

"Here the actual words, quotations, references and allusions of Christ, not separated from their context, nor in a fragmentary or disconnected form, but in their own proper place, as an integral part of the Sacred Record, stand out vividly conspicuous in the distinction of color. ... showing how frequently and how extensively, on the Authority of Christ himself, the authenticity of the Old Testament is confirmed, thus greatly facilitating comparison and verification,

and enabling the student to trace the connection between the Old and the New, link by link, passage by passage.

...the central figure upon which all lines of law, history, poetry, and prophecy converge is Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. He expounded in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself and the Divine plan for man's

redemption... emphasizes this Divine exposition [of Messiah] and personal revelation... making them so clear that even the simplest may understand. It sheds a new radiance... by which the reader is enabled to trace unerringly the scarlet thread of prophecy."

The Bible was black leather-covered, using large type octavo and silk sewed. According to a newspaper of the day, this Bible was priced at \$10.00 in 1903. Klopsch's biography is recorded in *Life-Work of Louis Klopsch: Romance of a Modern Knight of Mercy* (by Charles M. Pepper, The Christian Herald, 1910). Klopsch died on 6 March 1910, and The Christian Herald ultimately dissolved and ceased all publications in early 2006.

This Bible's facsimile is in varying formats of two volumes hardback, paperback, and digital or electronic that accommodate publication needs. It thus may contain imperfections such as marks, notations, marginalia, and flawed pages or OCR. A full-color scan was required to capture the red print. (See Volume 2 Preface for additional information on Klopsch and this Bible.)

An Historical Preface

The First Complete Bible that Emphasized **Jesus Christ** with Rubrication: Part 2

At the height of the industrial revolution, American society, with growing urbanization, had deviated from its foundations on Jesus Christ. This increasingly pushed Christianity out of the public arena, forced fathers away from agrarian work and into factories changing family life. Likewise, Darwinian theory of evolution challenged faith and shifted science to the forefront of civilization in the mid-1800s. Similarly, aberrant teachings and doctrines crept into churches impacting American Christendom. Still, at the turn of the century, 1899 A.D., Louis Klopsch followed the footsteps of renowned preachers like D. L. Moody and Thomas De Witt Talmage of the Brookland Temple, who centered on the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

As a Christian publisher, Klopsch's new endeavor was to make the Bible understandable concerning who Jesus was and what He did— so he birthed the **Red Letter Edition** of the Holy Bible. These words are not more important than the rest of the text, yet just as adding chapters and verses made it easier to navigate the Bible; likewise, emphasizing Jesus with red letters, helped the reader understand the significance of Christ the Messiah and

Savior within its context. The New Testament (N.T.) alone was first published in 1899 A.D. with words of Christ in red ink emphasizing the person of Jesus within the larger context of the Gospel accounts followed by this Bible herein in 1901 A.D.

This author can attest to grasping the person and work of Christ from first reading a red-letter Bible purchased as a new believer in 1986 and is the product of this fruit that had taken root in the publishing of red-print Bibles that Klopsch began over 100 years earlier. I can remember gaining so much insight from the words of Christ through this rubrication that I began to recognize the types and prophecies of Christ in the Old Testament (O.T). Yet, my red print Bible (Thomas Nelson NKJV) did not carry over the rubrication that Klopsch had also completed in the O.T.

Since rubrication has been integrated, Bible publishers, for speculative reasons, had not carried this aspect to the O.T. but only the N.T. Apparently, some thought it better not to rubricate the O.T. and leave you in the dark. Was it for reducing cost or a question of Christian theology? This is doubtful. Was it that certain power groups did not want you to have this Bible as Klopsch intended? It remains puzzling or peculiar, and one can only speculate why publishers redacted the O.T. rubrication. The subject matter is clearly in a Christian context concerning Jesus or Yeshua. It seems like this information should be accessible to the casual reader.

Why not publish this knowledge for Christians that could be readily accessible to all who read the Bible? Until now, this *would-be* readily available knowledge has been stifled for much of Western Christianity for over a century. Initially, the intent, as a historian, was to preserve this Bible digitally, but upon realizing the magnitude of this scholarly work and its Christological significance within the O.T., bringing it to circulation became the focus of this project. In addition, this Bible holds eschatological and Messianic Judaism significance. Presenting a Bible that reflects Christ in the O.T., just as Klopsch and his associate scholars had initially intended, became this goal.

The Bible contains many words often unfamiliar to those not from the Mediterranean region or who may not be aware of the Indo-European and Semitic roots, e.g., the term "Israel." Since the British Empire spread English far and wide through colonization, this language also became the common language in America. Yet, with the diverse influx of many nationalities early on, there was the need to aid people with learning that common language. Therefore, from the inception of American education to 1963, many schools used the Bible to learn proper English pronunciation.

As a teacher's edition, Klopsch also integrated teaching and reading aids such as a self-pronouncing feature with extensive pronunciation marks, diacritics (e.g., dī'ə-krīt'k), right in the lines of the text, contributing to its proper linguistic enunciation, that is especially useful for applying proper English or teaching use. So

as one reads, one can adequately pronounce words that may otherwise be unfamiliar. These symbols help learn where to place syllable stress (emphasis) within a word. This tool is especially useful for those teaching or learning English as a second language (ESL).

Additionally, a concordance (Word Book), center-column reference, maps, charts, photos, lithographic illustrations, rubrication, and helps of renowned preachers and teachers all made for an excellent academic resource. Unfortunately, much of this extra-biblical information had to be redacted from the facsimile to reduce size and cost.

Many publishers quickly followed suit applying rubrication to denote Jesus Christ as many Christians preferred what Klopsch had introduced. Among these publishers were: A.J. Holman, Thomas Nelson and Sons, John C. Winston, Berwick and Smith Company, and World Syndicate Co. Inc. Red-letter Bibles were established as a preferred printing feature, and the legacy of Louis Klopsch's innovation endures until today.

The Bible was black leather-covered, using large type octavo and silk sewed. According to a newspaper of the day, this Bible was priced at \$10.00 in 1903. Klopsch's biography is recorded in *Life-Work of Louis Klopsch: Romance of a Modern Knight of Mercy* (by Charles M. Pepper, The Christian Herald, 1910). Klopsch died on 6 March 1910, and The Christian Herald ultimately dissolved and ceased all publications in early 2006.

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In the spirit of Klopsch desiring people to understand and know the Word of God, this author will close with the following list of the "Most Important Bible Verses to Memorize":

Romans 3:23	Romans 10:9
Romans 3:10	Acts 16:31
Romans 6:23	Ephesians 2:8-9
2 Peter 3:9	Acts 20:21
Romans 5:8	1 Corinthians 15:3-4
John 14:6	Hebrews 13:5
John 3:16	Isaiah 41:10
1 John 1:9	Matthew 22:37

Web archived at: <https://archive.org/details/most-important-bible-verses-to-memorize/>

John DiCesare

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Contributor

Louis Klopsch

Author bio

John DiCesare, M.A., B.A., A.A.

I founded the *Museum and Library of the Bible* website at: <https://www.LibraryoftheBible.org>. My authorship includes writing the historical preface to this ***Rubricated American Heritage Bible*** (its publication), website pages, and historical research papers. Additionally, I have creative digital content and multimedia editing of website pages and videos. I have been involved with and worked in various Christian ministries as a Christian. I espouse Bible-based non-denominational Christianity. As an ordained minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, I am committed to upholding 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9. I am married, have two adult boys, and have long been a Southern California resident. In 2022, I obtained a Master's Degree in Public History at American Public University and previously earned a Bachelor's Degree in European and American History at the same college. In addition, I previously earned Associate Degrees in both Humanities and Bible Teaching.



Facsimile of the
Red Letter Bible
begins on the next
page →

The Bible they did not want you to have. This "Rubricated American Heritage Bible (RAHB)" is a historical work that preserves the 1901 A.D. Bible that almost faded into history. The RAHB provides a historical background preface and a facsimile reproduction of this Bible. This book encapsulates the "Holy Bible: Red Letter Edition" by Louis Klopsch, the first complete Bible to emphasize Jesus Christ with rubrication (red letters) that is very different from today's red prints.

Klopsch included the Old Testament rubrication in his Bible that emphasizes the Jewish Jesus (Yeshua) and unveils the Messianic Christ. Thus this holds Christological, eschatological, and Messianic Judaism importance. In the New Testament, dominical words are rubricated to easily distinguish the Savior's character. A must-have Bible study companion that also makes a great gift.



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