

## References

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The investigation - concerning the function - reveals that the A and postmodifier represent the highest frequency; the O is of lower, while the C represents the lowest if we ignore S which is nil. According to their frequency, the subordination indicators attested in the corpus are : the relative pronoun That; non-finite clauses; wh-elements and subordinating conjunctions.

According to the results shown above, it is convenient to mention that the writer believes the preference of coordination to subordination in the Bible can be attributed to three main reasons :

- 1- Simple style and structure : the Bible addresses all human beings regardless of their different educational backgrounds. Consequently, its intelligibility should be secured by the majority even the laymen. Therefore, the structurally simple, apparently lucid style is most required which is best achieved via coordination a kind of link that reduces the chances for misunderstanding (Crystal & Davy, 1969, 212) and is used when optimum ease of comprehension is mostly required. Subordination, on the other hand, exhibits structural complexity resulting from a good deal of dependent relationships (Aziz, 1990, 238 ; Leech, 1982, 105).
- 2- The influence of the source language : the second dominant influence on the biblical language is the source language. It is a well - known fact that the Bible of king James 1611 is a translation from Hebrew (Savory, 1969, 110), which belongs to the semitic languages originally where coordination was predominant. (Hawkins, 1971, 79).
3. Language changeability : One of the features that characterizes any human language is its constant change-ability through time. In this respect Savory mentions, "The whole period from 1382 to 1960 has been one of almost continuous correction and revision, and there is no reason to suppose that this correction and revision will ever cease". (Savory, 1969, 119). Our corpus represents the language of Seventeenth Century which is linguistically different from the modern English language, as for each era there are different literary and stylistic conventions which characterize that are and might not be relevant to another, since the linguistic needs of each period are distinctive. (Savory, 1969, 107).

In conclusion, I have tried to highlight an important aspect of language i. e. : coordination and subordination. Further work is perhaps necessary in the area of religious register in other languages (Arabic for instance).

Finally, different types of subordination indicators have been attested as illustrated in Table 3. What is lacking in our corpus is only the subject-operator inversion. The frequency is 19% (47 occurrences) for the subordinating conjunctions; 26% (66 occurrences) for the wh- elements; 28% (70 examples) for the relative pronoun that and 27% (68 instances) for the non-finite clauses of which 39 occurrences (57%) are attested for the infinitive and 29 instances (43%) for the participle.

The following are examples of the subordination indicators attested in the corpus:

Sub. Conj.

And I was afraid, because I was naked. 3 : 10

Sub. Conj.

And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him. 4 : 15

wh-element                      relative pro.

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was pleasant to the eyes and

non - finite (infinitive)      non - finite (infinitive)

a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her ; and he did eat. 3 : 6 .

non-finite (participle)

And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yield fruit

wh-element

whose seed was in itself, after his kind : and God saw that it was good. 1 : 12

and whatsoever Adam called every ... 2 : 9

Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance ... 4 : 15

It is to be mentioned that among the wh- elements, there are words readily associated with a religious province e. g. whosoever, whomever, whatsoever (Quirk et al., 1985, 1006) as in the last two examples.

## Conclusion

In this paper we have argued for the two linking devices in the first ten chapters of the Bible of King James 1611 viz coordination and subordination. We have come to the conclusion that first device is of higher frequency than the latter 60% vs 30% .

The syndestic coordination is predominant. And scores the highest number among other connective particles which are occasionally found in the corpus ie but, neither .

Regarding the second device, the final position of subordination is the most frequent, followed next by the medial position while the initial position is the least frequent .

A

unto thice her strength. 4:12

Closely related to the point under discussion, it is worth quoting what Quirk et al., have mentioned: "The various arrangements of subordinate clauses, therefore, do not just concern stylistic options and their relative merits, but also the more basic question of what constitutes a possible English sentence". (Quirk et al., 1985, 1040).

Dealing with the second point - the function of the subordinate clauses, Table 3 explicately provides us with the details. The subordinate clause functioning as S is completely absent in our corpus. The second function which O represents 26% (63 occurrences) as in:

S V A A V S

And the LORD side unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother ? 4:9

The frequency of the subordinate clauses functioning as C is 4% (9 occurrences) as in:

S V O

That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair.  
Sub.cl S V C

The analysis shows equivalent frequencies of subordinate clauses as A and postmodifier 35% (85 occurrences) as in:

S V O C A

And Adam called his wife's name Eve: because she was the

C Sub.Cl

the mother of all living 3:20

S A V C

And the days of Adam after he had begotten seth were eight. 5:4

S V O

S V C

And this is the fashion which thou shall make of it. 6:15

S V A

The subordinate clause "which... it" functions as postmodifier of the C "fashion".

It is worth mentioning here that the final position can reduce awkwardness in subordination to a minimum (Quirk et al, 1972, 794). Moreover, the final subordinate clauses are the easiest to comprehend. (Quirk et al., 1985, 1039).

The medial position is of much lower frequency 14% (33 occurrences) which might be due to the fact that this position tends to cause most difficulties of comprehension especially if the subordinate clause is long and complex (Quirk et al., 1985, 1940). The following sentence is an instance of the media; position:

And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be  
 Sub.Cl1                      Sub.Cl2                      Sub.Cl3  
with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat, 3:12

Sub. cl1: The woman... she gave me of the tree. functioning as O of the verb "said".

Sub.cl2: (Whom thou gavest to be with me) functioning as postmodifier of  
 S                      V                      A

woman.

Sub. cl3: (to be with me) functioning as A (reason adjunct).

V                      A

Table 3 tells us readily that the initial position of the subordinate clauses represents the lowest frequency 2% (6 occurrences) which might be justified by the fact that subordination becomes extremely awkward and indeed incomprehensible if the clauses are positioned initially in the sentence. (Quirk et al., 1995, 1039). It must be noted however that despite the overall tendency towards final subordination certain types of clauses including, for example temporal clauses and if clauses, favour the initial position as in the following sentences:

Sub: If Cain shall be avenged seven fold, truly Lamech

cl                      A                      A                      S

seventy and seven fold. 4:24

A

A

While the earth remainth, seedtime and harvest and cold

A                      S                      V

S

V

and heat, and summer and winter and day and night shall not cease. 8:22

Moreover, adverbial correlative constructions not merely favour but require initial placement of the subordinate clause as in:

A

S

V

A

When thou tillest the ground, then it shall not henceforth yield

Sub.cl

Table 3 : Subordinate Clauses

Chapter Number	Number of Subordinate clauses	Position			Function			Subordination		Indicators						
		Initial	Medial	Final	S	O	A	Postmod- ification	Subordi- nating Con- struction	Wd. element	Relative pronoun That	Infr- itive	Non Finite Participle V-ing	Total		
1.	35		2	33												
2.	28		1	27	11	6	2	16		8	15	7	7	7	19	
3.	39	1	3	35	3	1	12	12	3	11	7	8	3	3	11	
4.	26	4	1	21	11	1	10	8	11	11	0	4	3	3	7	
5.	16		3	13			13	3	6	9	3		1	1	5	
6.	23		1	22	5		10	7	2	7	2			1	1	
7.	24		14	10	5		7	14	4	7	9	5	3	3	8	
8.	21	1	1	19	5		9	7	2	4	12	2	5	5	7	
9.	25		6	19	7		6	12	5	5	0	4	4	5	9	
10.	5		1	4			4	1	2	7	10	4	1	1	5	
Total	242	6	33	203	63	85	85	85	47	66	70	39	29	68		
	30%	2%	14%	84%	26%	35%	35%	35%	19%	28%	28%	57%	43%	27%		

And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. 4:2  
 CII CI2

Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. 3:3  
 CII CI2

And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he  
 CII  
also is flesh: Yet his days shall be a hundred and twenty years. 6:3  
 CI2

### III. 2. Subordination

As we have mentioned previously, subordination is of less frequency than coordination. 242 occurrences (30%) have been attested in our corpus. Concerning the subordinate clauses, the analysis has focused upon three main points: (1) position; (2) function and (3) subordination indicators. See Table 3.

Regarding (1) position: there are three placements of the subordinate clauses: initial, medial and final position which represents 84% (203 occurrences). This is mainly due to the fact that it is a dominant tendency of syntactic structure that the greatest depth of subordination is reached in the final part of the sentence (Quirk et al.: 1985, 1037). In the English language the final subordination is tolerable no matter how many clauses one inserts. (Quirk et al., 1985, 794).

The following two sentences are interesting examples of the accumulation of final subordination.

Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of E'den  
 V O A S S V  
to till the ground from whence he was taken. 3:23  
 Sub. CII Sub. CI2

Sub. CII: (to till the ground from ...taken) functioning as A of the main clause.

Sub. CI2: (Whence he was taken) functioning as post modifier of "ground".

A S V

These are the generations of the heaven and of the earth when they were created

Sub. CII

in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens. 2:4

Sub. CI2

Sub CII (When they were created in the day ... heavens)

A S V A

functioning as A of the main clause.

Sub CI2 (that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens)

S V O

functioning as postmodifier of "day".

point that and at the phrase level (i.e. : which occurs in NP structure) does not concern us here therefore, it is completely neglected and not included in our statistics, what is really crucial is the and at the clause level, since our study is limited to clause level only i.e. : Out of that land went forth Asshur, and

C11

C12

built Nineveh and the city Rehoboth, and Resen between Nineveh and Calah : the same is a great city. 10 : 11

C13

One and at the clause level .

The frequent use of and provides an area of distinctiveness as illustrated in Table 2. The total number of all coordinators in the corpus is 241 of which and represents 96% (223 occurrences). In the analysis of the data, the initial and which has a discourse function beyond sentential level is not accounted in spite of its frequent occurrence (201).

The remarkable occurrence of and leads to a fact that religious English is characterized by certain deviations from the expected order of elements within sentence and clause structure. And is of higher frequency in the religious province in spite of its unacceptability in standard English and its consideration as not good style (Waterhouse, 1963, 67). For instance :

AND God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them

C11

C12

Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth. 9 : 1.

C13

C14

C15

Such a sentence might not be acceptable in standard English due to the frequent use of the connective particle. As we have mentioned above, this might be for explicitness since coordination reduces the opportunity of misinterpretation (Crystal & Davy, 1969, 212) on one hand and because of the influence of oriental language from which the Bible was translated on the other. (Hawkins, 1972, 79). Other connective particles have been found in low frequencies : but 4% (10 occurrences); neither & yet 2% (4 occurrences for each) (of table 2).

The following are samples of the coordinators found in the corpus :

Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations and Noah walked

C11

C12

with God. 6 : 9.

And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon their shoulders,

C11

C12

and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father and their

C13

C14

C15

faces were backward and they saw not their father's nakedness. 9 : 23

C16



Table (2) : Coordinate Clauses .

Chapter Number	Number of Coordinate Clauses	Type of Coordination		Connective particles			
		Syndetic	Asyndetic	And	But	Neither	Yet
1.	68	64	4	35	-	-	-
2.	53	48	5	22	3	-	-
3.	61	60	1	28	1	1	-
4.	55	49	6	25	2	-	-
5.	60	60	-	31	-	-	-
6.	45	38	7	17	2	-	1
7.	24	23	1	12	-	-	1
8.	34	28	6	19	1	1	2
9.	55	55	-	25	1	2	-
10.	22	19	3	9	-	-	-
Total	477 (60%)	444 (93%)	33 (7%)	223 (92%)	10 (4%)	4 (2%)	4 (2%)

The writer believes that this is due to the explicate nature of the Bible itself as it will be discussed fully later in this paper.

V
S
O
O  
of Make thee an ark of gopher wood ; rooms  
C11 C12

S
V
A
V  
Shalt thou make in the ark , and shalt pitch  
===== C13

O
A  
it within and without with pitch. 6 : 14

The mark (=) indicates the places where asyndetic syndetic coordination take place respectively.

Examining the coordinators in our corpus, one can obviously see the dominant use of and. As a preliminary point attention should be called to the

Table (1)  
Number of sentences and clauses in the first ten Chapters of the Bible of King James 1611 .

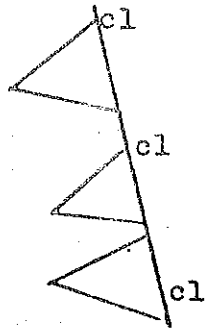
Chapter Number	Number of Sentences	Number of Clauses
1.	33	110
2.	24	86
3.	21	105
4.	29	97
5.	33	79
6.	24	72
7.	22	58
8.	21	64
9.	27	85
10.	24	41
Total	258	797

Our corpus, the first ten chapters of the Bible of King James (1611), contains 258 sentences of which 198 (77%) start with initial and VS. 60 (23%) without this connective particle. The initial and is one of the distinctive features of the biblical language. See Table 1. The total number of clauses is 797.

### III. 1. Coordination

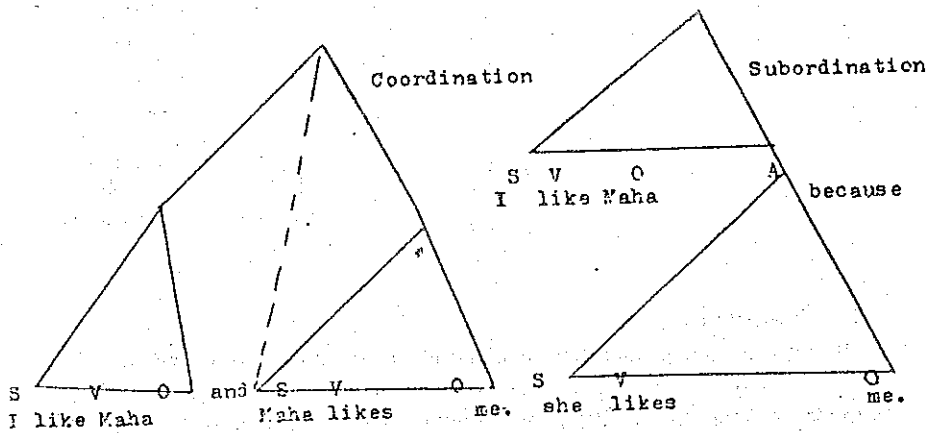
A close scrutiny of the corpus reveals that the clause structure displays the coordinating tendency. See Table 2. The analysis shows that there are 477 coordinate clauses (60%) Vs. 244 subordinate ones (30%). It was found that clauses which do not involve coordination or subordination, such as those of the simple sentences, form only 10% of the data (78 occurrences). In this respect, our results agree with what is mentioned by Crystal & Davy that "... the accumulation of coordinated finite and non-finite structures at clause level, is a distinctive character in the biblical language." (Crystal & Davy, 1969, 160).

Concerning the types of coordination, it is obviously seen that the syndetic coordination (where the connective particle is used explicately is of higher frequency than the asyndetic coordination (where the connective particle is not mentioned overtly)(Quirk et al., 1972, 550) 444 examples (93%) of the former type are attested Vs. 33 examples (7%) of the latter.

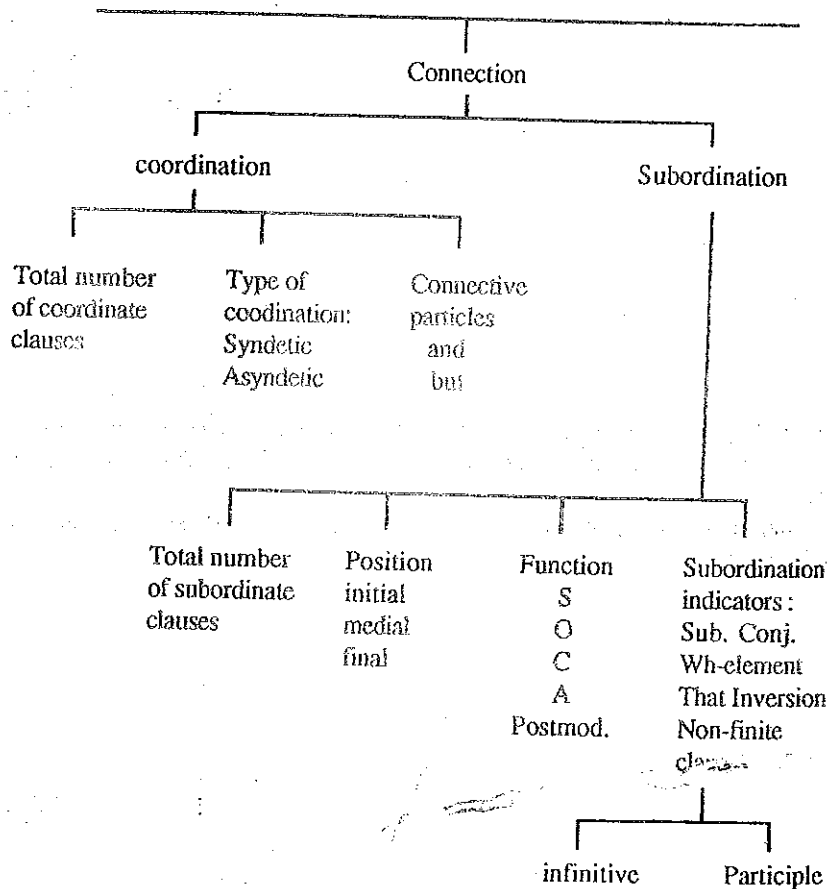


that is they form a hierarchy in which the subordinate clause is a constituent of the sentence as a whole or a constituent of another clause. (Quirk et al., 1985, 987).

Diagrammatically, the difference is as in the following figure (adapted from Quirk et al.).



Coordination - Subordination in the First Ten Chapters of the Bible .



### III. Discussion

It is a well-known fact that clauses with a sentence differ considerably in their autonomy or independence in relation to each other. Generally, a distinction is made between coordination (or parataxis) and subordination (or hypotaxis) (Brondal, 1972, 23).

Before going into any detail, it is worthwhile explaining briefly the difference between these two syntactic devices. Both coordination and subordination involve the linking of units, but in the former the units are constituents of the same level; they are instances of paratactic relationships, and they have equal status and function whereas in the latter they are on different level- asymmetrical relations. The clause and its subordinate clauses are in a hypotactic relationship, e.g. :

Examining the well - known fact that religious language has its own distinctive linguistic features (Brook, 1973, 118), this study is an attempt to investigate connection in the Bible to find out which of the two processes, coordination or subordination is more frequent at the clause level.

There are two main reasons for choosing this particular subject :

- 1- It has not been - to my knowledge - dealt with before in the literature. Very little is known about the grammatical features of connection in the holy Bible.
- 2- It has been stated that subordination is used more than coordination in the English language. (Johnstone, 1987, 96; Emery , 1987, 64). In this paper we attempt to examine how far this is true to the Bible of King James 1611.

## II. Procedure

This paper is organized as follows : to start with the analysis, the first ten chapters of Genesis in the Bible of King James 1611 are divided into sentences depending on the punctuation marks. The total number of the sentences and clauses in each chapter is calculated. All the preceding information is illustrated in Table \*1\*.

Then we come to the core of the study which falls into two main parts. Part 1 deals with coordination. The results of the analysis are given in Table 2. The frequencies of the occurrences are determined.

Part 2 examines subordination. The results are stated in Table 3.

It is worthwhile mentioning that the analysis of the data goes along the same lines adopted by Quirk et al., (1972, chapters 7 ; 11 and 12 ; 1985 chapters 10 ; 13 and 14) limiting our attention to clause level only. Coordination and subordination at the phrase, word and morpheme levels fall outside the scope of this study.

It has to be stated that the actual corpus is not included in this paper due to the bulky size, and any sentence relevant is mentioned explicately in the text. A sentence has two numbers : the first indicates chapter number while the second refers to verse number as found in the Bible. i.e.

A     S     V     A     A

And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

( 7 : 12

Chapter     verse

To summarize our procedure is diagrammatically illustrated in the following figure :

# Coordination - Subordination in the Bible

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## Abstract

This paper aims at studying connection used in the Bible of king James 1611 to examine how far coordination and subordination are used.

Only the first ten chapters are tested of the Bible due to the bulky size. The analysis of the data goes along the same lines adopted by Quirk et al., 1972 limiting the attention to clause level. Coordination and subordination at the phrase, word and morpheme levels fall outside the scope of the present paper. The study concludes with the preference of coordination to subordination due to the following points :

- 1- Simple style and structure .
- 2- The influence of the source language .
- 3- Language change ability .

## ملخص

يهدف البحث الى دراسة الربط في انجيل الملك جيمز ١٦١١ للتعرف على استخدام البسيط (العطف) والمعقد (الادخال). تم تحليل الاجزاء العشرة الاولى فقط وذلك لضخامة المادة . وجرى التحليل وفق الاسلوب الذي اتبعه كوريك ١٩٧٢ مقتصرأ على الجمليات فقط. اما الربط على مستوى العبارات والكلمات فلا يدخل ضمن هذه الدراسة .

انتهى البحث بنتيجة استخدام الربط البسيط اكثر من المعقد وذلك للاسباب التالية: ١- سهولة الاسلوب والتركييب . ٢- تاثير اللغة الام . ٣- تغير اللغة .

## 1- Introduction

In spite of its great importance which touches everyone's life and its common use by the majority of people of different ages, sexes and social classes, the language of the holy books has not received due attention from linguists. There are innumerable studies of the Bible theologically but not linguistically.

Just as languages differ in the structural pattern of their morphemes, words, phrases and clauses, so also within the same language, style and type of discourse may govern the use and frequency of certain grammatical categories in preference to others. (Waterhouse, 1963, 67).