

Final Portfolio and Reflection

Colby Goettel

April 19, 2014

My final portfolio is worthy of a 630/700 minimum, but more realistically a 650.

The following has been submitted in this portfolio, descriptions of each in-line, for a total of 14 pages:

- Resume, 1 page. This is a strong resume. It got me an interview, where I got a great job offer. The job posting is attached. It is for a NOC (Network Operations Center) Support Engineer position with a data center in Orem. The resume is specifically tailored to a career in systems and network administration, two of the key responsibilities of a NOC engineer.
- Cover letter, 3 pages (if double spaced). This is a highly polished and well written cover letter that got me into graduate school (cover letter instructions attached). This cover letter went through ten revisions and was edited by multiple, outside sources with input from a couple more. I spent more time on this cover letter than any essay in this class. In fact, the first issue paper (which received an 85%) was written in less than an hour and a half.
- NSA Snooping, 4 pages. This is a subject that I'm passionate about and it comes out in my writing. The revision gets to the argument quicker and more forcefully. I removed a lot of the riff raff that detracted from the point. I will also note that I opted to keep the essay more or less as is instead of adding more information about what the CIA and others have been doing. This helps keep the essay more in focus. The essay has enough background information, it doesn't need to completely overwhelm the audience with the atrocities committed by our government. Save that for another paper.
- Comcast merger, 5 pages. I shortened this essay, removing superfluous information, streamlining it. The conclusion better addresses the audience and does so concisely. The main reason this essay was marked down was because it wasn't long enough. That is no longer a problem in this context. It is a strong, persuasive essay that is deserving of top marks.
- Blog post, 1 page. This was a fun post to write about something I'm passionate about. It is well worded, conclusive, and easy to understand for non-Hebrew speakers.

All of these assignments got high marks, the average of which is around 630. With the revisions that have happened, the final portfolio is in the arena of a 650.

For a better idea of which revisions have happened, please navigate to the file in <https://github.com/cgoettel/engl-312> and select *History* from the upper right-hand menu. Then click on the icon on the right to see a diff between the current version and the selected version. This should work a lot better than trying to read the two side-by-side.

Colby Goettel

Experience

Project manager, *BYU Office of IT and the FBI, September 2013–present*

Senior capstone project. Spiral model. Developed a real-time syslog analysis system to detect, analyze, and learn patterns, and report anomalies. Red Hat stack including Logstash, elasticsearch, and Kibana.

Teaching Assistant, *School of Technology, BYU, April 2013–present*

TA for both computer networking and operating systems. Typeset class materials (e.g., homework, labs, exams). Assisted the professor in improving course homework and labs. More intimately learned networking and OS theory and principles. Ran the weekly labs and helped students research and find answers. Substituted for teacher when necessary.

Computer programmer, *Harold B. Lee Library, BYU, April 2010–August 2013*

Programmed over 400 utilities to generate custom reports for librarians. These scripts make API and database calls, then parse the output to specifications. Scripts were predominantly written in Perl with extensive usage of regular expressions, but AWK and Bash scripts abound. Utilized PHP, HTML, and CSS for web applications. Some system administration. Provided general computer support to library faculty.

Circulation staff, *Howard W. Hunter Law Library, BYU, November 2009–April 2010*

Document management. Gained familiarity with court briefs. Improved digitizing system.

Lab technician, *BYU Physics Department Machine Shop, BYU, April 2009–August 2009*

General woodwork and metalwork, including welding and grinding. Cleaned shop, moved and organized thousands of pounds of scrap metal and tools, learned problem solving skills.

Education

B.S. degree candidate, Information Technology, Brigham Young University

- Minor: Biblical Hebrew
- Expected graduation: August 2014
- Relevant coursework:
 - IT 515R – Systems Administration. Set up a corporate network including Active Directory, Puppet, SNMP, Nagios, and AlienVault OSSIM. Extensive documentation.
 - IT 529 – Advanced Networking. Network management with Zenoss and SNMP. Extensive documentation. Researched how to use Wireshark to monitor pre-VLAN traffic. Network security including man-in-the-middle attacks and ARP poisoning. Multi-vendor router and VLAN configuration.

Languages and technologies

Computer	Linux, Perl, Git, Zenoss, VMWare, regex, SNMP, L ^A T _E X, Nagios, Cisco IOS, Bash, AWK, sed, MySQL, C++, Wireshark, Python, apache, HTML+CSS, DNS, TCP/IP, UDP
Spoken	French (working proficiency)
Written	Biblical Hebrew (working proficiency), Imperial Aramaic (working proficiency)
Strengths	Linux, L ^A T _E X, Perl, regex

Awards and positions

- ORCA Grant recipient for project entitled *Typesetting a Hebrew Bible Translation*
- IT Student Association, treasurer, September 2013–present
- Eagle Scout with Silver Palm

Careers (/about/careers)

Voonami is always looking for talented and driven individuals to join our team. As a member of the team you will get the opportunity to work with some of the brightest and most capable individuals in the industry. We are committed to our team members, ensuring that they continue to get the latest training and certifications in their respective areas.

[Request a quote now \(/quote\)](#) ▶



(/about/careers)

We currently have the following positions available.

NOC Support Engineer

Overall responsibility: Oversee all network traffic and device status states. Respond to customer inquiries/requests and interfacing with all levels of management to resolve them.

Key areas of responsibility

- Watch over entire infrastructure from the NOC
- Ensure maximum possible service availability and performance
- Monitor network for device faults and/or service degradation
- Monitor production systems
- Troubleshoot networking and systems issues
- Provisioning customer equipment
- Performing regular facilities checks
- Development of knowledge and skills in network and system administration
- Provide support services for Engineering and other technical teams

Qualifications

- A good general understanding of IT infrastructure and practices
- Great customer service skills
- Good organizational skills
- Strong problem solving and troubleshooting skills
- Good writing and communication skills
- Basic Linux and Windows skills
- Work well in a busy team, being quick to learn and able to deal with a wide range of issues

Ruby on Rails Developer

Skills

Ruby on Rails, MySQL, Ajax, Agile Methods, HTML, CSS, Javascript, OSX, Linux

Job Description

- 5+ Years software development experience
- 1+ Year of Ruby on Rails experience
- Linux Experience

Colby Goettel
627 E 700 N
Provo, UT 84606

March 7, 2014

Information Technology Department
Ira A. Fulton College of Engineering and Technology
270 CB
Provo, UT 84602

Dear Graduate Selection Committee:

I am applying to the Master's of Technology program with an emphasis in Information Technology for Fall 2014. I expect to graduate in April 2016 by engaging as a full-time student.

By the time I enter this program, I will have a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology with an emphasis in systems and network administration and a minor in Biblical Hebrew. Throughout my life and especially the past several years, I have been particularly drawn to systems administration. The advanced networking and systems administration classes have been, more than anything else in the program, the best preparation for my future. These high caliber classes have not only prepared me for a future in systems administration, but also for a graduate program and the associated research.

I have a passion for all kinds of writing, technical and otherwise. To augment my writing skills, I went out of my way to take Writing With Style (Engl324) and Persuasive Writing (Engl312). These classes focus on, respectively, writing on the sentence and paragraph level, and expanding on your writing. My writing has drastically improved because I've had the opportunity to take these classes, which helped contribute to my substantially above average writing score for an IT applicant on the GRE.

I decided to study Biblical Hebrew because I have always had a deep love for the Old Testament. I have an affinity for learning foreign languages and a strong linguistic skill, resulting in a minor GPA of 3.64. Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic have been an outlet for the natural, more creative part of my brain. In the past three years I have translated 10% of the Hebrew Bible and continue translating on a daily basis. This helps my writing because I try to render my translations idiomatically while still being true to the Hebrew. English and Hebrew have vastly different structures and it is a creative challenge to be idiomatic while not adding or removing meaning. The writing classes I've taken have helped me to accomplish this while also sharpening my writing skills and critical thinking.

In addition, I have applied for and received an ORCA Grant for the research topic *Typesetting a Hebrew Bible Translation* with Assistant Professor Tew. We are currently writing a paper on this topic and its associated challenges which will be submitted to SIGITE this summer. This writing experience will improve my research abilities, writing skills, and better prepare me for the rigors of graduate studies; this background will prove useful in the event that I do my thesis on multilingual typesetting or another field in the digital humanities.

My initial goal upon graduation with a graduate degree is to become a systems administrator and later move into enterprise architecture and finally into management. I have long enjoyed project management from my Eagle Scout project to my capstone project. My twenty year plan includes getting an MBA and moving into upper management. The classes I've taken are central to my immediate plans, as is this advanced degree in Technology. Because of these classes I feel confident enough that I can enter a company and administer their infrastructure or discover it if there's no documentation. Further research and study with Associate Professor Ekstrom and Adjunct Professor Havens will deepen this understanding and allow me to give greater insights in the future to businesses, to have a greater impact on their organizations.

Brigham Young University is a healthy environment, spiritually and scholastically, which has helped me

become a better person and a better student. The ability that we have to discuss the gospel in class and relate secular things to spiritual things is a rare opportunity in the academic environment and has been a blessing in my life. Being surrounded by good, faithful people — being taught by them, being mentored by them — encourages me, buoys me, betters me.

Early in my collegiate career, I really struggled with staying in school and making sense of it all. Fortunately, I found the upper level IT curriculum because it helped me find my purpose for being in school. I want to be, and am capable of being, a good student; I understand now what that means. Through my senior year I have proven that I can tackle difficult tasks, work effectively as a team member, and produce quality work. I am qualified and ready for graduate studies and research; and further, this program will greatly augment my career path and the professional life I have ahead of me.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CX^ 9/6".

Colby Goettel



🏠 Application for Admission

Application for Graduate Admission

Personal Information

Program Information

Test Scores

Educational
Background

Resume/ Employment
History

Additional Information
and Work Experience

Statement of Intent

Department Documents

Honor Code

Signature and Submit

Important Links

Recommendations

Downloadable Forms

Check Your Application

Application Instructions

🖨️ PRINT FORMS

Statement of Intent

Prepare a separate document and upload here.

The purpose of the statement of intent is to provide information which is not included in your application or academic records and which may be useful to the admissions committee. Write a carefully constructed statement of your academic preparation and goals, indicating how graduate work fits into those goals. Statements are generally 1-2 pages but may have more specific requirements by department. This statement gives the admissions committee an opportunity to learn the following:

1. your preparation and background for the program to which you are applying and the special emphasis you hope to pursue in it,
2. your academic or professional goals and reasons for your choice of career,
3. your particular academic or professional reasons for applying to Brigham Young University and the scholarly or professional contributions you expect to make to your program;
4. your expected graduate degree completion date, and
5. (optional) any special circumstances you wish the department to consider, such as whether or not you plan to attend full-time, circumstances that may have affected undergraduate academic performance, test scores, etc.

Your program of interest may have additional requirements to be included in your statement of intent.

Please check the [Program details page](#).

Note: EMBA Applicants:

In addition to the areas of discussion listed above, this letter should address the scope and depth of your work experience. Identify your management responsibilities and address the extent to which an MBA degree will be consistent with your career aspirations. It may be useful to address each period of full-time employment separately. At the top of the statement, include your name, BYU Net ID or birth date. Upload your statement of intent below.

To upload a document in response to this question, please click the 'upload' button below. If your upload is successful, you will see a 'view document' button and a 'delete' button appear next to the question.

Upload Document

*To view the current document you've uploaded, click on the 'view document' button below.
To remove an uploaded document, please click on the 'delete' button below.*

View Document

Delete

Colby Goettel

Reed

English 312

05 March 2014

NSA Snooping and Counter-terrorism

The US government has been spying on its citizens since at least the 1950s. Recent revelations from whistleblowers like Bradley Manning and Edward Snowden have brought many of these programs to light. The full extent of the NSA and other divisions of government is still unknown, but what is known is startling and terrifying. The NSA justifies its behavior under the guise of counter-terrorism. But how much is too much? Is the NSA effectual at stopping terrorism, thus justifying this unethical behavior?

The government has been eavesdropping on American citizens since the 1950s under a program called Project Shamrock. Once computers got to the point where they could be used for mass data analysis, computerized programs such as HARVEST were used for eavesdropping. In 1978, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act was put in place which allowed for metadata collection of anyone suspected of espionage or terrorism. When the order was issued, it only applied within the United States. Since the FISA Amendments Act of 2008, this power has extended to foreign entities. This Amendments Act also makes previous warrantless wiretapping done by the NSA through AT&T illegal.

In 2001, the US government legalized domestic and foreign spying with the Patriot Act. In 2007, they extended the reach of their spying with a secret NSA program called PRISM. Prism is a mass, metadata collection program launched in participation with the British spy agency, the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), and large, American corporations like

Google and Apple. The requests to these companies are made under §702 of the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 which allows the Attorney General and the Director of National Intelligence to target non-US citizens who are not currently in the United States. Under FISA, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, which operates in secret (Schneier 2013), was set up to hear cases under Prism and other secret programs.

Prism, with a confidence interval of only 51% that the target is not a US citizen, can perform “extensive, in-depth surveillance on live communications and stored information” (Greenwald and MacAskill 2013) such as a “phone call, e-mail or chat” (PRISM slide 2) from Microsoft, Yahoo!, Google, Facebook, PalTalk, YouTube, Skype, AOL, and Apple (PRISM slide 5w and Upstream slide).

For minimum protection from government snooping, all information sent over the Internet needs to be encrypted using the most up-to-date encryption standards. The computational overhead to encrypt and decrypt information used to be enormous. For that reason, the standard was to only encrypt sensitive data and transmit everything else in plain text. Since computers have evolved exponentially in the past few decades this is no longer needed. In 2010, Gmail switched all of their e-mail to HTTPS and experienced an increased CPU load of only 1% (Langley).

The First and Fourth Amendments protect Americans’ right to free speech, practice, and privacy. Without a warrant, personal information is theoretically always safe. Without a warrant, except in specific circumstances, law enforcement personnel are not allowed to enter houses. Personal data is no different and deserves the same protections granted to lean-tos and shanties.

Bruce Schneier, a security expert, talks at length about how NSA has overstepped its bounds and shown a clear disregard to people’s right to privacy with no intentions of stopping:

We are long past the point where simple legal interventions can help. The bill in Congress to limit NSA surveillance won't actually do much to limit NSA surveillance. Maybe the NSA will figure out an interpretation of the law that will allow it to do what it wants anyway. Maybe it'll do it another way, using another justification. Maybe the FBI will do it and give it a copy. And when asked, it'll lie about it (Schneier 2014).

Since the revelations last year from Snowden, the NSA has shown no backing off, making it clear that they have no intentions of stopping this unethical and possibly unconstitutional behavior.

The main justification for this breach of trust is to stop terrorism. Terrorism is a huge concern in Americans' minds, especially since the events of 9/11. However, in 2011 only seventeen "US citizens worldwide [were] killed as a result of incidents of terrorism" (US State Department). In fact, it is more likely that people will be killed by a toddler or lightning than by a terrorist, not to mention the probability of being killed by a drunk driver. Terrorism is no longer the threat, it's simply the cover story.

Unfortunately, many people hold onto the false notion that they have nothing to hide and therefore don't need security. Everyone has something to hide. With enough data on any person, all anyone needs to do is look hard enough to find a crime. But the main concern is the lack of government transparency. The people do not know how the information that the NSA and others are collecting is being used. They don't even know if the information is being used for or against them. More transparency would go a long way towards solving this problem, but there still exists a massive government overreach into people's personal lives. Another common argument is that anything collected by the NSA is inadmissible in court. This matters less when the NSA and

others are using recognized, secret courts and executing their own citizens in drone strikes (ACLU).

Referring to the NSA's lack of stopping terrorism, Schneier said:

We have no evidence that any of this surveillance makes us safer. NSA Director General Keith Alexander responded to these stories in June by claiming that he disrupted 54 terrorist plots. In October, he revised that number downward to 13, and then to "one or two." At this point, the only "plot" prevented was that of a San Diego man sending \$8,500 to support a Somali militant group. We have been repeatedly told that these surveillance programs would have been able to stop 9/11, yet the NSA didn't detect the Boston bombings — even though one of the two terrorists was on the watch list and the other had a sloppy social media trail (Schneier).

The NSA has a proven track record of not being able to stop future terrorist acts, even with all of their infrastructure and snooping. Schneier rightly concludes that "[b]ulk collection of data and metadata is an ineffective counterterrorism tool."

The NSA has gone to an extreme extent to stop terrorism and have proven fruitless in their labors. They do not possess the ability to stop another 9/11 from happening. They did not possess the ability to stop the Boston marathon bombings. Their surveillance programs, widely regarded as unconstitutional (and under legal fire from the EFF, ACLU, and others), have not been able to stop terrorist plots against the United States. They present a clear and present danger to the people of the United States by infringing on their right to privacy.

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Colby Goettel

Reed

English 312

21 March 2014

Telecommunication Monopolies and Broadband Infrastructure

This year, Comcast announced plans to purchase Time Warner Cable for a staggering \$45.2BN. This merger between the two largest telecommunications companies in the United States will create a monopoly similar to AT&T before its federally-mandated dissolution. These corporations are notorious for their poor customer service and lack of commitment to providing quality infrastructure. This merger will only further delay the building of proper broadband infrastructure in the United States. This paper will look at the effects the Comcast-Time Warner Cable merger will have on US broadband infrastructure.

Fiber optic communication is the future of broadband. A single strand of single-mode glass fiber (the good stuff) has a theoretical maximum bandwidth of 10 Gbps for every person in the world. In other words, one strand of fiber can provide Gigabit Internet for every person “on this planet and [nine] other planets the same size” (Lunt).¹ Fiber is primarily made of silicon dioxide — silicon rust. Once it’s laid it doesn’t go bad or deteriorate. The only pieces that need upgrading are the end connections, the light switches. For this reason, when cities perform routine maintenance on roads and underground pipes, they need to bury fiber optic cable because burying cables costs ten times as much as running cables overhead. This is the cheapest route to installing infrastructure.

Other countries have already done built out fiber infrastructure to a great extent. Paris laid fiber citywide over a decade ago. South Korea currently offers the best broadband Internet in the

world. They offer Gigabit Internet for a measly \$25/mo on average. Google Fiber, hailed as the savior of US Internet service, offers the same bandwidth for \$70/mo! As of Q4 2012, the United states was in 8th place for Internet speed (Ispreview.co.uk), trailing behind countries like Latvia and the Czech Republic. The bathroom light switches in Latvia are on the outside of the bathroom and they have better Internet than the US.

Thankfully, the Comcast-Time Warner Cable merger still needs regulatory approval, but the cards seem to be stacked in its favor, especially because Congress doesn't see this as an antitrust issue. Politico recently reported that 15/18 members of the Senate Judiciary Committee and 32/39 members of the House Judiciary Committee have received a donation from Comcast. This is legal bribery. This will ensure that Comcast will have its way throughout the hearings (Romm). Incredulously, Comcast has spoken up about this bribery saying that it is simply them being involved in the political process (Sottek). They have brazenly committed bribery and have brazenly dismissed their actions as natural, regular, part of the political process.

Up until the early 1980s, AT&T controlled a monopoly on telecommunications in the United States known as Bell Systems, or Ma Bell. A government mandate on 08 January 1982 ordered the breakup of this monopoly. Once effected, this breakup allowed for long-distance telephone competition from Sprint and MCI. This competition lowered prices and provided better service for customers. The only downside of this monopoly breakup was the destruction of Bell Laboratories where most of the current hardware in use today (e.g., semi-conductors) was invented. This destruction cost the US their leading place in the Information Age. But the breakup was ultimately what the US needed for competition to push the telecommunications industry into the 21st century.

Unfortunately, since the breakup of Ma Bell, the Baby Bells (the companies created from the breakup) have reacquired most of their original strongholds. In fact, AT&T's post-breakup ventures failed and it was acquired by one of the Baby Bells, SBC Communications, and renamed AT&T Inc. They are now the second largest mobile company and largest landline company in the United States. They have acquired eleven of the original twenty-two Baby Bells.

Since 1989, AT&T has donated over \$56MM to political campaigns (Organizations) and more than \$130MM to lobbying (Kang). They have laid a pattern for Comcast to follow: monopoly and political bribery. This subversive behavior goes against what is best for customers and the future of telecommunications in America.

The past decade of broadband infrastructure in Utah illustrates a great example of what happens to competition when monopolies exist. In the mid-2000s, seventeen Utah cities joined forces to provide quality fiber infrastructure to their residents. Their consortium is called the Utah Telecommunications Open Infrastructure Agency, or Utopia. The cities laid fiber optic cable and currently provide service to over 11,000 subscribers. Comcast didn't like the competition and paid off the Utah legislature to make it legal for cities to lay infrastructure, but illegal for them to advertise their service (Ekstrom).²

Provo announced last year that Google Fiber would be buying their existing fiber infrastructure for \$1. Provo tried to sell for almost \$300MM, but Google said that they would pay \$1, nothing more, and they would improve the existing infrastructure with almost \$500MM of work. This deal paid off the debt that the city and its citizens were previously burdened with (Richards). Unknown to most, Utopia actually provides better and cheaper service than Google Fiber, but they're not allowed to advertise it because Comcast paid off the legislature to make it illegal.

Fortunately, because Google Fiber is coming to Provo and improving infrastructure, they have forced Comcast to improve their service or be left in the dust. Comcast has since been going to existing customers and giving them free cable television and 50 Mbps Internet. The disgusting thing is that they have had the infrastructure in place for years to offer this kind of service, but didn't because there was no competition. Why the hell should any of their customers remain faithful to a company that has swindled them for years? Gigabit Internet is where backwater America should be right now, not large and booming US cities (Venezia).

In Kansas City, the debut location for Google Fiber, Comcast along with Time Warner Cable and Cox are lobbying to create legislation that will deny cities the ability to build additional broadband infrastructure (Brodkin). The relevant part of their recent bill states:

Except with regard to unserved areas, a municipality may not, directly or indirectly:

1. Offer or provide to one or more subscribers, video, telecommunications, or broadband service; or
2. purchase, lease, construct, maintain, or operate any facility for the purpose of enabling a private business or entity to offer, provide, carry, or deliver video, telecommunications, or broadband service to one or more subscribers.

This move would not only limit the current infrastructure, but block future construction and maintenance. A move like this will allow the existing ISPs to increase prices without providing additional services, just as they've done nationwide for years.

Many people have argued that this deal is about cable television and has nothing to do with the Internet. This couldn't be further from the truth. Cable television is mostly out the door.

The only real foothold that cable television currently has is sports and reality TV. Everything else can be found online through streaming services. However, cable television won't fully die until the current generation dies. But nothing about this merger has to do with cable television. It's all about the Internet. According to tech pundit Paul Venezia, this merger "is about controlling the content and delivery of Internet-based communication and entertainment" (Venezia).

If corporations can control the Internet, its content and delivery, they will hold all of the cards in their hand. They will continue to not build out infrastructure and increase prices. They will extort their customers until they are forced, by competition, to improve. Competition is essential to the growth of the Internet and the stimulation of true innovation. This dearth of competition has been around for the recent history of the Internet. Again, from Venezia, "[t]he massive advancement we saw in the first 10 years of our Internet consciousness is being destroyed by the deregulation and lobbying of the past nine" (Venezia). Some argue that Google Fiber is competitive to Comcast. Unfortunately, all of the great effect that Google Fiber is having on broadband infrastructure is only happening in three cities nationwide. Three. Google is currently exploring an additional thirty-four cities, but their domain pales in comparison to the almighty power of Comcast and Time Warner Cable.

Historically, Comcast and Time Warner Cable have both provided terrible service and infrastructure. They've already shown that they have the infrastructure in place to provide quality bandwidth, but don't because there is no incentive. They raise prices, provide terrible customer service, and pay off the legislature to get their way. Legislation has been passed in Utah and is currently underway in Kansas to further stymie broadband infrastructure and competition. Enough is enough. Tight regulations do not allow for advancement. We need more competition. We need the people need to hold companies accountable.

Notes

1. The Shannon–Hartley theorem, $C = B \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{S}{N}\right)$, is used to calculate the theoretical maximum of a communication medium. From Professor Lunt:

But I have also done the calculations myself, using Shannon’s Law, and (as I showed in class) a single strand of single-mode fiber (not multi-mode) has enough bandwidth to allow for 10 Gbps for every person on the planet, or 1 Gbps for everyone on this planet and 9 other planets the same size.”

Mathematically, this is computed as follows. Let B represent the bandwidth of a channel and $\frac{S}{N}$ the signal-to-noise ratio. Thus, using rough numbers:

$$\begin{aligned} C &= B \log_2 \left(1 + \frac{S}{N}\right) \\ &= 4700 \text{ MHz} \cdot \log_2 (1 + 14 \text{ dB}) \\ &= 4700000000 \text{ Hz} \cdot \log_2 (26.11886 \text{ W}) \\ &\approx 2.2118 \times 10^{10} \end{aligned}$$

2. From Associate Professor Ekstrom regarding the role that Comcast played in disrupting Utah’s fiber infrastructure and any possible sources to check:

“Obviously the legislature would argue that ‘cities shouldn’t compete with private industry’ [because] protected monopolies don’t like competition.

You would have to follow the money in the 2000–2005 period to see it. No reporter cared enough to document it. Most of the reporting has been iProvo and Utopia are dumb ideas that got the cities into debt, not why is Utah valley booming right now?


Short answer, I don't know of any analysis of the political implications of the legal environment."

3. Enthymeme: "The Comcast-Time Warner Cable merger stymies US broadband infrastructure because it creates tight regulations that don't allow for advancement."


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1 contributor

 file 30 lines (20 sloc) 3.387 kb

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Exegesis on Jonah 1:2

Introduction

Through [my translation of the Old Testament](#) I've noticed areas where the common translations (e.g., King James Version, Darby English, Douay-Rheims, New International Version, etc.) are not always translated the best. In fact, in some instances it seems that things are clearly wrong. [One of the appendices of my Bible](#) talks about how Isaiah 2:16 is incorrectly translated from the Hebrew by going through multiple, outside sources. This exegesis will be much like the one for Isaiah, but cover Jonah 1:2 and clear up some controversy commentaries have laid on it.

The question

My friend asked the following question on Google+:

I'm leading a study on Jonah for my small group. Commentaries point out the dual meaning (one even said "mistranslation") of רעה (at least I think that's it. I call it "house, Y, 7" and yes, I know that would be backwards.) especially in 1:2.

Since you're the only person I know that knows any Hebrew, I thought it'd be neat to see your thoughts.

So naturally I translated Jonah 1:2 anew to get a better view on this "dual meaning" and check for a possible mistranslation:

Get up and go to the great city, Nineveh, and proclaim against them* because their wickedness has come up before Me.

**literally, "it." However, it's referring to the people and not the city, the city not being capable of committing sin.*

Explanation

רעה  (ra'ah)

Definitions

- According to the concise Koehler-Baumgartner, *the authority on Biblical Hebrew*, *ra'ah* means "(intended) evil, harm (to someone); wickedness, perverseness; crime; misery, trouble, disaster, evil (in a weakened sense)."
- The unabridged Koehler-Baumgartner also states: "wickedness; wickedness, depravity; misfortune; calamity, disaster."
- Davidson's Analytical Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon only defines verbs which is no good here, *ra'ah* being an adjective in this context. However, in verb form, *ra'ah* can either mean "to pasture or shepherd" or "be a friend to," depending on context.

However, the context of Jonah 1:2 makes it clear that we are dealing with an adjective, not a verb. This "dual meaning" or "mistranslation" is simply not warranted because through context we know that we are dealing with *ra'ah* as an adjective, not a verb.



















The adjective form, according to Professor Stephen D. Ricks (BYU), means a sin that is knowingly committed. This is much different than transgressions, sins that are unknowingly committed. These words are translated accordingly in most, major translations.

Conclusion

In this instance we can say that the major translations have indeed translated Jonah 1:2 correctly. The context makes it clear that it refers to sins that are knowingly committed. Exegetically we can say that it refers to sin, not any of the other definitions of the word.

Theologically, there is a growing trend in the world to shy away from calling people out on their sins. The Lord has never worked this way in the scriptures, but is bold in proclaiming people's sins. Such is the case in Jonah 1:2 where Jonah is called to preach against Nineveh's sins. He was not asked in Jonah 1:2 to befriend or shepherd them.

