NAR – Passion Translation

The Passion Translation (TPT) is the definitive textbook example of NAR theological engineering masked as a Bible translation. If you want to know if it falls under the "good, bad, or ugly," it firmly lands in the ugly.

The mainstream academic and pastoral consensus has completely fractured around this project. To understand you only have to look at the three major pillars of the TPT controversy: *the origin story, the total lack of scholarly oversight*, and *the targeted theological manipulation* of the text.

1. The Origin: A Dangerous "Revelation" Claim

The translator, Brian Simmons, claims that Jesus Christ personally appeared to him in his room, breathed on him, and gave him a divine mandate to translate the Bible. He further claimed that Jesus gave him "secrets of the Hebrew language" and spiritual "downloads" to uncover the text.

This is standard NAR methodology: bypassing historic, objective study for a subjective, supernatural experience. Biblical translation has always been a disciplined, transparent discipline of tracking ancient manuscripts, not an mystical impartation given to a single individual.

2. The Ugly Reality of the Translation Process

• **Solo Translatorship:** Every reliable Bible translation you use (NKJV, ESV, NASB) is translated by a massive committee of dozens of multi-denominational scholars. This provides structural checks and balances so that no single person can twist a verse to match their personal theology. TPT is a solo project by one man who lacks formal advanced academic credentials in biblical languages.

• **The "Aramaic Supremacy" Fallacy:** Simmons claims to translate heavily from Aramaic manuscripts, arguing they are closer to the original text. However, New Testament scholars universally agree that the New Testament was originally composed in *Greek*. Using later Aramaic texts allows him to introduce highly unusual, mystical definitions that are completely absent from the original Greek manuscripts.

• **The 2026 Plagiarism Exposé**: The situation for TPT went from bad to disastrous in mid-2026. An extensive text audit revealed over 500 instances where Simmons appears to have outright plagiarized text and footnotes from sources like **The Message** and various obscure authors. Even his own academic consultant came forward to state there was zero rigorous scholarly review or editorial oversight on the final text.

3. How TPT Explicitly Engineers NAR Theology

TPT isn't just a loose paraphrase like *The Message*; it is an intentional rewrite designed to inject modern NAR concepts straight into the text. Simmons injects words and concepts that do not exist in the Greek or Hebrew to force a present-tense *dominionist* or *charismatic* meaning.

Look at how TPT alters key passages to fit the exact guest speaker themes you heard today:

Galatians 6:6

• Standard Text: Instructs those who are taught to share material goods with their teacher.

• TPT Alteration: Rewrites the text to say we must share our lives with our teachers so we can experience a "*transference of spiritual anointing*." This injects the NAR doctrine of impartation directly into Scripture.

Romans 8:19

• NKJV: "For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God."

• TPT Alteration: It frames this as a present-tense awakening where creation is looking for the "glorious manifestation of God's resurrected children" to take up their positions on earth. It actively collapses the future resurrection into a present-tense dominion mandate.

The Global Backlash

The structural and theological deception of the TPT has caught up with it.

• **In 2022, Bible Gateway** completely removed the Passion Translation from its platform due to its extreme theological bias and lack of translation integrity.

• **Following the 2026 plagiarism exposés,** even major mega-churches historically tied to the NAR movement, such as Bethel Church in Redding, California, quietly purged the Passion Translation from their online stores and curriculum.

• **The YouVersion Bible App** currently has TPT listed under an extraordinary, highly unusual status labeled "*in review*" following intense petitions from global believers demanding its removal.

The Verdict for Foundations7.org

As someone building a solid, text-based ministry, stay far away from the Passion Translation.

It is not a Bible; it is a commentary written by an NAR proponent, disguised as scripture, designed to validate their exact brand of present-tense dominion theology.

Philippians 4:4 *"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice."*

The Passion Translation: "*Be cheerful with joyous celebration in every season of life. Let joy overflow, for you are united with the Anointed One!"*

In the original Greek text, the word is ***Kyrios*** (Lord), not ***Christos*** (Anointed One/Christ).

• **The Original Text:** Paul explicitly chose the word "Lord" (Kyrios). In the New Testament, "Lord" carries massive theological weight, often deliberately echoing the Old Testament name for God (Yahweh).

• **The TPT Change**: By changing "*in the Lord*" to "*united with the Anointed One*," the translator changed Paul's *exact* vocabulary to insert his own theological commentary on what he thinks of "in the Lord".

While the idea of being "united with Christ" is a valid biblical concept found elsewhere in Paul's letters, it is not what the text of Philippians 4:4 actually says.

By switching to TPT, NAR is attempting to manufacture scriptural authority for an earlier statement that "*joy is faith's fuel like Jesus to the cross*." They are using a heavily biased paraphrased text that was specifically written to make the Bible sound like an NAR textbook.

The NAR Narrative: Joy is a supernatural operating system that shifts atmospheres and pulls down earthly breakthrough.

The Actual History: Paul did not write Philippians while standing on a stage experiencing a breakthrough. He wrote it while chained to a Roman guard in a dark, filthy prison cell, facing potential execution.

Paul’s joy was not a "weapon" he was using to blast open the prison doors (like at Philippi years earlier). This time, the doors were staying shut. Paul’s joy was a quiet, supernatural contentment because he knew that even if he died in that cell, he had Jesus. It was a joy that transcended physical circumstances, not a tool used to manipulate or change them.

Philippians 4:7 *And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus*.

Notice that Paul promises peace, not a supernatural takeover. And he says this peace will guard your mind, acting like a soldier standing at the door of your heart and mind.