THE PLACE OF THE BIBLE

Posted on June 29, 2008 by Eddie

Category: Impact

Thanks to Julia who in her comment on this post, pointed me to the article *What is Anglicanism* by Henry Orombi.

> *The Bible cannot appear to us a cadaver, merely to be dissected, analyzed, and critiqued, as has been the practice of much modern higher biblical criticism. Certainly we engage in biblical scholarship and criticism, but what is important to us is the power of the Word of God precisely as the Word of Godâ€"written to bring transformation in our lives, our families, our communities, and our culture. For us, the Bible is â€œliving and active, sharper than a double-edged sword, it penetrates to dividing soul and spirits, joints and marrow, it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heartâ€ (Heb. 4:12). The transforming effect of the Bible on Ugandans has generated so much conviction and confidence that believers were martyred in the defense of the message of salvation through Jesus Christ that it brought.*
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> *For the Ugandan church to compromise Godâ€™s call of obedience to the Scriptures would be the undoing of more than 125 years of Christianity through which African life and society have been transformed. Traditional African society was solely an oral culture, which limited its ability to share ideas beyond the family level. We couldnâ€™t write our language, and there was nothing to read in our language. The first converts in Uganda were called â€œreadersâ€ because they could read the Bible, the first book available in our own languages. Because of the Bible, our languages have been enriched and recorded. For the first time, we heard God in our own languages. To this day, our people bring their Bibles to church and follow along with the readings. Read More*

The fact that the first converts in Uganda were called 'readers' is really inspiring to me and helps to reinforce how much literacy work is a central part of Bible translation. It's not good giving people books if they can't read them.

Though this article is taken from the GAFCON site, please do not assume that this implies that I take any position with regard to what is going on the the Anglican church at the moment - my interest is in the comments about Bible translation.