

**To:** Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
**From:** Kathy Glennan, ALA Representative  
**Subject:** Revisions to instructions on Parts of the Bible (6.23.2.9.2–6.23.2.9.5 and 6.23.2.9.7)

ALA thanks LC for this proposal to improve the internationalization of RDA in relation to naming books and groups of books of the Bible, and to align the treatment of the Apocrypha with the Testaments. We support the proposal, although we have a few questions and some rewording suggestions.

### ***Questions***

#### *Change 1, 6.23.2.9.2, Books:*

- Should an example from the Apocrypha be added?
- Does the word “Bible” always belong in the new example explanations, or should those explanations only contain the name of the version when that term is commonly used (e.g., “Authorized Version” and “New International Version”, *but* “Douai Bible”)?

#### *Change 5, 6.23.2.9.7, Other Selections from the Bible*

- A closer examination of the existing instruction points out an odd sequence in the rules: Testaments; Books; Groups of books; Apocrypha; Single selections; Two or more complete selections; Other selections. Is there merit in reordering the rules along hierarchical lines? This would include moving the instructions for individual books after the general instructions on Groups of books and the special instructions for the Apocrypha, and placing the instructions for single selections last.

### ***Recommended rewording:***

#### *Change 1, 6.23.2.9.2, Books:*

1. New example explanations:

ALA recommends a slightly different wording for these examples explanations.

*Currently:* Preferred title recorded by an agency using the [name of Bible version]

*Proposed:* Preferred title chosen from the [name of Bible version]

2. Proposed final paragraph:

ALA recommends using “selections from” instead of “selections of”, to match the preponderant usage of this phrase in RDA.

For a selection or selections ~~of~~from an individual book of the Bible, see [6.23.2.9.5](#) (single selections) or [6.23.2.9.7](#) (other selections), as applicable.

*Change 4, 6.23.2.9.5, Single Selections from Individual Books*

ALA recommends using the term “single selection” throughout this revised group of instructions. We also recommend removing the final paragraph in the proposed text for 6.23.2.9.5, since it does not apply to a single selection. We cannot envision a case where a single selection from the Bible would not be identified either by a title or by a numeric designation. We suggest the following revision, working from LC’s proposal:

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[6.23.2.9.5 Single Selection from Individual Books](#)

For a single selection from an individual book of the Bible, apply the following instructions, as applicable:

single selections identified by title (see 6.23.2.9.5.1)

single selections identified by numeric designation (see 6.23.2.9.5.2)

~~For selections from an individual book of the Bible not identified by a title or a numeric designation, see 6.23.2.9.7 (other selections).~~

[6.23.2.9.5.1 Single Selections Identified by Title](#)

[remainder of instruction unchanged]

[6.23.2.9.5.2 Single Selections Identified by Numeric Designation](#)

[remainder of instruction unchanged]

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[6.23.2.9.5 Single Selection from Individual Books](#)

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[6.23.2.9.5.1 Single Selection Identified by Title](#)

[Remainder of instruction unchanged]

### 6.23.2.9.5.2 Single Selection Identified by Numeric Designation

[Remainder of instruction unchanged]

*Change 5, 6.23.2.9.7, Other Selections from the Bible:*

ALA wonders if the new paragraph in the proposal is really needed; the situation should be covered by the first paragraph. In addition, the phrasing of the new paragraph could be interpreted that the term “Selections” alone should be recorded as the preferred title, instead of “Bible. Selections”. We believe that significantly restructuring this instruction would provide clarity. Our proposal below:

- starts with the current RDA text
- uses the term “*excerpts*” instead of “*extracts*” in the first paragraph; “*extracts*” currently occurs only two times in RDA (here and in 2.3.4.6)
- includes the new example proposed by LC
- proposes an exception for completeness

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### 6.23.2.9.7 Other Selections from the Bible

For other selections (including miscellaneous ~~extracts~~excerpts), record the preferred title by combining (in this order):

- a) the term *Bible*
- b) ~~use~~ the most specific title that is appropriate for the selections (see [6.23.2.9.1-6.23.2.9.6](#)), if applicable
- c) ~~followed by~~ the conventional collective title *Selections*.

Record the specific title for the part or parts by applying these instructions, as applicable:

~~Testaments (see [6.23.2.9.1](#))~~

~~books (see [6.23.2.9.2](#))~~

~~groups of books (see [6.23.2.9.3](#))~~

~~Apocrypha (see [6.23.2.9.4](#))~~

~~single selections (see [6.23.2.9.5](#))~~

~~two or more complete selections from the Bible (see [6.23.2.9.6](#)).~~

If a specific title for the part is not applicable, record *Bible*, followed by the conventional collective title *Selections*.

#### **EXAMPLE**

Bible. Selections

**Resource described:** Memorable passages from the Bible (Authorized Version) / selected and edited by Fred Newton Scott

**Bible. New Testament. Selections**

**Resource described:** The records and letters of the apostolic age : the New Testament Acts, Epistles, and Revelation in the version of 1881 / arranged for historical study by Ernest De Witt Burton

**Bible. Gospels. Selections**

**Resource described:** The message of Jesus Christ : the tradition of the early Christian communities / restored and translated into German by Martin Dibelius ; translated into English by Frederick C. Grant

**Bible. Gospels. Selections**

**Resource described:** The story of the creation : words from Genesis. **Genesis. Preferred title recorded by an agency using the Authorized Version Bible**

**Exception**

For excerpts from a single selection identified by title, record the preferred title by applying the instructions at 6.23.2.9.5.1, followed by the conventional collective title *Selections*.

**EXAMPLE**

**Sermon on the mount. Selections**

**Resource described:** Who are blessed?., or, The beginning of Christ's Sermon on the mount.  
**Contains the first 12 verses of Matthew Chapter 5.**

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