

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Translating religious texts is a complex task that demands careful consideration. It involves finding a balance between preserving the original message's spiritual and theological meaning while making it understandable to a new audience in a different language and culture. Several key factors must be taken into account, including cultural and linguistic differences, the complexity of the text, translation philosophies, decision-making, community involvement, and interpretation. When translating biblical texts, specific challenges arise from translating idiomatic expressions, parables, and proverbs, which require careful attention to linguistic, cultural, and theological nuances.

This thesis is entitled "An Analysis of Translation Techniques of Luke in The Bible from English (NIV) to Indonesian Language (TB2)". It centers on the complex task of translating biblical parables. The Gospel of Luke contains a significant collection of parables that convey profound spiritual and moral lessons. These parables have been revered for centuries in their original language. However, there is an increasing need to make them accessible to a wider, non-English-speaking audience.

Translating parables requires meticulous attention to cultural and historical context to ensure that the intended meanings are faithfully conveyed. The writer

aims to analyze the translation techniques used to transfer these messages from the New International Version (NIV) in English to the Indonesian TB2 version.

The writer chose the NIV and TB2 versions due to their status as the most recent translations in their respective languages. This choice is crucial for the novelty of the study, as no previous research has utilized these contemporary versions. By employing these up-to-date translations, the writer seeks to provide fresh insights into the translation process and contribute to the field of biblical translation studies. This version emphasizes the research aspect and the significance of using the latest versions of the Bible for the study.

In this study, the writer is challenged to explore and analyze the translation techniques used in the process of bringing these parables from English to Indonesian. Since translating parables is a challenging and difficult task to do, the aim of this research is to analyze the techniques used to translate them. The translation techniques, as articulated by Vinay and Darbelnet, have been instrumental in shaping the field of translation studies. These techniques, namely Borrowing, Calque, Literal Translation, Transposition, Modulation, Equivalence, and Adaptation, provide a structured framework for examining how the parables are rendered into another language while preserving their spiritual and moral significance. This research adopts a descriptive qualitative approach, as it aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the translation techniques employed in the English to Indonesian translation of the parables in the Gospel of Luke. The choice of a qualitative approach allows us to delve deeply into the subtleties and

complexities of translation, capturing not only the words but also the cultural and theological nuances that may be present in the source text.

The study examines 27 parables from the Gospel of Luke, totaling 192 verses, to explore the various translation methods used. It aims to understand how these techniques convey the parables' messages to an Indonesian audience. The writer will analyze each method to show how it applies to these texts.

The objective of this research is to contribute to the field of translation studies and provide a valuable resource for those engaged in the complex task of translating religious texts. Moreover, this study aims to explore the challenges and opportunities in translating spiritual and moral narratives across different languages and cultures. The following sections will give an overview of translation techniques, analyze selected parables, and discuss the implications of the findings. By the end of this study, the researcher hopes to provide a nuanced understanding of translating religious parables while staying true to their original messages.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study and the brief introduction, the writer formulates a research question which is “According to Vinay and Darbelnet’s theory, what translation techniques used in the translation of parables in Gospel of Luke from Source Language (SL) in English into the Target Language (TL) in Indonesian?”. Another research question is that, “How are the translation result of

using translation techniques of Borrowing, Calque, Literal Translation, Transposition, Modulation, Equivalence, and Adaptation?”

These research questions are raised due to the reason stated in the introduction, that parables are challenging to translate. Parables consist of cultural and historical specific meaning. As the result, the translation result must accurately convey the context to maintain the intended meaning. For this reason, the writer examines the translation techniques used to translate the parables, specifically based on Vinay and Darbelnet's theory.

1.3. Purpose of the Study

The writer will identify the translation techniques utilized in translating the parables in Gospel of Luke from English SL into Indonesian TL based on Vinay and Darbelnet's translation theoretical framework. By examining and analyzing the text, this research aims to determine which specific translation techniques are employed and how they are translated, shedding light on the prevalent linguistic and cultural adaptation strategies. This examination seeks to enhance the understanding of the translation process, with the focus on the techniques that play a prominent role in rendering the parables in Gospel of Luke into Indonesian TL. This research is hoped to give valuable contribution and insights to the field of translation studies, especially biblical translation.

1.4. The Importance of the Study

There are some significances of this study. Firstly, this research will contribute to the translation studies by looking at how the parables in Gospel of Luke are translated from English SL into Indonesian TL using Vinay and Darbelnet's translation techniques. The use of the techniques also shows a better understanding of how languages and cultures are adapted. Secondly, the study can show how certain ways of translating affect how clear and meaningful religious texts, such as Gospel, are. As the result, it can also be helpful for translators, scholars, and religious educators who want to make sure that the messages delivered faithfully and effectively.

In the field of translation, this research hopefully adds to the communication and understanding between different cultures and how language can be equivalent across them. It shows both the difficulties and possibilities when translating sacred texts from one language and culture to another. In simple terms, by exploring how the Gospel of Luke is translated into Indonesian. This study also aims to help us understand more about translation, with possible impacts on religious and cultural situations.

1.5. Methodology of the Study

The methodology employed in this research is integral to achieving a comprehensive analysis of the translation techniques applied to the parables of Luke in the Bible during their transformation from English as the Source

Language (SL) to Indonesian as the Target Language (TL). The approach selected is grounded in descriptive qualitative research, offering a systematic framework for in-depth examination and interpretation. Qualitative research addresses the meaning individuals ascribe to a problem, often conducted in a natural setting and frequently informed by an interpretative theoretical framework to guide the methodology (Creswell & Poth, 2018).

1.6. The Scope and Limitations of the Study

This research is focused on specific passages from the Gospel of Luke in the Bible from English Source Language in *New International Version* (Society A. B., 2011) and their translation in TL of *Alkitab Terjemahan Baru 2* (Society I. B., 2024) in Indonesian. There are four parts of parables in Gospel of Luke according to Reich (2011). They are

1. The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37): This parable teaches the importance of showing love and compassion to one's neighbour, regardless of their background or social status (p. 75);
2. The Parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:16-21): This parable warns against the dangers of accumulating wealth and neglecting spiritual matters (p. 16);
3. The Parable of the Mustard Seed (Luke 13:18-19): This parable compares the kingdom of heaven to a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds but grows into a large tree that provides shelter for birds (p. 129); and

4. The Parable of the Great Dinner (Luke 14:15-24): This parable teaches about the importance of inviting the poor, the crippled, and the blind to a banquet, as they are more likely to appreciate the invitation and show gratitude (p. 75).

The study is limited to the specific passages contain parables in these types for a more focused and detailed analysis. Other parables or sections from the book of Luke are not included in this research. This study also refers to the translation techniques based on Vinay and Dalbernet's theory which are considered complete and are used or applied commonly in translation processes. It is explained that the translators create connections between two languages during translation and find a way to express it in different language that can change and adapt (Vinay & Dalbernet, 1995, p. 30). That is why translation methodology is crucial according to them.

1.7. The Status of the Study

The current study draws attention to the status of a prior research project titled "A Translation Analysis of Parables of Matthew in The Bible from English to Indonesian" conducted by Surbakti Boni Stefen at Universitas Sumatera Utara in 2015 (Surbakti, Muchtar, & Mono, 2015). While both studies may appear similar in terms of employing translation analysis methods, it is crucial to note the inherent differences between the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, stemming from fundamental variations in their authors.

This study focuses on translating stories from the Gospel of Luke, while a previous study by Stefen examined the translation of stories from the Gospel of Matthew. The key differences arise from the distinct content in each Gospel and the fact that they were written by different authors. Understanding these variations is crucial as it impacts the unique challenges faced in translating the parables, shaping the approach and choices made in each study. In essence, the study explores how stories in Luke are translated, offering insights distinct from the prior research on Matthew due to the fundamental disparities in their content and authorship.

This study delves into the translation of stories from the Gospel of Luke, differing from a previous examination of stories from the Gospel of Matthew. The distinct content and authorship of each Gospel shape unique challenges in translation. Notably, the writer introduces a fresh dimension by incorporating the Terjemahan Baru 2 translation, enriching the study with additional nuances. This addition aims to provide a more comprehensive understanding of how the parables in the Gospel of Luke are translated, offering insights distinct from prior research on Matthew.

There are also some other previous studies used as both references and the foundation of this new research. There is Darrell L. Whiteman's research on "Bible Translation and Social and Cultural Development" (Whiteman, 1990) is also taken into account on this research, since the socio-cultural aspects are very important in Bible translation. Lourens De Vries in "Bible Translation and Primary Orality" (Vries, 2000) shows how Bible translation needs consideration,

especially regarding the place where the oral speech culture is used. This paper also shows the importance of translation methods. Robert Hodgson in “Semiotics and Bible Translation” (Hodgson, 2007) applies semiotics theory of Peirce in the Bible translation. Again, it is important in the Bible translation where it involves signs and symbols in the verses which need to be translated well. “Penerjemahan Teks *The Gospel According to Matthew* ke Dalam Teks Bahasa Indonesia” by Bena Yusuf Pelawi (Pelawi, 2014). This research is from Indonesian perspective on how the Gospel of Matthew is translated. The last research being used as the previous study is “Translation Methods Found in New Testament Bible of Mark’s Gospel” by Ni Wayan Swarniti (Swarniti, 2021) which focuses on the translation methods specifically used in the Gospel of Mark.

1.8. Organization of the Study

This research consists of four parts. The first chapter is an introduction, which consists of background, statements of the problem, the purpose of the study, the significance of the study, methodology of the study, scope and limitations of research, status of the study and organization of the study. The second chapter is the review of related literature that will be used to analyze translations. The third chapter is an analysis of the translation techniques used in translating the parables in the Gospel of Luke. The final chapter of this study is conclusion and suggestion.