A Note on Translations and Abbreviations

The Bible is quoted when possible from the Authorized Version, except for the psalms, which are normally taken from the Book of Common Prayer. The commentators and glossators from the earliest days of Christianity were working mainly on Hebrew, Greek and Latin texts which might either give different meanings from the ones best known, or else might be open to other meanings and other ambiguities. Different versions are therefore used when necessary, including a few which I have made myself.

Everything in languages other than English is given in translation: the translations are mine unless specifically attributed to someone else.


The following abbreviations are used in the footnotes:

TLF: Textes Littéraires Français, published by Droz, Geneva. Quotations from Rabelais are normally by chapter and line.


M.A.S.: an allusion to a book or article of my own.
This book has been so written that the footnotes may be completely ignored by any reader who does not want to take matters further.