



The Bible its Origin and Transmission

A Topical Study – Part 2

Calvary Chapel Portsmouth

The Bible

its Origin and Transmission

- What is the Bible?
- Where did it come from?
- How did we get it?
- Bible translations
 - What you need to know!



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The Bible

- Most printed book in history
 - Estimates range from 5-7 billion!
- Most translated book in the world!
 - As of May 2025, translated into 774 languages
 - at least some part of the Bible is available in over 3,887 languages
 - Over 900 translations into English alone!
- Best selling book of the year
 - Every year!
- Profound impact on cultures, the rule of law, languages, everyday expressions.
 - Over 250 common English expressions derive from the KJV

The Honour of the Jews

- 1 What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision?
- 2 Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.

Romans 3:1-2

- The Jews were entrusted with the task of faithfully ensuring the Word of God be passed down for future generations.

Preserved!

With the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls in 1947 the accuracy of the Old Testament was confirmed.

It had been faithfully preserved and transmitted down through the generations



The History of the English Bible

Careful copies made & spread around the world

John Wycliffe. 1380 A.D.
1st (hand copied) translation of the Bible in English

New Testament books written

Erasmus exposes the Vulgate; Over 5000 copies (known as *Textus Receptus*) are found to agree in nearly all but spelling

68 A.D.

325 A.D.

400 A.D.

1200 A.D.

1516 A.D.

1611 A.D.

1881 A.D.

Life of Christ

Alexandrian cult arises in Egypt & makes their own version of the 'bible'
Origen is primary proponent c.240 A.D.

*Alexandrinus

Jerome's Latin Vulgate translated c.400 A.D.

Council of Nicea c.325 A.D.
Council of Hippo c.393 A.D.

Gutenberg's Printing Press 1440 A.D.

>Coverdale Bible
>Matthew's Bible
>The Great Bible
>The Geneva Bible
>King James Bible

The King James Bible

"Truly (good Christian Reader) we never thought from the beginning, that we should need to make a new Translation, nor yet to make of a bad one a good one,...but to make a good one better, or out of many good ones, one principal good one, not justly to be excepted against, that hath been our endeavour."

The Translators of the King James Bible

The King James Bible

"Neither did we think much to consult the Translators or Commentators, Chaldee, Hebrew, Syrian, Greek, or Latin, no nor the Spanish, French, Italian, or Dutch"

- The Greek editions of Erasmus, Stephanus, and Beza were all accessible, as were numerous other versions

The King James Bible

“Neither did we disdain to revise that which we had done, and to bring back to the anvil that which we had hammered: but having and using as great helps as were needful, and fearing no reproach for slowness, nor coveting praise for expedition, we have at the length, through the good hand of the Lord upon us, brought the work to that pass that you see”

The History of the English Bible

Careful copies made & spread around the world

John Wycliffe. 1380 A.D.
1st (hand copied) translation of the Bible in English

In 1610 The Roman Catholic Church produces the Douay-Rheims English translation from the Vulgate

New Testament books written

Erasmus exposes the Vulgate; Over 5000 copies (known as *Textus Receptus*) are found to agree in nearly all but spelling

68 A.D. 325 A.D. 400 A.D. 1200 A.D. 1516 A.D. 1611 A.D. 1859 A.D.

Life of Christ

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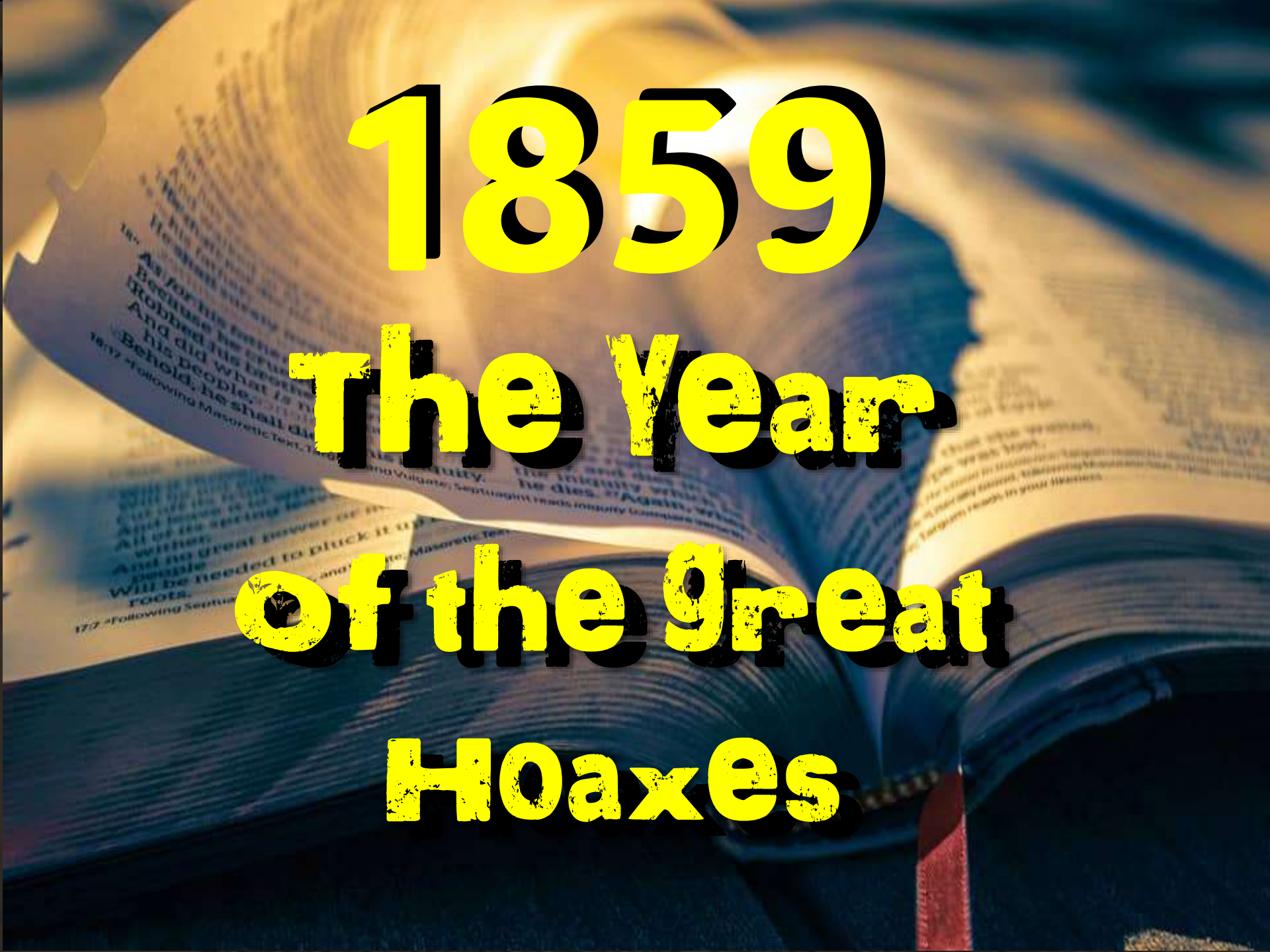
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The Catholic Church & the KJV

- The Roman Catholic Church viewed with disdain the production of the KJV
- It was seen as advancing the protestant agenda
- It was seen as anti-Catholic
 - Some of its dedicatory remarks even referred to the Pope as the "Man of Sin."
- It had not been approved by a Catholic bishop or the Holy See, so was not valid.
- It did not include the Apocrypha
- The RC Church did not control the narrative!
 - No control over its widespread circulation or accompanying commentaries
 - The Pope is seen as the ultimate authority on interpreting and applying the Bible's teachings



1859

The Year

of the Great

Hoaxes

The Great Hoaxes of 1859

- The year 1859 saw two great deceptions foisted upon the world.
- 1) Firstly, it was the year Charles Darwin published his famous work: *"On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life"*
- 2) Secondly, it was the year Constantin von Tischendorf 'discovered' a complete copy of the New Testament (purporting to be the oldest complete mss dating to 400 A.D.) at St. Catherine's Monastery at the foot of Mount Sinai.
 - This manuscript is known as Codex Sinaiticus

Tischendorf's lucky discovery!

- So the story goes...
- Tischendorf visited the monastery at Mt Sinai and found pages of a manuscript, written on vellum (calfskin) in a waste bin, ready to be burned.

"Tischendorf described it. 'I perceived a large and wide basket full of old parchments; and the librarian told me that two heaps like this had been already committed to the flames. What was my surprise to find amid this heap of papers...'"

– Narrative of the Discovery of the Sinaitic Manuscript, p. 23

Tischendorf's lucky discovery!

- So the story goes...
- Tischendorf visited the monastery at Mt Sinai and found pages of a manuscript, written on vellum (calfskin) in a waste bin, ready to be burned.
 - **FAKE NEWS ALERT!**
 - How come the monks at the monastery, who prized their manuscripts didn't know what this was?
 - Why was it in a waste bin to be burned?
 - Fact:
 - Vellum is often described as being **fire-resistant**
 - If you try to burn vellum, it will produce a very strong, unpleasant smell, due it burning animal matter.
- Something smells wrong with this story!

Tischendorf's lucky discovery!

- The plot thickens when we realise that Tischendorf (a protestant) was invited to the Vatican, and encouraged (and seemingly funded) to undertake this expedition in search of ancient texts of the Bible!
- He just so happens to arrive at a Catholic monastery and, (Behold!) there is one waiting to be discovered!

Enter Simonides!

- Constantine Simonides was an excellent palaeocalligraphist (expert in writing in the style of Greek uncial palaeocalligraphy)
 - ‘Uncial’ is simply the form of Greek writing that only uses capital letters
- Some years earlier he had been commissioned to write a copy of the New Testament on the ruse it was to be a gift for the Tsar Nicolas I of Russia.
- He was supplied with a bound ancient codex whose vellum leaves were entirely blank.
- *“The exemplars that he copied from were woefully corrupt, being mostly of Alexandrian gnostic origin”*

Bill Cooper - -

- Simonides either didn't know or didn't care – he was being paid!
- But it begs the question, why was he given these mss. to copy from?

The Missing Gift

- Needless to say, Tsar Nicolas I of Russia never received his 'gift'.
- When the manuscript reappeared, (not yet knowing what was to be claimed of it) Simonides was Surprised at its altered appearance.
 - The dedication to Nicholas I had been removed, and the whole codex had been made artificially to look much older than it was.
- Tischendorf (who discovered the mss.) refuted Simonides' claim to be the author
 - but the evidence is strongly in Simonides favor:

Wormholes & Blemishes

- Over time any ancient manuscript can suffer from various effects of age.
 - Tiny worms eat through the material leaving holes.
 - Other imperfections appear.
- The fascinating thing about Codex Sinaiticus is that in multiple places, the text is written around pre-existing wormholes, and in at least one instance the line of text is actually bent upwards to avoid a hole.
 - This would not be the case if the Codex and writing were of the same age
- In 2011 the British Library completed its work of digitizing the Codex Sinaiticus
 - A printed facsimile is now available to view online

Sinaiticus Death Knell!

- If all of this were not enough to show a forgery and conspiracy are at play, there is another telling fact.
- The Shepherd of Hermas is an early Christian work that was compiled over a period of time, generally placed in the 2nd century B.C.
- When, in 1859 the final part of Sinaiticus was discovered, bound within it was a copy of 'Hermes'
- BUT...
- It was not a copy of the original Greek text but rather a mediaeval Latin text that had been retranslated back into Greek.
- It was proof that Sinaiticus was not a 4th Century work!

Codex Sinaiticus aka 'A'



Partly resides in the British Library

Codex Vaticanus aka 'B'



Resides in the Vatican Library

Codex Vaticanus

- Since the 15th Century Codex Vaticanus has been recorded in the collection of books and codices in the Vatican library
 - Like Sinaiticus it is purported to contain a 4th Century text of the New Testament
- However, access for scholarly study was severely restricted before the 19th century.
 - This meant that although the Vatican claimed to have it, no one could independently verify it.
- Vaticanus wasn't published until 1857, paving the way for Sinaiticus just two years later!
 - Sinaiticus became the support the Catholic Church needed to 'verify' Vaticanus as 'genuine'

Hallmarks of a Conspiracy!

- “According to Tischendorf, there are in *Codex Sinaiticus* six cancel leaves of the New Testament which had been written by another hand”.
- That is, six sections where the original has been removed, and a re-written section inserted in its place.
- It was Tischendorf himself who blew the whistle on the fact the scribe who had re-written the sections in *Sinaiticus* was the same hand that had written the New Testament in *Vaticanus*!
 - This pulls the rug from the 4th century provenance of *Vaticanus* and shows it*, like *Sinaiticus* to be a 19th Century forgery!

*the copy we have today



But Why?

16/17 Following Masoretic Text
As for his father
Because he crucified
Robbed his grave
And did what is
his people.
Behold, he shall
16/17 Following Septuagint, Syriac, and Vulgate, Masoretic Text
Will be needed to pluck it up
people
roots.
17/7 Following Septuagint, Syriac, and Vulgate, Masoretic Text

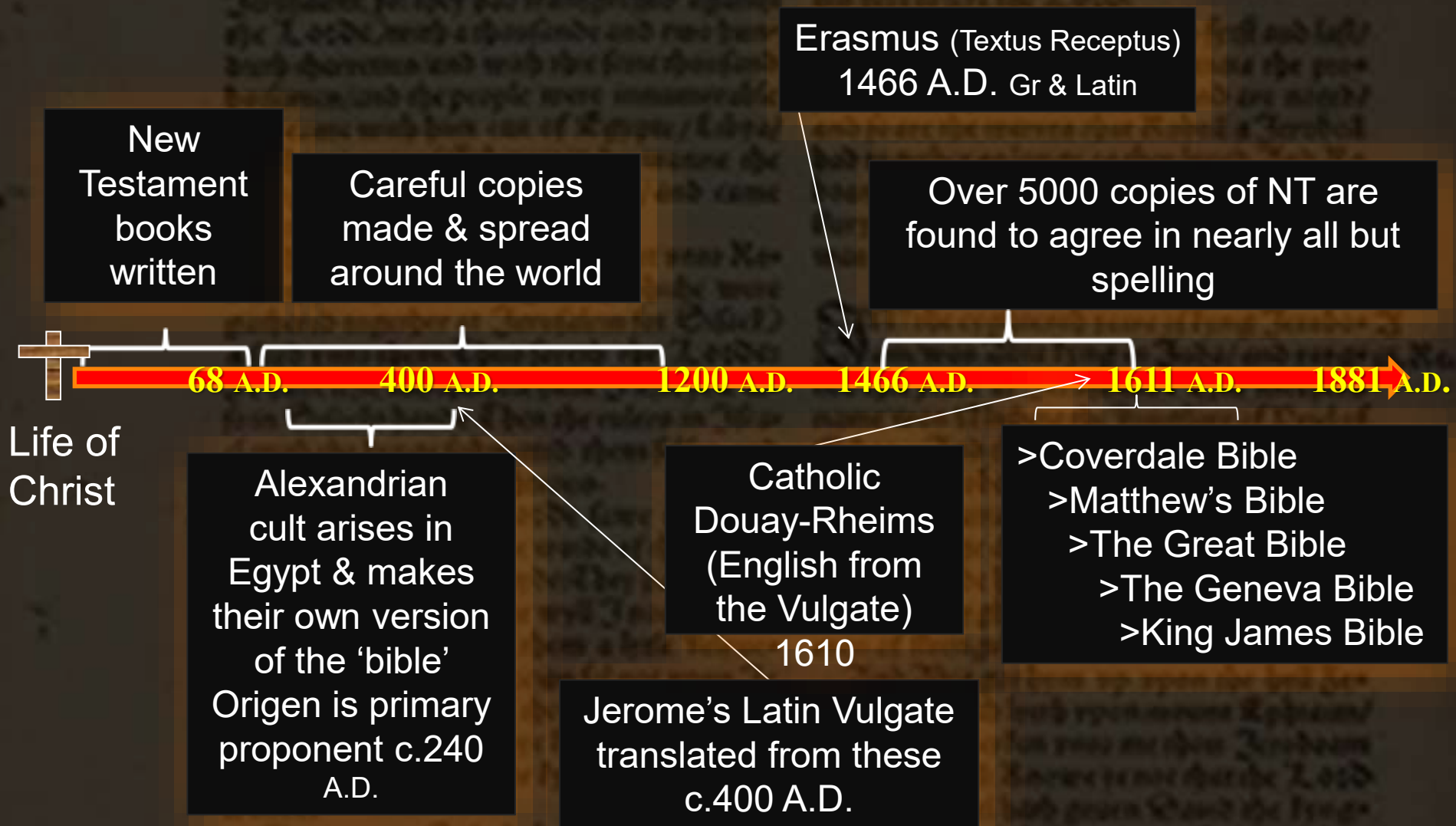
Why Such and Elaborate Plan?

- Why would that Vatican concoct such an elaborate plan?
- *“The Vatican had tried unsuccessfully for 300 years to overthrow the Reformation Bible”*
— Bill Cooper
- The ‘backbone’ of the Reformation Bible was the Textus Receptus. If that could be discredited, the theory was, that the protestant Bible would be exposed as being in error and not to be trusted.

Why Such and Elaborate Plan?

- Enjoying his new-found fame, Tischendorf boldly stated:
- *“We have at last hit upon a better plan even than this, which is to set aside this textus receptus altogether, and to construct a fresh text, derived immediately from the most ancient and authoritative sources”* - Tischendorf
- Thus, the wheels were in motion to produce a new English translation, not from the beloved Textus Receptus, but from Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus

The History of the English Bible



The Textus Receptus fuelled a wave of new translations across Europe

Sinaiticus & Vaticanus

"The impurity of the text exhibited by these codices is not a question of opinion but fact...In the Gospels alone, Codex B (Vatican) leaves out words or whole clauses no less than 1,491 times. It bears traces of careless transcriptions on every page..."

– John William Burgon 1813-1888.

- Dean of Chichester Cathedral in 1876

"It is in fact easier to find two consecutive verses in which these two MSS differ the one from the other, than two consecutive verses in which they entirely agree."

Sinaiticus

"Tischendorf, the discoverer of the Sinaiticus manuscript, noted at least 14,800 changes which had been made on this manuscript by others than the original copyist"

– David Brown, *The Great Uncials*, 2000

Vaticanus

"It should be noted . . . that there is no prominent Biblical (manuscripts) in which there occurs such gross cases of misspelling, faulty grammar, and omission, as in (Codex) B."

– The Westminster Dictionary of the Bible

Vaticanus

"The entire manuscript has been mutilated... every letter has been run over with a pen, making exact identification of many of the characters impossible"

"I question the 'great witness' value of any manuscript that has been overwritten, doctored, changed and added to for more than ten centuries."

– Dr. David Brown *The Great Uncials.*

Vaticanus

*" Similar to Codex Sinaiticus, Codex Vaticanus identifies itself as a product of gnostic corruption in John 1:18, where **"the only begotten Son"** is changed to **"the only begotten God,"** thus perpetuating the ancient Arian heresy that disassociates the Son of God Jesus Christ from God Himself by claiming that the Word was not the same as the Son. John's Gospel identifies the Son directly with the Word (John 1:1, 18), but by changing "Son" to "God" in verse 18, this direct association is broken"*

Sinaiticus & Vaticanus

- According to Herman C. Hoskier, there are, 3,036 textual variations between Sinaiticus and Vaticanus in the text of the Gospels alone
- Some estimate over 9000 discrepancies between these two principle Alexandrian manuscripts

Points to Ponder

- 128 Papyrus fragment manuscripts have been discovered
- 13 of them(15%) go along with B (Vaticanus) and Aleph (Sinaiticus)
- 75(85%) go along with the Received Text

Points to Ponder

- Cursive manuscripts (Minuscule's) are written in long hand or cursive
 - joined up writing
- Currently 2907 Miniscule codices extant
- 23 of them < 1% go against the TR

Points to Ponder

- Uncial manuscripts are Greek MSS written in capital letters which run together ,
 - no punctuation marks no spaces
- Currently 267 Uncial MSS extant
- 258 out of 267 are the same as the TR
- That's 97%!

Points to Ponder

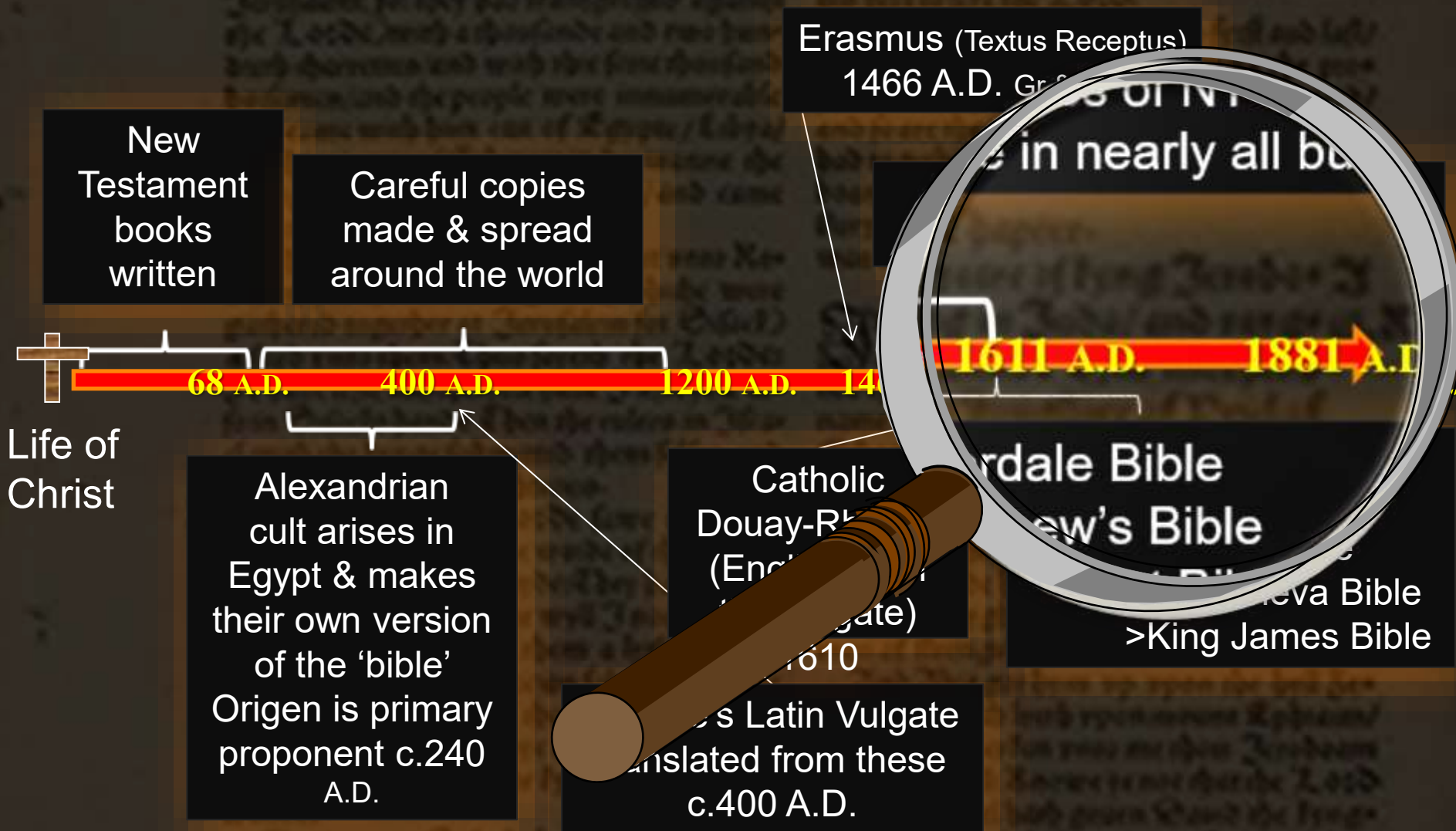
- Lectionaries are portions of scripture that were repeatedly read in church on certain days.
- All of them go along with the TR!

Corruption Warning!

17 For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God, but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.

2 Corinthians 2:17

The History of the English Bible



The Textus Receptus fuelled a wave of new translations across Europe

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- Thus, the wheels were in motion to produce a new English translation, not from the beloved Textus Receptus, but from Codex Sinaiticus and Codex Vaticanus

The Revised Version

- In 1881 the Revised Version was published...
- Brooke Foss Westcott and Fenton John Anthony Hort, (Wescott and Hort) played a pivotal role.
- Their groundbreaking work on the Greek text of the New Testament, formed the textual basis for the RV.
- Before their work, English translations largely relied on the Textus Receptus.
- Their work represented a significant shift in biblical scholarship and laid the groundwork for almost all subsequent major English Bible translations.
 - Their source?
 - Sinaiticus and Vaticanus!

Westcott & Hort

- Brooke Foss Westcott (1825-1903)
- Fenton John Anthony Hort (1828-1892)
 - Both served as Anglican priests and taught at Cambridge
- Rejected Genesis as historical
- Supported the view of Darwinian Evolution
- Questioned a literal Devil and rejected a literal Hell
- Yet supported the Catholic doctrine of Purgatory!

Westcott & Hort

- Rejected the basis of the Atonement
- Yet believed in "baptismal regeneration"
- Questioned the historical figure of David
- Relegated the Second Coming to 'just spiritual'
- Westcott and Hort were leaders of a society focused on the paranormal
 - this later became the Cambridge Ghost Society

Westcott & Hort

In 1853, two years after founding said Ghost Society, F.J.A. Hort and B. F. Westcott agreed, upon the suggestion of publisher Daniel Macmillan, to take part in "an interesting and comprehensive 'New Testament Scheme,'" that is, to undertake a joint revision of the Greek New Testament.

"They determined to replace the King James Bible and the Greek Textus Receptus. In short, their theory suggests that for fifteen hundred years the preserved Word of God was lost until it was recovered in the nineteenth century in a trash can and in the Vatican Library."

Westcott & Hort

“The project was withheld from public knowledge during the twenty years required by Westcott and Hort to complete the New Greek Text and during the subsequent ten years during which an English Revision Committee revised the 1611 Authorized Version.”

Westcott & Hort

“However, during this period of nearly thirty years, Drs. Westcott and Hort maintained their involvement in the Spiritualist pursuits of their various secret societies and political cabals: the Hermes Club, Ghost Society, Company of Apostles, and Eranus.

Westcott & Hort

“Westcott and Hort were responsible for the greatest feat in textual criticism. They were responsible for replacing the Universal Text of the Authorized Version with the Local Text of Egypt and the Roman Catholic Church”

“They had been deceived into believing that the ‘Roman Catholic’ manuscripts, Vaticanus and Aleph, were better because they were “older.””

- Chuck Missler

Westcott & Hort

“When the apostate scholars, Westcott and Hort, set about their self-appointed task of undermining the Textus Receptus, they did their job thoroughly.

The immediate result in their own day was a profound distrust toward the New Testament at all levels of society in both Britain and America. They must have been astonished at their own success.

Their ‘Revised Version’ of 1881 achieved at a stroke what the Jesuits had been labouring toward for centuries, and the critics have never looked back”

— Bill Cooper

Preface to the RSV

The King James Version has with good reason been termed "the noblest monument of English prose." Its revisers in 1881 expressed admiration for "its simplicity, its dignity, its power, its happy turns of expression . . . the music of its cadences, and the felicities of its rhythm." It entered, as no other book has, into the making of the personal character and the public institutions of the English-speaking peoples. We owe to it an incalculable debt.

Yet the King James Version has grave defects. By the middle of the nineteenth century, the development of Biblical studies and the discovery of many manuscripts more ancient than those upon which the King James Version was based, made it manifest that these defects are so many and so serious as to call for revision of the English translation. The task was undertaken, by authority of the Church of England, in 1870. The English Revised Version of the Bible was published in 1881-1885; and the American Standard Version, its variant embodying the preferences of the American scholars associated in the work, was published in 1901.

Old Testament Transmission

*Original
Manuscripts*



Numerous faithful copies



*Masoretic
Ben Chayyim*



**KJV
1611 A.D.**

The word "masoretic" comes from the Hebrew word "mesor" meaning traditional.

The Masoretes were the scribes who were given the responsibility of guarding and keeping the text of the Old Testament

Old Testament Transmission

*Original
Manuscripts*



The Ben Chayyim Masoretic text was the uncontested text of the Old Testament for over four hundred years.

The Ben Chayyim text was used in the first two editions of "Biblia Hebraica" by Rudolph Kittel, usually referred to as BHK, published in 1906 and 1912



KJV

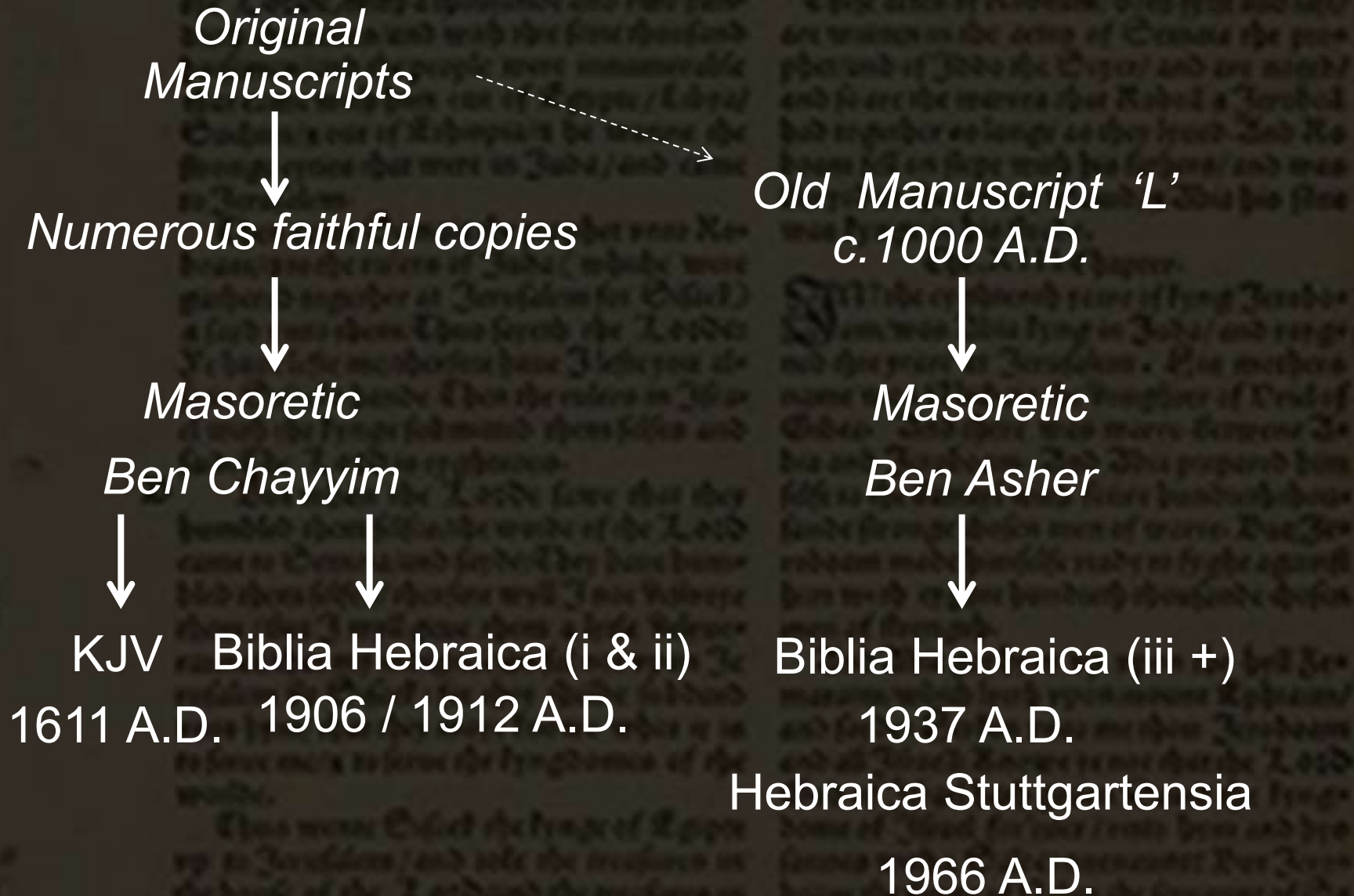
1611 A.D.



Biblia Hebraica (i & ii)

1906 / 1912 A.D.

Old Testament Transmission



Old Testament Transmission

In 1937, Kittel changed his Hebrew text from the Ben Chayyim to the Ben Asher text.

The Ben Asher text was based on a text call the Leningrad Manuscript which was dated around 1008 A. D. Using the peculiar logic of that day, which believed that older must always be better... His 1937 edition had about 20,000 changes from the Ben Chayyim text... It had apparently not dawned on Kittel that the Ben Asher version was based on very few minor manuscripts, while the Ben Chayyim text followed the vast majority of the manuscripts available.

Why would Kittel throw out the evidence provided by the vast majority of manuscripts to follow only a small minority of texts?

Translation or Opinion?

“In 1966 there was a further revision of Kittel's "Biblia Hebraica" called "Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia," which was also based on the "older" Ben Asher text. This new edition of Kittel is generally referred to as 'BHS'.

The revision was the work of unbelieving German rationalists, and represents theologically liberal modernism in its worst form”

Preserved

“So then, our only choice is between the traditional Hebrew Masoretic Text that has been the standard text of the Old Testament for well over two thousand years, and is represented by the vast majority of the existing Old Testament manuscripts, or the new, modern text that has only a little minor manuscript support, and leaves out or changes between 20,000 and 30,000 words in the Old Testament. The choice is obvious, only the Traditional (Ben Chayyim) Text can lay claim to uninterrupted use for all the generations from the time of David (Psalm 12) until now”.



Does It Really matter?

Preface to the NKJV

“Since the 1880s most contemporary translations of the NT have relied upon a relatively few manuscripts discovered chiefly in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Such translations depend primarily on two manuscripts, Codex Vaticanus and Codex Sinaiticus, because of their greater age...

The Greek text obtained by using these sources and the related papyri (our most ancient manuscripts) is known as the Alexandrian Text.”

Preface to the NKJV

of and Codex Sinaiticus, because of their greater age. The Greek text obtained by using these sources and the related papyri (our most ancient manuscripts) is known as the Alexandrian Text. However, some scholars have grounds for doubting the faithfulness of Vaticanus and Sinaiticus, since they often disagree with one another, and Sinaiticus exhibits its excessive omission.

A third viewpoint of New Testament scholars

- Scholars doubt their faithfulness!
- They often disagree with one another!
- Sinaiticus exhibits excessive omission!
- *So why should anyone want to use these manuscripts?*
 - and the versions that come from them?

Mark's Missing Resurrection

Sinaiticus

Vaticanus

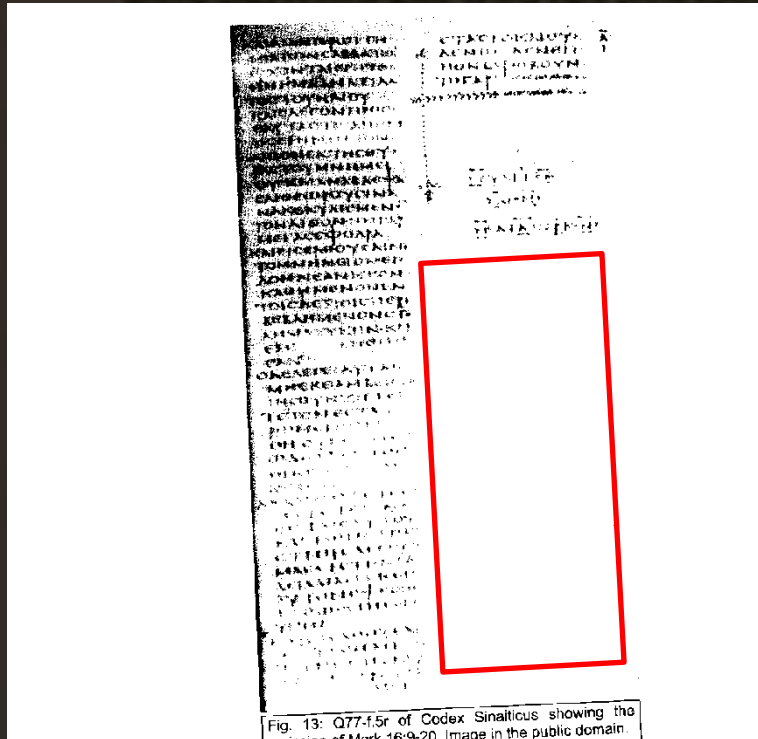


Fig. 13: Q77-15r of Codex Sinaiticus showing the omission of Mark 16:9-20. Image in the public domain.

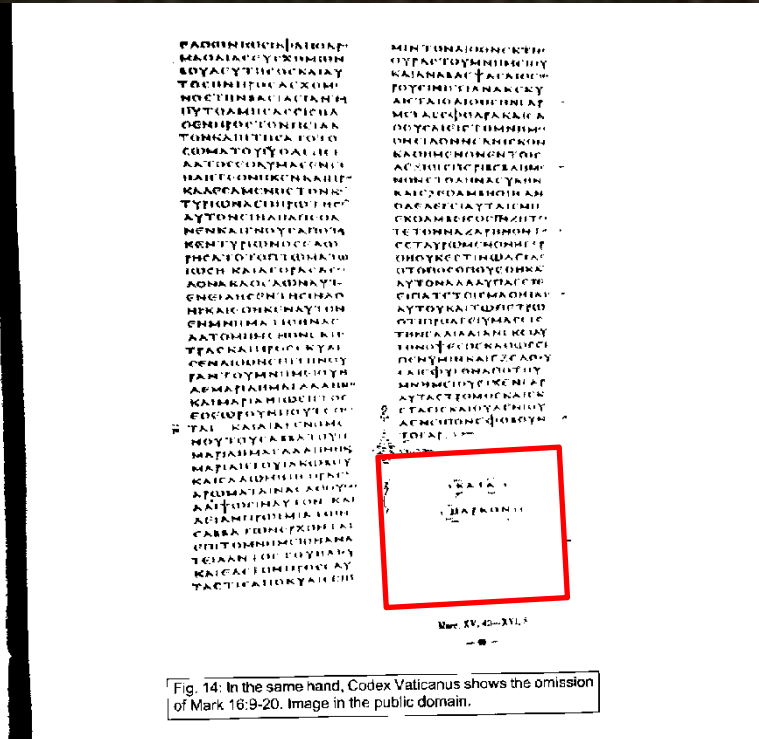
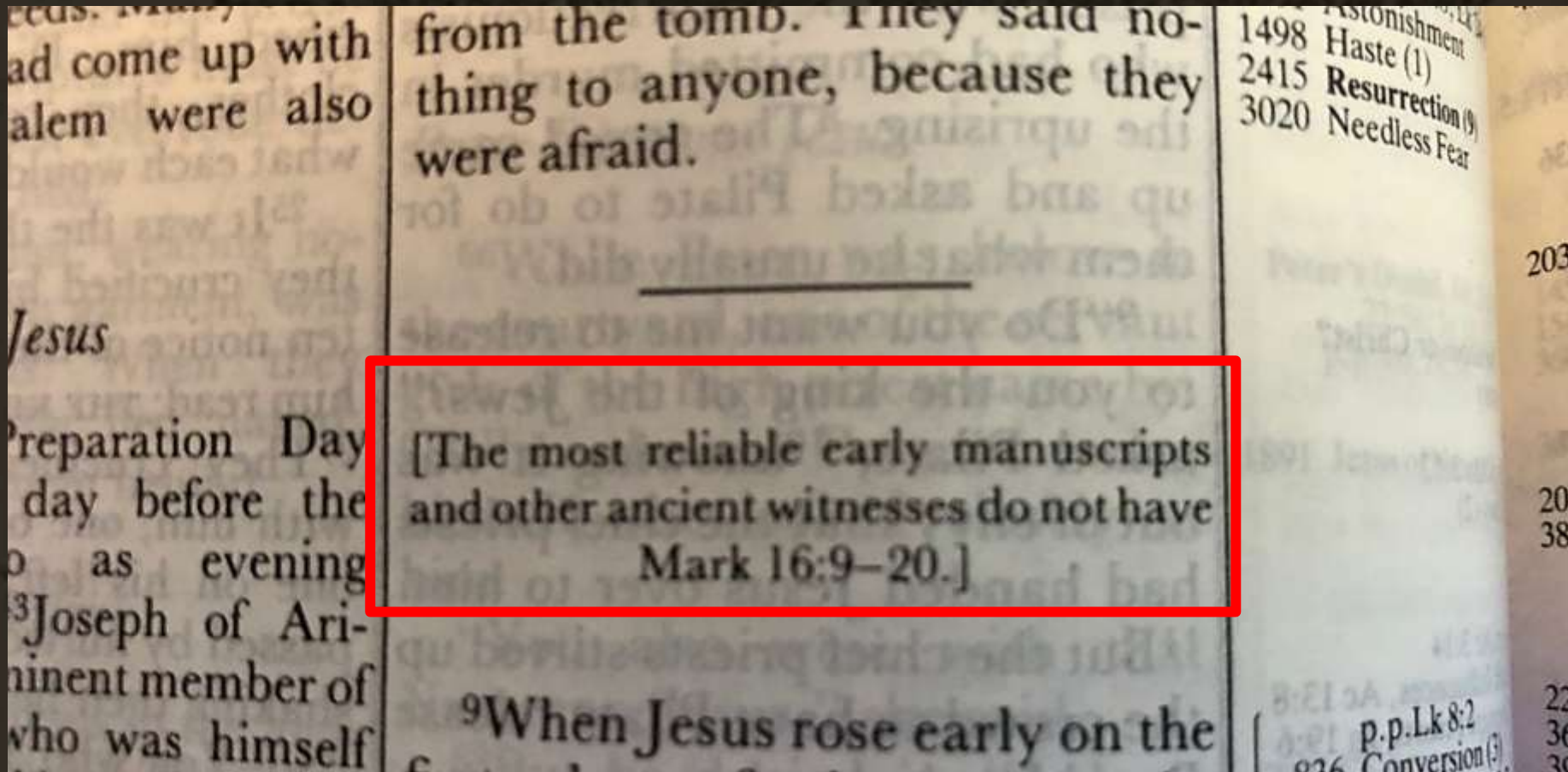


Fig. 14: In the same hand, Codex Vaticanus shows the omission of Mark 16:9-20. Image in the public domain.

- Original 'pages' removed from Sinaiticus and replaced with section omitting Mark 16:9-20
 - Insertion in Sinaiticus written by Vaticanus scribe
 - Vaticanus scribe must have been living mid 19th C.

Mark 16:9-20

- NIV



– Most reliable?... and other?

Mark 16:9-20

- NCV

going into Galilee ahead of you, and you will see him there as he told you before.' ”

⁸The women were confused and shaking with fear, so they left the tomb and ran away. They did not tell anyone about what happened, because they were afraid.

Verses 9–20 are not included in two of the best and oldest Greek copies of Mark.

– Best and oldest?

Mark 16:9-20

- NKJ

of Jō'sēs ob- as laid. n the Sabbath Mary Mag'da- ther of James, ght spices, that e and anoint	9 ^a Luke 8:2 1Vv. 9-20 are bracketed in NU as not in the orig- inal text. They are lacking in Co- dex Sinaiticus and Codex Vati- canus, although nearly all other mss. of Mark con- tain them.	11 ^a And when was alive and her, they did n 12 After that, other form ^a t they walked country. 13 And they
--	--	---

- Not in 'the' original text?
- "Nealy all other mss. of Mark contain them."

1 John 5:7-8 (the Johanan Comer)

- ⁷ For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.
- ⁸ And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

1 John 5:7-8

- *“For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood: and these three agree”* **ESV**

^a7, 8 Late manuscripts of the Vulgate testify in heaven: the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one.
⁸ And there are three that testify on earth: the ~~(not found in any Greek manuscript before the sixteenth century)~~

- *“⁷ For there are three that testify: ⁸ the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement”*. **NASB**

1 John 5:7-8 (the Johanan Comer)

- *Not found in any Greek manuscript before the 16th C?*
- It appears in the writing of Theophilus of Antioch 180 A.D.
- It is quoted by Cyprian, at Carthage, in 250AD
- It is part of the text for Latin manuscript 'R' c. 300 A.D.
- It's quoted by two Spanish bishops in 385 AD, (Prisillian and Adatious Clarus).
- It is quoted by many African bishops in the fourth century (430 to 480 AD) in arguments against Arianism.
- It's quoted by Casiadorus a church leader in Italy in 480 AD
- There is a Greek grammatical structural problem if you remove it.
- It is used satirically by Lucian of Samasata c.116 A.D. (46y)

9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

Revelation 5:9-10

- A trivial point?
- Part of a wider deception?

Them or Us?

- Verses 9 & 10 have caused some controversy in the past.
- Many modern versions have a note in the margin saying that the '*best manuscripts*' or '*the most ancient manuscripts*' or '*the most authoritative manuscripts*' say: 'them'.
 - Some have 'them' without even a footnote!
- This is important because if it's 'us' then the Church is in Heaven before the Tribulation starts.

Them or Us?

- The English translation we have for the book of Revelation was actually done from 95 Greek manuscripts – not all of them were complete.
- Now scholars will be quick to tell you that only 23 of the 95 manuscripts say 'us' in verses 9-10 of chapter 5.
- On the surface this appears to be a problem, but as they say: 'a little bit of knowledge is a dangerous thing';

Them or Us?

- We find out that out of the 95 Greek manuscripts used, only 24 manuscripts have chapter 5 verses 9-10 in them, and out of those 24, 23 of them say 'Us'
 - the only Greek manuscript that says 'them' is the Alexandrinus, from Alexandra in Egypt – the home of the Gnostics!
 - Even the Siniaticus says 'Us'! This means that over 95% of the earliest manuscripts say 'us' – placing the Church firmly in Heaven before the Tribulation.
- There is just one manuscript, from a place that was renowned for false doctrine, says 'them'.
- Sadly, most modern versions follow this corrupt manuscript.

The Best Manuscripts?

What do all these verses have in common?

- Matthew 5:44
- Matthew 17:21
- Matthew 18:11
- Matthew 27:2
- Matthew 27:35
- Mark 3:15
- Mark 7:16
- Luke 7:28
- Luke 9:55
- Luke 9:56
- Luke 22:14
- Luke 23:38
- Luke 24:42
- John 3:13
- John 5:4
- John 7:50
- Acts 8:37
- Acts 9:6
- Acts 15:34.
- Acts 24:6-8
- Romans 16:24
- Timothy 3:16
- 1 Peter 4:14
- 1 John 5:7
- Revelation 1:11

They are omitted from almost all modern translations of the Bible

The Best Manuscripts?

- Acts 8:37

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, was the prophet talking about himself or someone else?" ³⁵So beginning with this same Scripture, Philip told him the Good News about Jesus.

³⁶As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look! There's some water! Why can't I be baptized?"* ³⁸He ordered the carriage to stop, and they went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

- Where is Acts 8:37?
- Is it important?

8:32-33 Isa 53:7-8 (Greek version). 8:36 Some manuscripts add verse 37, "You can," Philip answered, "if you believe with all your heart." And the eunuch replied, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." 9:1 Greek disciples. 9:10 Greek disciple; also in 9:26, 36. 9:13 Greek God's holy people; also in

And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. (Acts 8:37)

All God Breathed?

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

2 Timothy 3:16

- *“Every scripture inspired of God (is) also profitable for”*... (American Standard Version)
 - ASV and other modern versions twist this text to imply that not all scripture is God Breathed.
 - They subtly suggest that only the portions within scripture that actually inspired by God are profitable etc.

Does it Really Matter?

- Was Joseph Jesus' father?
- Was Mary a virgin?
- Are (true) Christians assured of Salvation or are we in the process of being saved?
- Does God have a definitive plan for Israel, or is the outcome uncertain?

Artistic Licence?

- Matthew 2:7-11

7Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. 8Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!"

9After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem.

It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. 10When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! 11They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.

9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

- There is no mention of Bethlehem in verse 9!

Artistic Licence?

- Matthew 2:7-11
- Why is this important?
- Because the Magi never went to Bethlehem!
- Following the birth of Jesus...
 - ...after 8 days He was circumcised (Luke 2:21)
 - ...after 41 days Mary & Joseph took Jesus to the temple to present Him to the Lord according to the Law (there they met Simeon & Anna) (Luke 2:22-39)
- They then returned home to Nazareth!

And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth. (Luke 2:39)

Artistic Licence?

- John 2:34

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Spirit.' ³⁴I saw this happen to Jesus, so I testify that he is the
Chosen One of God.*'

and take it to the master of ceremonies. So the S
lowed his instructions.

1:34 Some manuscripts read *the Son of God*.

1:41 Messiah (a

(from Aramaic) and *Peter* (from Greek) both mean "rock." 1:45

"Son of Man" is a title Jesus used for himself. 2:1 Greek On the

God's house will be my undoing." Ps 69:9. 3:3 Or born from a

- Is this important?
- Even a 9yr old can spot the problem here!
 - I know because I asked my 9 year old daughter what she thought!

Artistic Licence?

Modern Translation

- 1 Corinthians 1:18

¹⁸For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written:

- Isn't the message of the cross 'It is finished!?'
- Didn't Jesus offer "*one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God*" (Hebrews 10:12)

KJV

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. **Tense: Present Voice: Passive Mood: Participle**

- 'Being saved' implies not yet complete, still work to be done.
- The Greek states 'the recipient of the action'
- There is absolutely NO justification for this miss-translation!

Modern (Per)Versions?

- Modern translations change plural to singular and visa-versa
- Jesus and Paul both build doctrinal points on the grammar
- If these are changed the argument breaks down!
- In Today's NIV there are:
 - 2000 changes from single to plural
 - 1600 Gender changes

Modern (Per)Versions?

- ASV differed from the KJV in over 36,000 places,
- The Greek text underlying the translation of the ASV (the Westcott-Hort Text) differed from the *Textus Receptus* (underlying the KJV) in over 5,700 instances.

Modern (Per)Versions?

- In 1973, the New International Version (N.I.V.) was produced, which was offered as a “dynamic equivalent” translation into modern English. The N.I.V. was designed not for “word-for-word” accuracy, but rather, for “phrase-for-phrase” accuracy.
 - In other words, you are reading a commentary; it is what the translators *think* the text should say rather than what the text actually says.
- Now, that’s great *if* they get it right, but...

Modern (Per)Versions?

- The Good News Version:
- *“The blood of Christ, a most important and precious word and theme, was lacking in many key New Testament references. It was replaced by “death” or “costly sacrifice,” both good words in their own place but not what the Holy Spirit gave in the original text”*

Modern (Per)Versions?

- The Message Bible:
- *“Oh! May the **God of green hope** fill you up with joy, fill you up with peace, so that your believing lives, filled with the life-giving energy of the Holy Spirit, will brim over with hope!”*

The Message, Romans 15:13

Modern (Per)Versions?

- The Message Bible:
- *“Why do people spend so much time studying the Bible? How much do you need to know? We invest all this time in understanding the text which has a separate life of its own and we think we’re being more pious and spiritual when we’re doing it”*

- Eugene Peterson (author of The Message)

Modern (Per)Versions?

- The Message Bible:
- *“We should be studying it less, not more. You need just enough to pay attention to God....I’m just not at all pleased with the emphasis on Bible study as if it’s some kind of special thing that Christians do, and the more the better.”*

- Eugene Peterson (author of The Message)

Modern (Per)Versions?

- We have more versions than at any time in history
 - Currently over 900 in English!
- Yet the church is more Biblically illiterate than ever!
- We hear the cry that modern versions are 'easier to read'....

Easier?

Acts 27:30	boat	skiff
Ezekiel 31:4	little rivers	rivulets
Acts 1:18	bowels	entrails
Psalms 43:1	judge	vindicate
Luke 19:16-19	pounds	minas
Isaiah 28:1	fat	Verdant
Luke 8:31	the deep	the abyss
Psalms 139:23	thoughts	Anxieties
Amos 5:21	smell	Savor
Acts 21:38	uproar	Insurrection
John 19:9	judgment hall	Praetorium
Acts 18:12	deputy	proconsul

KJV

NKJV

Why does it matter?

Excerpt from an article published in a newsletter by a Christian ministry

- “A lady phoned me in a concerned frame of mind following an encounter with Jehovah’s Witnesses. The conversation had turned to the Trinity and she had confidently turned to 1 John 5:7-8 to ‘prove’ that it was in the Bible. She was shocked to be informed by her callers that the verses she quoted didn’t belong in the Bible, they are a later addition. The call to me was to confirm the facts.
- A good, modern, study Bible - I have the NIV open before me - will tell you that the deliciously tempting clause, *“testify in heaven: the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one. And there are three that testify on earth: the”*, is not found in any manuscript or translation before the 16th Century.
- When I told her she replied in consternation, “But I’ve been using those verses for thirty years!””
- What untold damage was done to this lady’s faith and trust in the Bible because of an erroneous footnote in the NIV?

Why does it matter?

- Attorney Irwin H. Linton said the following:
- *“The infallibility of the record upon which rest the eternal essentials of our faith – the deity of Christ, His voluntary, atoning death, bodily resurrection and impending return in power and glory – are all rendered uncertain in a mind in which the accuracy of the Bible record is in doubt.”*

Preserved

- Either God left mankind without His word until Wescott and Hort rediscovered it in 1870's...
- Or we are witnessing an attack on God's preserved Word as foretold in Scripture.
- Remember Satan's agenda:
 - 'Has God said?...'

Preserved

⁶ The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

⁷ Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.

Psalms 12:6-7

Settled

89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

Psalm 119:89

Magnified

² I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

Psalm 138:2

Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loves it.

Psalm 119:140

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