

Review Questions, Biblical Preservation And Bible Texts/Versions

1.) Define:

- Apograph
- Autograph
- Bezae
- Codex
- Hort
- Lucianic recension
- LXX
- *Nomina sacra*
- Majescole
- Miniscule
- Sinaiticus
- Scroll
- Recension
- TR
- Vulgate
- Velum
- Vaticanus
- Westcott
- (Extra credit) Pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis

2.) Write out the 12 Biblical principles of the preservation of the New Testament, with at least one verse reference for each principle.

i.)

ii.)

iii.)

- iv.)
- v.)
- vi.)
- vii.)
- viii.)
- ix.)
- x.)
- xi.)
- xii.)

3.) What do MS and MSS stand for?

4.) What is a *papyrus*, and how is a papyrus manuscript labeled?

5.) What is an *uncial*, and how is an *uncial* manuscript labeled?

6.) What is a *miniscule*, and how is a miniscule manuscript labeled?

7.) What is a *lectionary*, and how is a *lectionary* manuscript labeled?

8.) Approximately what percentage of MSS support the TR rather than anything else?

9.) State a few facts about the following MSS:

- 7Q5
- P⁵²
- P⁶⁶
- Ⲁ (Aleph)
- A
- B
- D

- 10.) What does secular textual criticism consider to be the Alexandrian text?
- 11.) What does secular textual criticism consider to be the Byzantine text?
- 12.) What does secular textual criticism consider to be the Western text?
- 13.) What is the believing/Christian view of what secular textual criticism calls the Alexandrian, Byzantine, and Western texts?
- 14.) What ancient work(s) have more or better manuscript evidence for them than the New Testament?
- 15.) Name some of the groups among which the true churches of Christ were found after the separation of the true churches from the developing Roman Catholic religion.
- 16.) Explain the secular/unbelieving/critical text view of the transmission of the New Testament text.
- 17.) Do evangelicals who take the secular/critical text view have a different view of textual transmission than theological liberals?
- 18.) Why do many theological liberals today not even attempt to restore the (allegedly) lost and corrupted NT text to the readings in the autographs?
- 19.) Explain the Byzantine priority view of the transmission of the New Testament text, and the believing/TR view. How do these view(s) differ from the unbelieving/critical text view, and what differences (if any) are there between the Byzantine and the TR views?
- 20.) How did Westcott and Hort justify their rejection of the vast majority of NT MSS for an extreme minority text? Was their rejection justifiable? Why or why not?

21.) Was the transmission of the New Testament text “normal,” and if so/not, what does that mean?

22.) Bruce Metzger’s *Textual Commentary* on 1 Corinthians 16:23 reads:

The Textus Receptus, following \mathcal{N}^c A C D F G K L M most minuscules, including 6 424^c 920 1739, it^{d, g, r} syr^{p, h} cop^{sa, bo} arm eth, reads Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ [“Jesus Christ.” The shorter reading Ἰησοῦ [“Jesus” without the word “Christ”] . . . is supported by \mathcal{N}^* B 2 33 35 226 356 442 823 1611 1908 2004 vg goth *al.*¹

What do the letters and symbols in the statement above actually mean? Also, how is Metzger’s presentation slanted against the *Textus Receptus*, so that he can present the evidence as above, when 97% of Greek MSS read “Jesus Christ” and only 3% omit “Christ”?

23.) Respond to the statement: “The Bible clearly has been corrupted, because no two Greek manuscripts are exactly the same.”

24.) When a critical text advocate, or a modern Bible version, refers to the “oldest and best” manuscripts, what MSS are being specified? Are these MSS the most reliable? Why or why not?

25.) What kind of historical evidence exists concerning the longevity (or lack thereof) for the NT autographs?

26.) Provide Biblical evidence that early true churches and Christians would have been careful to make accurate copies of NT MSS.

27.) How do the corruptions typical of the so-called Alexandrian text differ from the corruptions typical of the so-called Western text? What MSS are considered standard representatives of these so-called families?

¹ Bruce Manning Metzger, United Bible Societies, *A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament, Second Edition a Companion Volume to the United Bible Societies’ Greek New Testament (4th Rev. Ed.)* (London: United Bible Societies, 1994), 503.

28.) What is the problem with dividing the extant Greek MSS into so-called Byzantine, Alexandrian, and Western families?

29.) Westcott and Hort claimed that genealogy and conflation or official standardization/recension explained the character and the numerical majority of the Received Text. Explain the problems with their argument.

30.) Is the number of currently extant manuscripts from, say, the 4th century with Alexandrian or TR readings in them necessarily correlative to the number of MSS in the two “families” during the 4th century itself? Why or why not?

31.) What testimony do the patristic writers give to the type of NT text extant in their day?

32.) Do the papyri support Westcott and Hort’s contention that the Byzantine “family” was a deliberate creation centuries after the time of Christ and the Apostles?

33.) If a MS is classified as having a “mixed” (instead of a “pure”) type of text, what does that mean?

34.) Approximately when were the following ancient versions translated?

i.) (Ancient) German

ii.) Anglo-Saxon

iii.) Arabic

iv.) Armenian

v.) Bohemian

vi.) Coptic

vii.) Ethiopic

viii.) Georgian

ix.) Gothic

x.) Latin Vulgate

xi.) Old Latin

xii.) Persian

xiii.) Scythian

xiv.) Slavonic

xv.) Syriac

35.) Explain the similarities and differences one would expect in the workings of God's providence in the transmission of the text of Scripture in its original language and in translation.

36.) Who translated the Old Latin?

37.) Who translated the Latin Vulgate?

38.) What are some differences between the Old Latin and the Latin Vulgate?

39.) How does the history of the Latin Vulgate undermine Papal infallibility?

40.) What religious affiliation did Benjamin Wilkinson have, and what significance does his affiliation play on his textual perspective?

41.) Is the deference of Roman Catholicism to the Latin Vulgate the same as the deference of perfect-preservationist Baptists to the KJV? Why or why not?

42.) What textual "family" of Greek MSS does the Syriac Peshitta support?

43.) What was Tatian's Diatessaron?

44.) What is the difference between the Sahidic and Bohairic dialects of the Coptic NT?

45.) Are you glad that you have learned so much about what God has done in preserving His Word?