

Church History Literacy

History of the English Bible Part 3

Lesson 63

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Can We Trust Our Scriptures?



Who Wrote the Bible?





Who Wrote the Bible?

Go to www.Biblical-Literacy.com

Who Decided what went in the Bible?



Who Decided what went in the Bible?

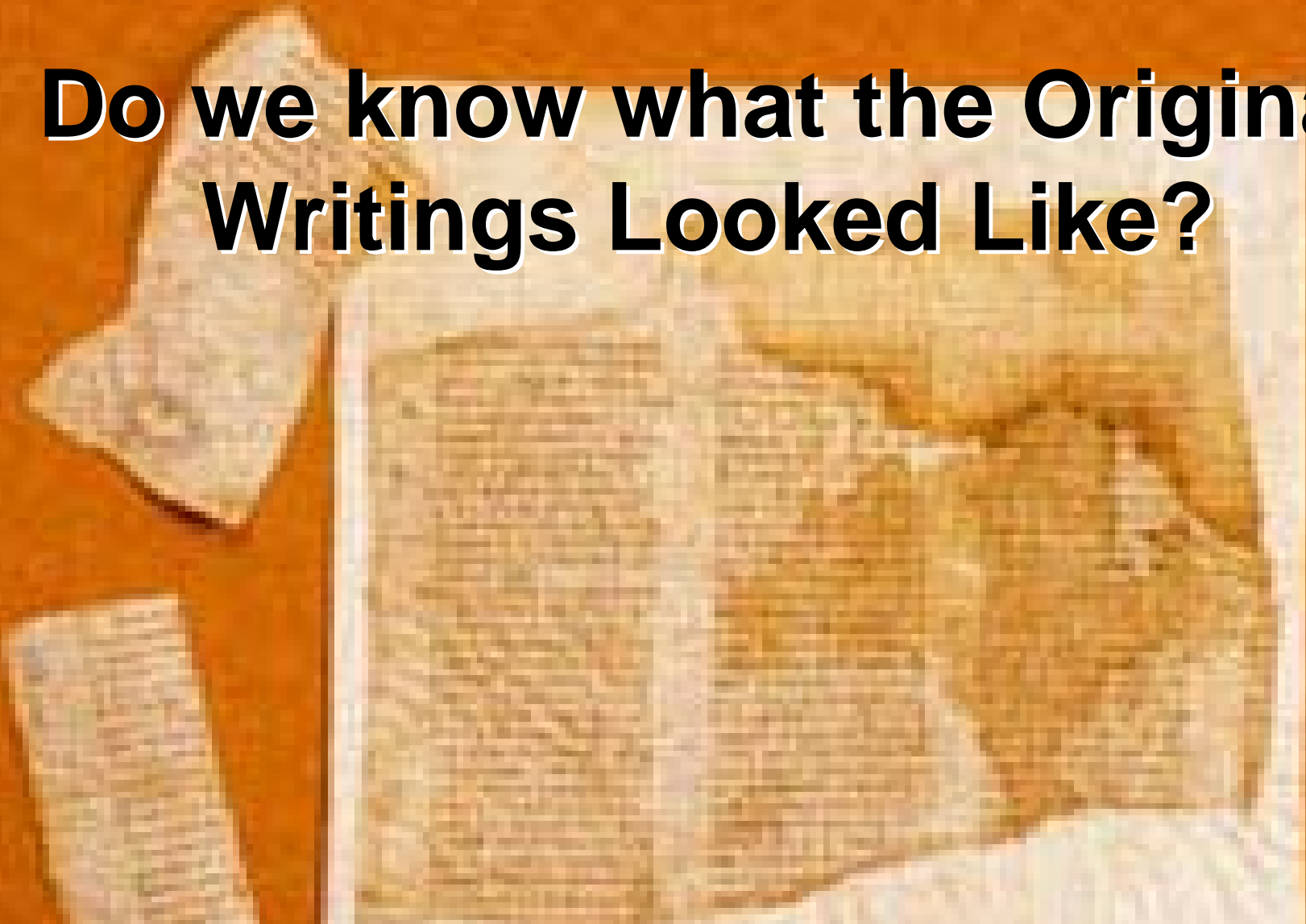


See lessons 11 and 12

Do we know what the Original Writings Looked Like?



Do we know what the Original Writings Looked Like?



See last week and this week

Do we have an Accurate Translation?

14:31

a Gk. hō-
mos. See
Rev. 13:
8; note

b In. 8:46;
2 Cor. 5:
21; Heb.
4:15; 1
Pet. 1:
19; 2:22

c Gk. hō-
mos. See
Mt. 4:8;
note

d In. 10:18;
Phil. 2:8

e See In.
8:58;
margin. h

f Co. In. 1:
4; 1:24;
1 In. 5:12

g KJV has
handmen

this "world" com-
bining in me.

31 But that the
Father gave me
even so I do. Arise,
from here.

The Vine and the branches

15 I AM the true vine, and my
Father is the vinedresser.
2 Every branch in me that bea-
reth not fruit he taketh away; and
every branch that beareth fruit,
he purgeth it, that it may bring
forth more fruit.
3 Now ye are clean through the
word which I have spoken un-
to you.
4 Abide in me, and I in you.
The branch cannot bear fru-
it, except it abide in the
vine, except ye

his
are my
et I accom

New

Hencefo
wants; for
at what
have call
things t
Father
you.

16

but

Do we have an Accurate Translation?

14:31

a Ok. Notes.
Rev. 13:
8; note

b In. 8:46;
2 Cor. 5:
21; Heb.
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Now ye are clean through the
word which I have spoken un-

Listen Up!

Copies were made two ways

Copies were made two ways

One at a time



Copies were made two ways

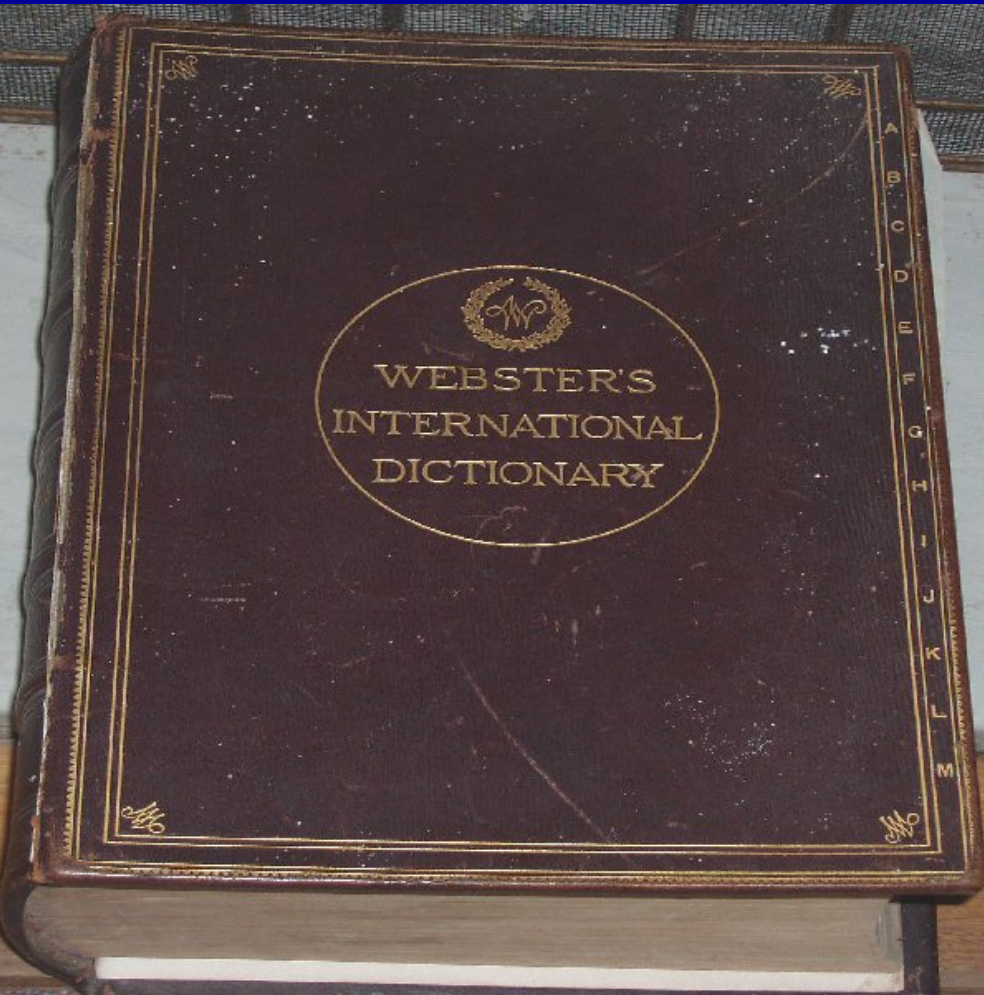


One at a time



By dictation, several at once

Variant readings (errors) occur



Variant readings (errors) occur



Dor'ca-the'ri-um (dôr'ká-thē'rī-ŭm), *n.* [NL., fr. Gr. *dorkas* gazelle + *-therium*.] *Zool.* A genus of chevrotains consisting of the water chevrotain and extinct species.

Dor-cop'sis (dôr-köp'sĭs), *n.* [NL., fr. Gr. *dorkas* gazelle + *-opsis*.] *Zool.* A genus of small kangaroos of Papua.

dord (dôrd), *n.* *Physics & Chem.* Density.

||do'ré' (dô'rā'), *adj.* [F.] **a** Golden in color. **b Metal.** Containing gold; as, *doré* silver. — *n.* = DORÉ BULLION.

||do'ré' (dô'rā'), *n.* [F., gilded. See 2d DORY.] The wall-eyed pike. *Fr. Canadian.*

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Oops! Should read: "D. or d."

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Variations occur in families

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ORIGINAL

Variations occur in families

ORIGINAL

```
graph TD; ORIGINAL[ORIGINAL] --- OOPS1[Oops 1];
```

The diagram illustrates a variation in a family. It features two rectangular boxes. The top box is blue with a thick green border and contains the word "ORIGINAL" in white, uppercase letters. A thin white line extends from the bottom-left corner of this box to the top-left corner of a second box below and to the left. This second box is white with a red border and contains the text "Oops 1" in white, lowercase letters.

Oops 1

Variations occur in families



Variations occur in families

ORIGINAL

```
graph TD; ORIGINAL[ORIGINAL] --- Oops1[Oops 1]; ORIGINAL --- Oops2[Oops 2]; ORIGINAL --- Oops3[Oops 3]; Oops1 --- Oops1A[Oops 1A];
```

Oops 1

Oops 2

Oops 3

Oops
1A

Variations occur in families

ORIGINAL

```
graph TD; ORIGINAL[ORIGINAL] --- Oops1[Oops 1]; ORIGINAL --- Oops2[Oops 2]; ORIGINAL --- Oops3[Oops 3]; Oops1 --- Oops1A[Oops 1A]; Oops1 --- Oops1B[Oops 1B]; Oops2 --- Oops2C[Oops 2C]; Oops2 --- Oops2D[Oops 2D]; Oops3 --- Oops3E[Oops 3E]; Oops3 --- Oops3F[Oops 3F];
```

Oops 1

Oops 2

Oops 3

Oops
1A

Oops
1B

Oops
2C

Oops
2D

Oops
3E

Oops
3F



SPAIN

FRANCE

ROME

GREECE

TURKEY

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Galilee

JERUSALEM

Judea



SPAIN

FRANCE

ITALY

GREECE

TURKEY

NORTH AFRICA

MEDITERRANEAN

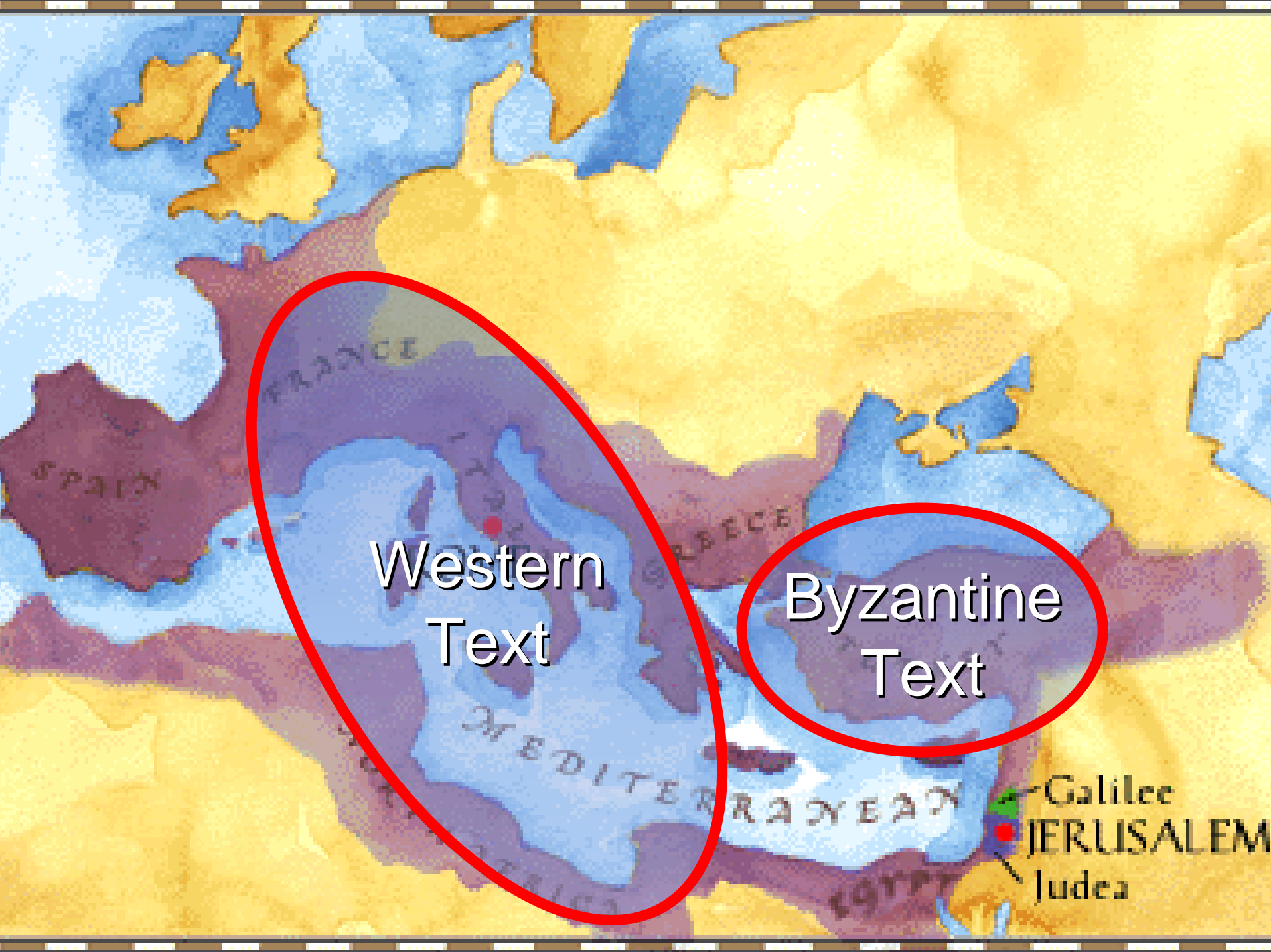
EGYPT

- Galilee
- JERUSALEM
- Judea



Byzantine
Text

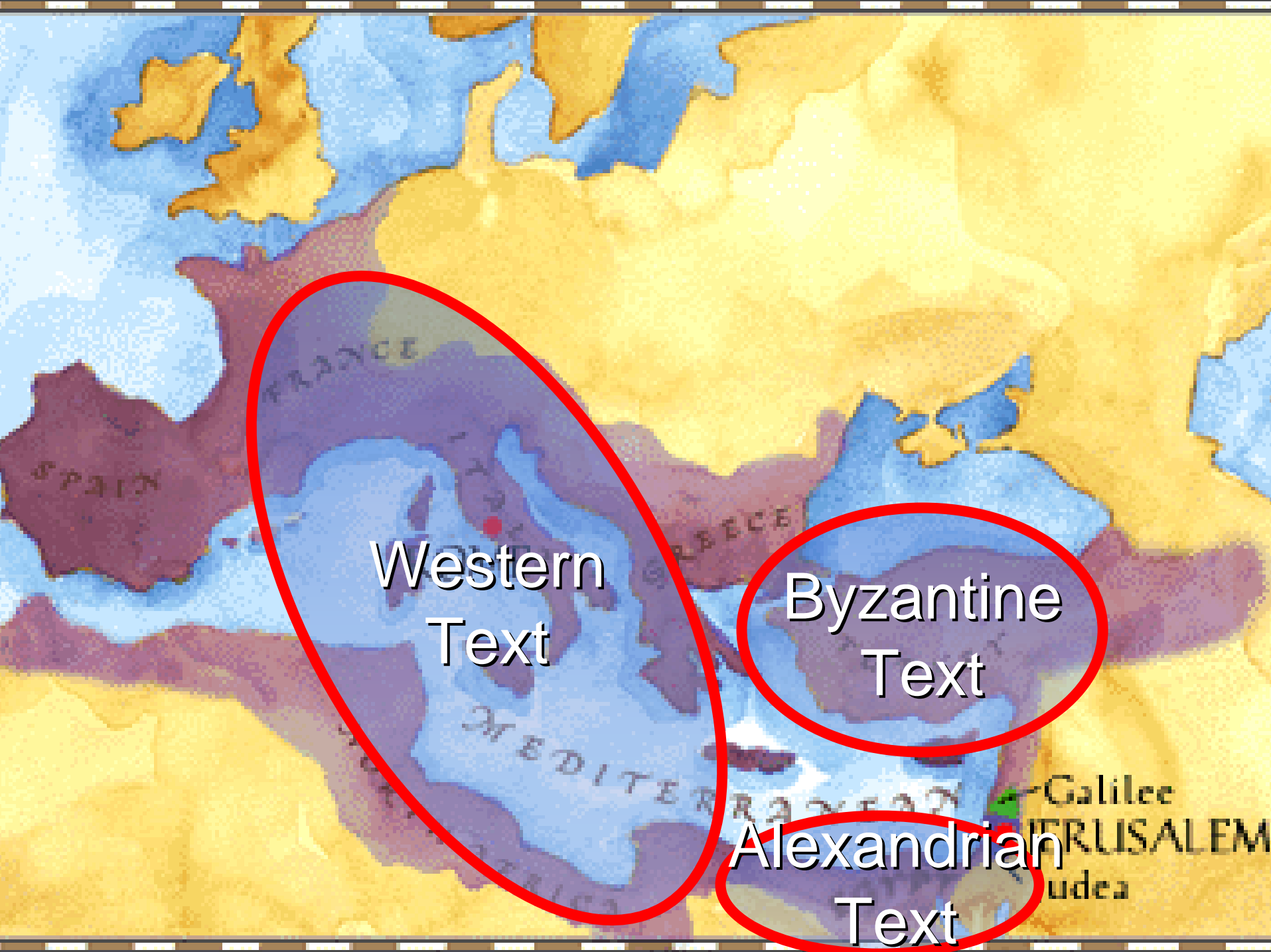
- Galilee
- JERUSALEM
- Judea



Western
Text

Byzantine
Text

- Galilee
- JERUSALEM
- Judea



Western
Text

Byzantine
Text

Alexandrian
Text



Western
Text

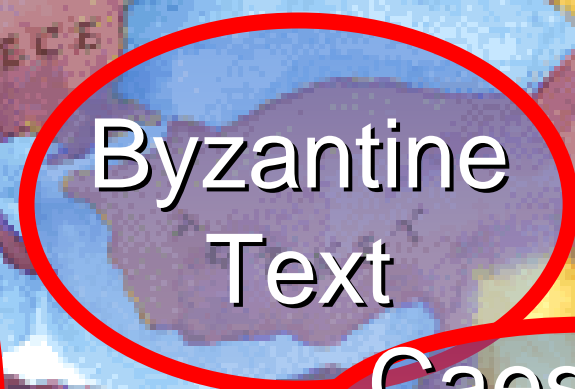
Byzantine
Text

Caesarean
Text

Alexandrian
Text



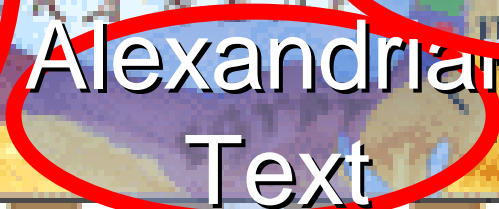
Western Text



Byzantine Text



Caesarean Text



Alexandrian Text



KJV used Byzantine

texts
from
1100

Western
Text

Byzantine
Text

Caesarean
Text

Alexandrian
Text





KJV used Byzantine

texts
from
1100

Western
Text

Byzantine
Text

Caesarean
Text

Alexandrian
Text

The 1800's uncovered
great copies of
Alexandrian texts



Lets compare some
differences

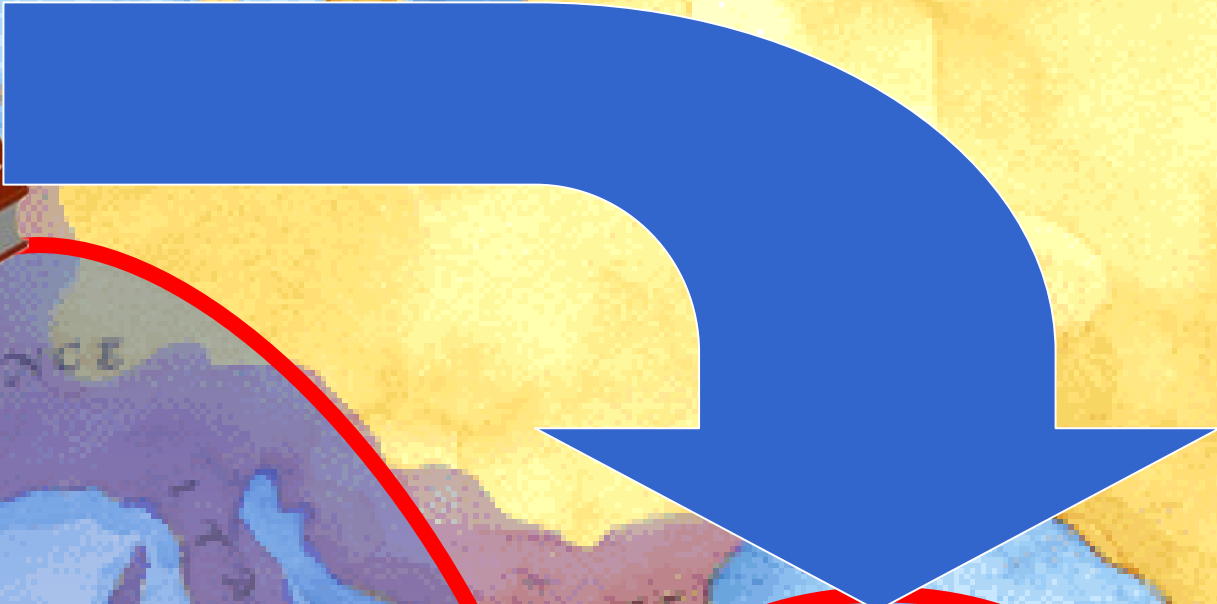
Lets compare some differences

Acts 6:8 (KJV) Stephen was “full of *faith* and power.”

Lets compare some differences

Acts 6:8 (KJV) Stephen was “full of ***faith*** and power.”

Acts 6:8 (NIV) Stephen was “full of ***grace*** and power.”



Western
Text

Byzantine
Text

Caesarean
Text

Alexandrian
Text





“Faith” - Byzantine

texts
from
800's

Western
Text

Byzantine
Text

Caesarean
Text

Alexandrian
Text





“Faith” - Byzantine

texts
from
800's

“Grace”

Western
Text

Byzantine
Text

Caesarean
Text

Alexandrian
Text





“Faith” - Byzantine

texts
from
800's

“Grace”

Western
Text

Byzantine
Text

Caesarean
Text

“Grace”

Alexandrian
Text



“Faith” - Byzantine

texts
from
800's

“Grace”

Western
Text

Byzantine
Text

“Grace”

Caesarean
Text

“Grace”

Alexandrian
Text



“Faith” - Byzantine

texts from 800's

“Grace”

Western Text

Byzantine Text

“Grace”

Caesarean Text

300's!

“Grace”

Alexandrian Text





John 7:53-
8:11
(Woman in
Adultery)



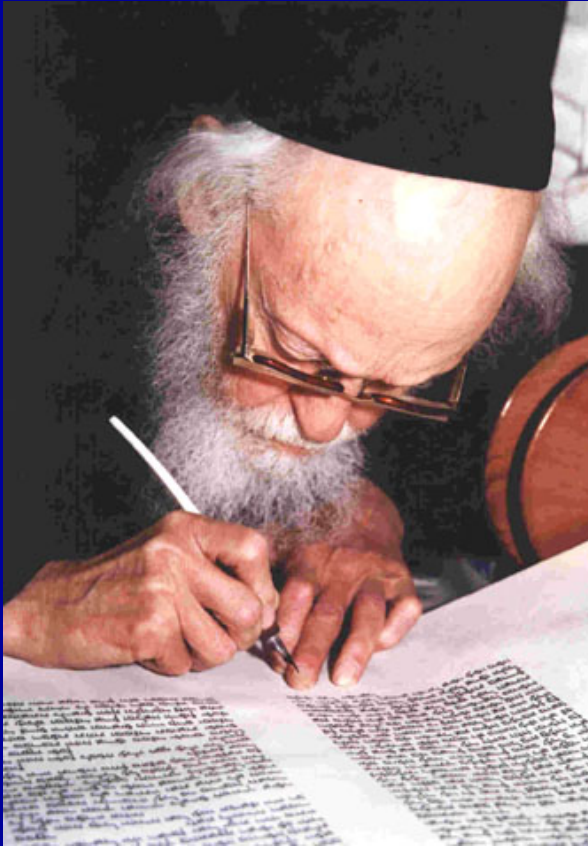
John 7:53-
8:11
(Woman in
Adultery)

Earliest 5th or 6th century - Western texts

Let's consider the Old
Testament

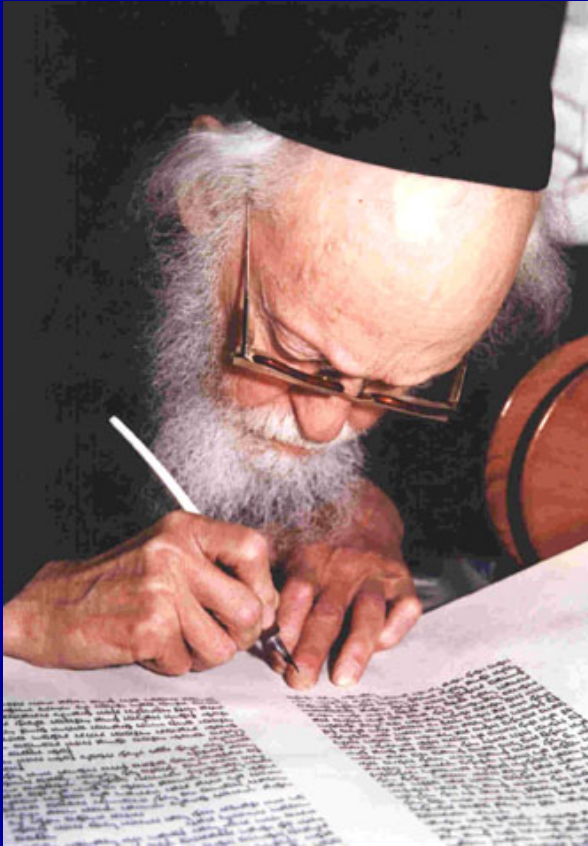
We have 3 types of copies

We have 3 types of copies

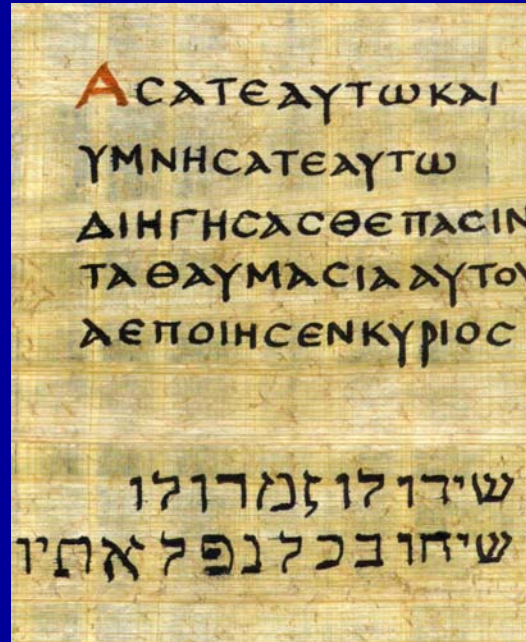


“Masoretic
Copies”

We have 3 types of copies

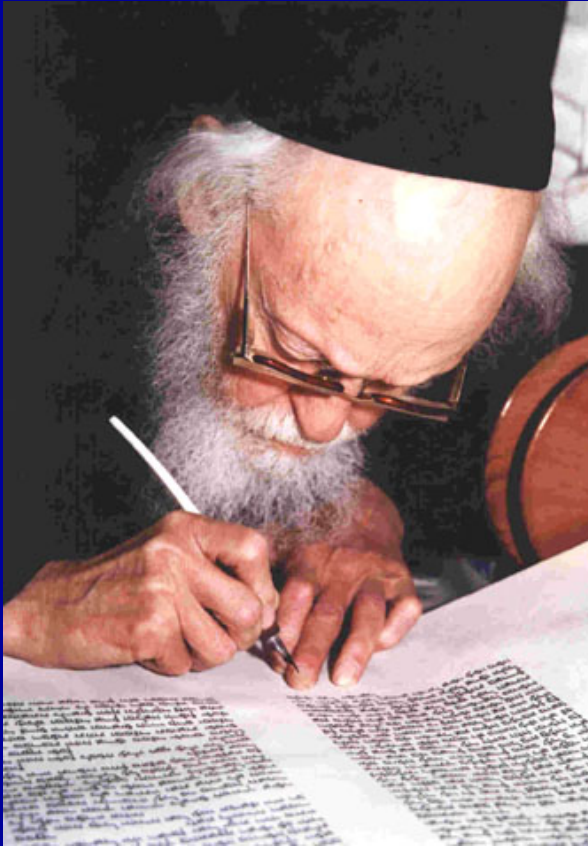


“Masoretic
Copies”

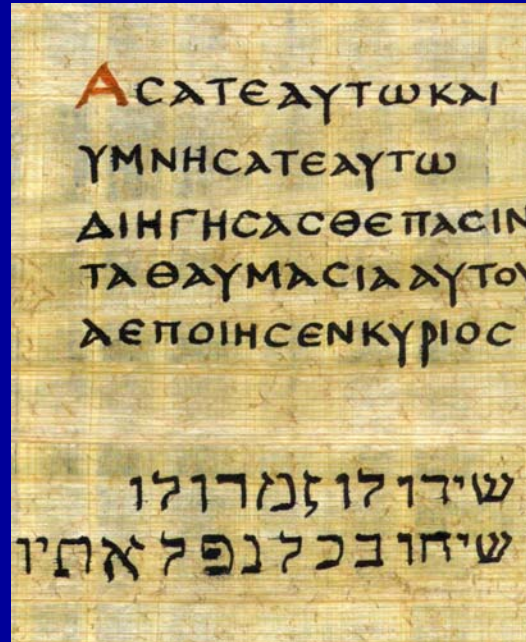


Septuagint
Copies

We have 3 types of copies



“Masoretic
Copies”



Septuagint
Copies



Samaritan
Pentateuch

Until 1900's, the oldest Hebrew Old Test. 1008 A.D.

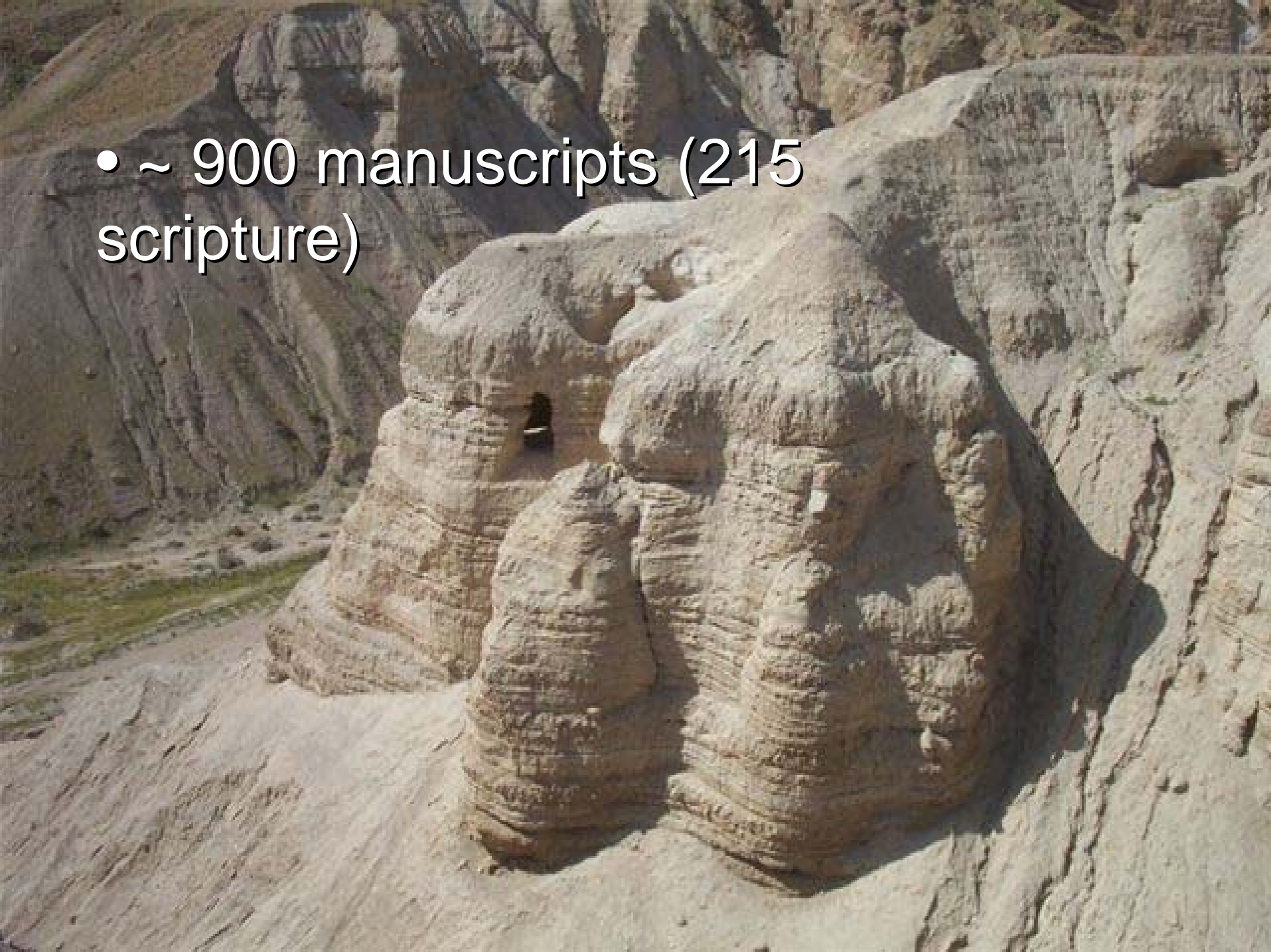


“Leningrad
Codex”

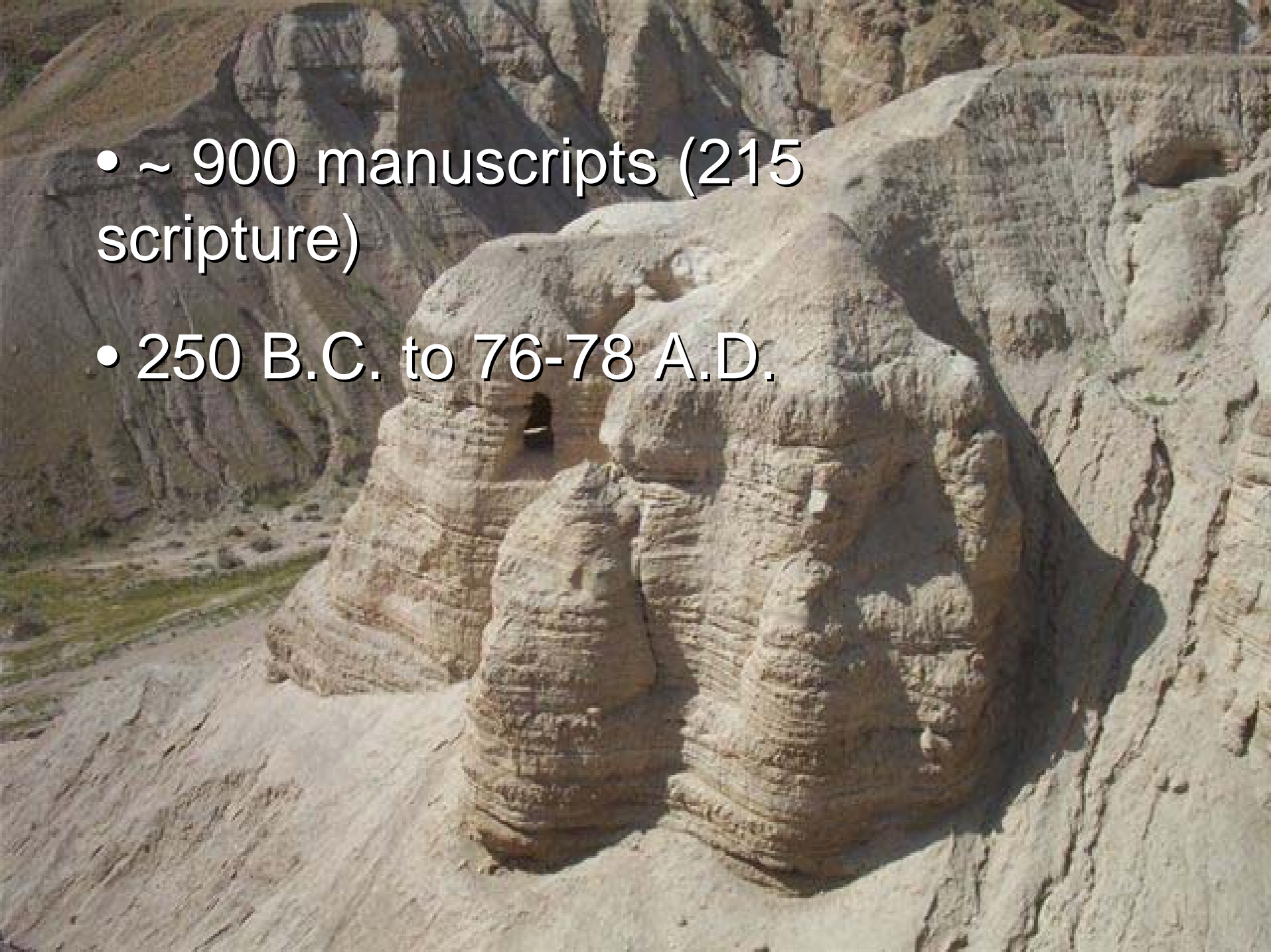
“We have 22 books ... which are justly believed to be divine ... and how firmly we have given credit ... is evident by what we do; for during so many ages as have already passed, no one has been so bold as either to add anything to them, to take anything from them, or to make any change in them; but it is become natural to all Jews immediately, and from their very birth, to esteem these books to contain Divine doctrines ... and if occasion be willingly to die for them” Josephus, 1st Century



- ~ 900 manuscripts (215 scripture)



- ~ 900 manuscripts (215 scripture)
- 250 B.C. to 76-78 A.D.



Over 1000 years older than any previously discovered biblical manuscripts with material never before published or translated, including hundreds of new and different readings and lost psalms

THE
DEAD SEA SCROLLS
BIBLE



THE OLDEST KNOWN BIBLE
TRANSLATED FOR THE
FIRST TIME INTO ENGLISH

TRANSLATED AND WITH COMMENTARY BY
**MARTIN AREGG, JR., PETER FLINT
& EUGENE ULRICH**

Shows great
accuracy in
the Masoretic
Text

Over 1000 years older than any previously discovered biblical manuscripts with material never before published or translated, including hundreds of new and different readings and lost psalms

THE
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BIBLE

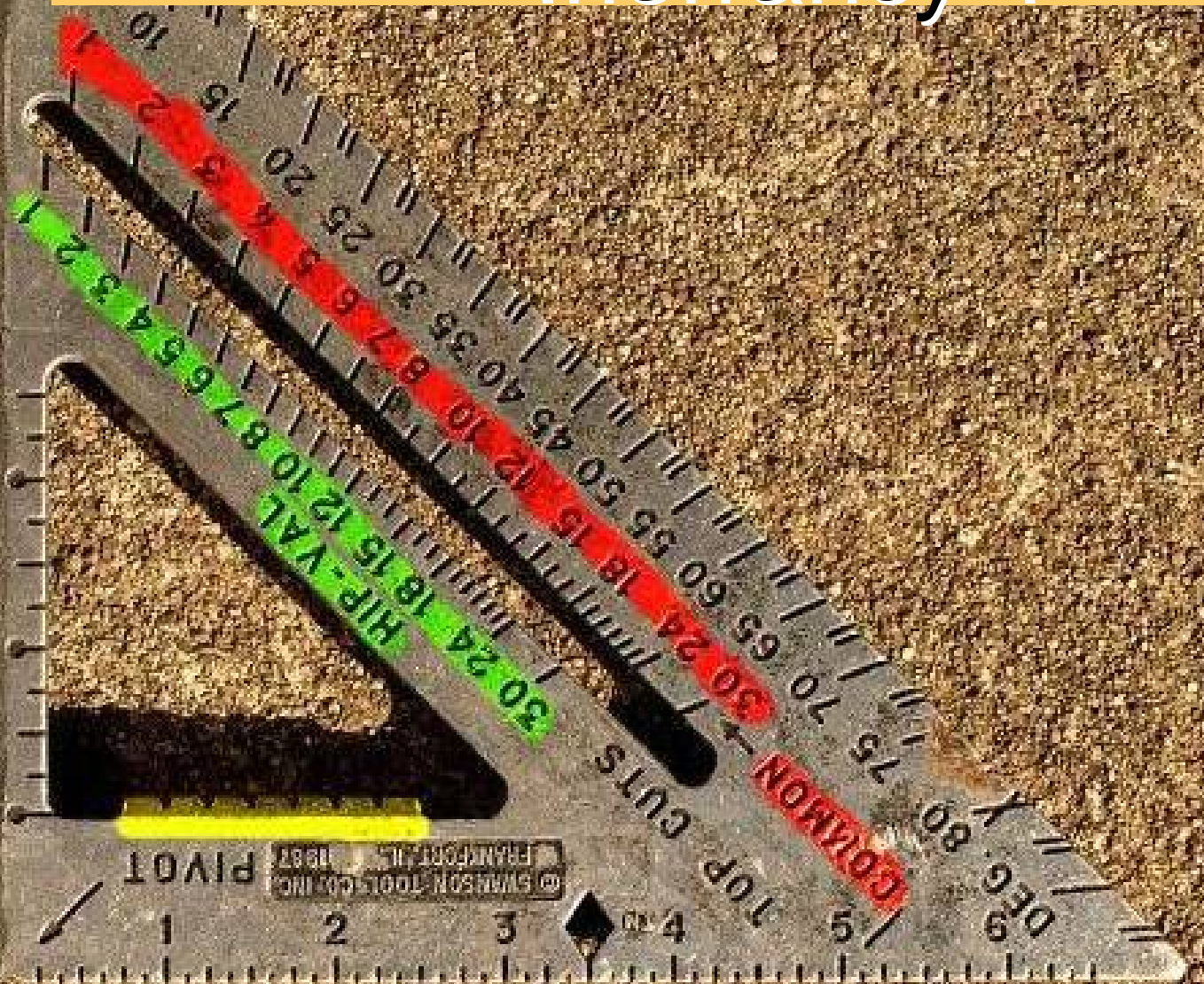


THE OLDEST KNOWN BIBLE
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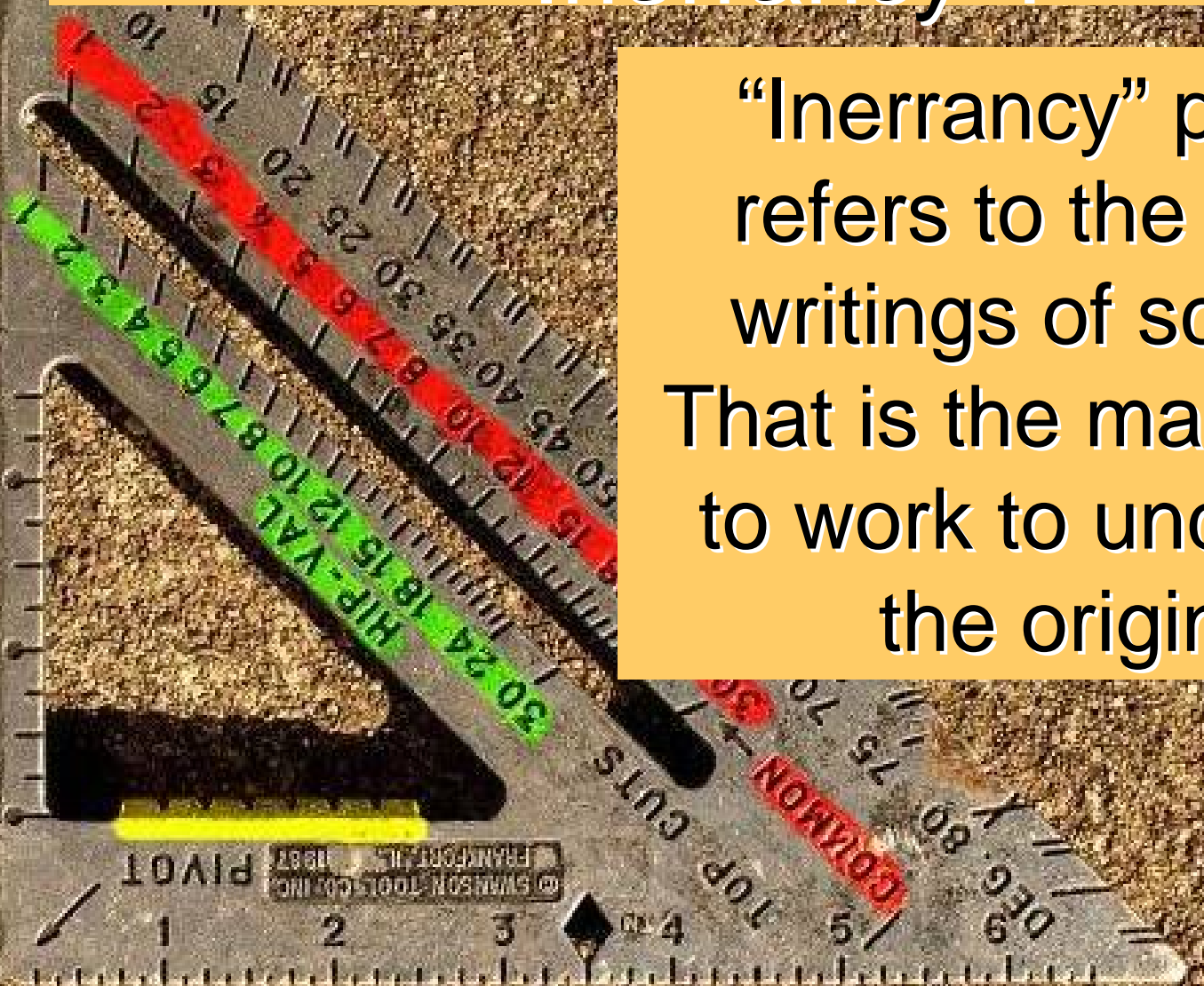
Fills in the
missing “N”
verse from
Psalm 145

How does this square with
“Inerrancy”?



How does this square with “Inerrancy”?

“Inerrancy” properly refers to the original writings of scripture. That is the main reason to work to understand the originals



English Translation



English Translation

- Original text gets refined



English Translation



- Original text gets refined
- English language develops

Language in Romans 1:13

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“Now I would not have you ignorant brethren, that often times I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among the other Gentiles”

Language in Romans 1:13

“Now I would not have you ignorant brethren, that often times I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among the other Gentiles”

1881-1885 English Revised
1901 American Standard

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- A word for word literal translation

1881-1885 English Revised 1901 American Standard

- A word for word literal translation
- Usage of “Jehovah” for “*YHWH*”

1881-1885 English Revised 1901 American Standard

- A word for word literal translation
- Usage of “Jehovah” for “*YHWH*”
- Not stylistically pretty

Revised Standard (1946-57)

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- Eliminated “thee’s” and “thou’s” unless referring to God

Revised Standard (1946-57)

- Eliminated “thee’s” and “thou’s” unless referring to God
- Biggest concerns: Isaiah 7:14, John 7:53 - 8:11, the ending of Mark and *hilasterion*

Isaiah 7:14

Isaiah 7:14

King James: “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

Isaiah 7:14

King James: “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

Revised Standard: “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign; Behold, a ***young woman*** shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

Hilasterion

Hilasterion

ASV: “whom God set forth to be a propitiation, through faith, in his blood, to show his righteousness because of the passing over of the sins done aforetime, in the forbearance of God;”

Hilasterion

ASV: “whom God set forth to be a propitiation.
through faith, in his blood, to show his
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through faith, in his blood, to show his
righteousness because of the passing over of the
sins done aforetime, in the forbearance of God;”

“Propitiation” - satisfaction for the wrath
of God

Hilasterion

Hilasterion

RSV: “whom God put forward as an expiation by his blood to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.”

Hilasterion

RSV: “whom God put forward as an **expiation** by his blood to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.”

Hilasterion

RSV: “whom God put forward as an **expiation** by his blood to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.”

“expiation” - removal of man's sin

Hilasterion

RSV: “whom God put forward as an **expiation** by his blood to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.”

“Propitiation” - satisfaction for the wrath of God

“expiation” - removal of man's sin

English Standard Version

English Standard Version

- Seeks to “fix” the RSV concerns

English Standard Version

- Seeks to “fix” the RSV concerns
- Still word for word literal translation

English Standard Version

- Seeks to “fix” the RSV concerns
- Still word for word literal translation
- Dobson, Lutherans and others variously support the translation

Some versions seek “dynamic
equivalency”

Some versions seek “dynamic
equivalency”

- New International Version (1973-78)

Some versions seek “dynamic equivalency”

- New International Version (1973-78)
- An Evangelical agenda?

Some versions are properly
called “paraphrases”

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called “paraphrases”

- Seek idea translation rather than word translation

Some versions are properly called “paraphrases”

- Seek idea translation rather than word translation
- Living Bible is a good example

Some versions are properly called “paraphrases”

- Seek idea translation rather than word translation
- Living Bible is a good example
- Not the best study Bible

Points for Home

Points for Home

- Our God who communicates has always had his message understandable

Points for Home

- Our God who communicates has always had his message understandable
- Marvel at the care and precision of our Bibles

Points for Home

- Our God who communicates has always had his message understandable
- Marvel at the care and precision of our Bibles
- The scriptures point TO JESUS whom we worship

Points for Home

- Our God who communicates has always had his message understandable
- Marvel at the care and precision of our Bibles
- The scriptures point TO JESUS whom we worship
- And let us READ and STUDY it accordingly