

Supplemental Notes:

How We Got Our Bible

Where did our Bible come from? Why do we believe its origin is supernatural? How do we know that it *really* is the Word of God?

How accurate are our translations? Which version of the Bible is the best?

Chuck Missler, an internationally recognized authority, reviews the origin of both the Old Testament and the New Testament in light of recent discoveries and controversies. Although excellent for beginners, this study is foundational for *every* Christian.

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How We Got Our Bible

Tape 1: The Old Testament

Only Two World Views

- Everything is a result of a cosmic accident.
- Deliberate result of a Creator.

Four Basic Questions

- Who am I? • Where did I come from? • Where am I going? • To Whom am I accountable?

Rejection of Authority

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

Genesis 3:1

The Ultimate Irony

- Only through the accountability to the Creator-God, who fashioned human beings for moral obedience and high spiritual destiny, do we experience the results of human dignity and true freedom.

Collapse of Skeptical Theories

- Historicity of Patriarchal accounts.
- Denial of writing in Moses' day.
- Gospels and Epistles to 2nd century.

Refuted by:

- Archaeological discoveries.
- Documentary discoveries.
- Competent analysis.

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Divinely Authorized

All Scripture is given by inspiration [God-breathed] of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

2 Timothy 3:16

Integral Whole

- Peter includes Paul's writings with "other Scriptures." (2 Pet 3:1-16)
- Paul cites Luke 10:7 alongside Deut 25:4. (1 Tim 5:18; Cf. 1 Cor 9:9)
- Scripture declares its divine origin and integrity. (1 Cor 4:1; 2 Cor 5:20; 1 Thess 2:13; Rev 1:1-3; 22:9-10, 18)
- Jesus pre-approved role of the Holy Spirit. (John 14:26)

Process

- Men were specifically chosen and prepared. (Jer 1:5; Gal 1:15)
- They wrote *exactly* what God wanted for His communication to the people, and through them, to the world. (Now confirmed through subtleties of the coding structures.)
- Subsequent human transmission subject to errors and losses.

Integrated Design

- The New Testament is in the Old Testament *concealed*; the Old Testament is in the New Testament *revealed*.
- Anticipatory macrocodes demonstrate an origin from *outside* the time domain: history detailed *in advance*.

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The Inspired Canon

- *Canon* (from the Greek *kanon*) for “rule” or “standard of measurement.”
- Concept began with the Torah. (Ex 34:27ff; Deut 31:24-26; placed in the Ark of Covenant.)
- Based on two convictions: *The Words of Scripture are God’s own; man simply transmitted what he received.*

God’s Own Words

- Old Testament presents God’s own speech (1 Kings 22:8-16; Neh 8; Psalm 119; Jer 25:1-13; 36, et al.)
- Old Testament specifies and details the Messiah centuries in advance.
- Christ fulfills these specifications beyond competent dispute.
- Christ authenticates the Old Testament Scriptures.

Prophetic Scriptures

- 8,362 predictive verses
- 1,817 predictions
- 737 separate matters

J. Barton Payne,
Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecy

8 Prophecies (of 300+)

The Most Amazing Details:

- Old Testament Messianic Prophecies. (Genesis 22; Psalm 22; Isaiah 53)
- His detailed genealogy.
- The prediction of the precise day that He would present Himself as King to Jerusalem. (Daniel 9:25)

Man’s Role

- From the standpoint of *form*, the human writers contributed much to the making of Scripture: histori-

cal research, theological meditation, linguistic style, etc. (Over 200 rhetorical devices, figures of speech, etc.)

- But theologically, from the standpoint of *content*, the Bible regards the human writers as having contributed *nothing*.
- [*In fact, the integrity of design of the entirety of Scripture manifests a comprehensive design which anticipates hostile jamming.*]

Authentication

- Jesus attributes the Torah to Moses. (Mt 8:4; 19:7, 8; 23:2; Mark 1:44; 10:3, 4; 7:10; Luke 5:14; 16:19, 31; 20:37; 24:27, 44; John 3:14; 5:39, 45, 46; 6:32; 7:19, 22, 23)
- New Testament: over 165 direct quotes; over 200 allusions.
- Emmaus Road confirmation: *And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.* (Luke 24:27)
- Validation of Literalness: *Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.* (Mt 5:17, 18)

Inerrancy and Infallibility

Inerrancy: that the Bible contains neither errors of fact (material errors) nor internal contradictions (formal errors).

Infallibility: the subjective consequence of divine inspiration; that is, it is reliable and trustworthy to all who turn to it in search of God’s truth.

Imperfect Transmission

- Inerrancy is generally attributed *only* to the original autographs, and recognizes the potential imperfections inherent in their transmission: copying, transla-

- tions, et al., and the potential cultural, historical, and rhetorical gaps between the writer and the reader.
- Less than 1% of the Scriptures are under competent dispute.
 - Fortunately, *no doctrine of the Scriptures depends upon any of the disputed passages.*

Terms

- Bible: derived through Latin from the Greek word *biblia*, which is a diminutive of *biblios*, which denotes any kind of written document, but originally one written on papyrus.
- Testament: from the Latin *testamentum* (from the Greek *diatheke*, which in most of its occurrences in the Greek Bible means “covenant” rather than “testament.” (Cf. Jer 31:31 vs Ex 24:7f; Heb 8:13)

Hebrew Bible

Torah (Pentateuch), 5 Books of Moses; *Nevi'im*, the Prophets—“Former Prophets”: Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings; “Latter Prophets”: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, The Book of the Twelve Prophets; *Ketuvim*, the Writings: Psalms, Proverbs, and Job; The Five Scrolls: Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, and Esther; and, lastly, Daniel, Ezra-Nehemiah, and Chronicles.

The Hebrew Language

“And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.” (Genesis 11:1)

The Hebrew alphabet is semantic, not just phonetic. Consonantal script: (“Bldg,” “Blvd,” et al.) Vowels are implied (Masoretes in 9th century develop “pointed” conventions). The Hebrew Language has a vividness, conciseness, and simplicity that also makes it difficult to translate fully. It takes typically twice as many English words to translate Hebrew.

- Root Structure: Verbs are formed from 3-letter roots, with forms developed by change of vowels or by adding suffixes or prefixes. The root consonants give Hebrew a semantic backbone and stability not characteristic of Western languages. Verb usage is not characterized by precise definition of tenses; very context dependent. This lends itself to puns and wordplay.

The Greek Language

- Beautiful, rich, and harmonious; a fitting tool both for vigorous thought and religious devotion. Characterized by strength and vigor; the language of argument, with a vocabulary and style that could penetrate and clarify phenomena rather than simply describe.
- Classic (*Attic*) Greek: subtle in syntax and expressive use of participles (often untranslatable), characterized the culture at its zenith.
- After the conquests of Alexander the Great encouraged the spread of the Greek culture and language, regional dialects were replaced by the Hellenistic or common (*koine*) Greek.
- Simpler, less elegant, nevertheless retaining much of its strength, beauty, clarity and logical rhetorical power.
- Greek verbs have five aspects: tense, mood, voice, person, and number and will convey far more than a lexicographical definition: i.e., who is performing the action; whether just one or more than one is doing it; when it is done; whether it is a single event or process; whether it is an actual happening, a command, or something wished for; whether the subject of the verb is an active or passive participant (or both!). A single Greek word may thus require a phrase or even a sentence or more in another language.

Jesus’ Linguistics

- Common language: Aramaic (Mark 15:34).
- Also spoke Greek (Mark 7:24-30).
- Spoke initially Greek to Mary until addressing her in

Aramaic (John 20:11-18).

- Pilate fluent in Hebrew, Greek, & Latin (John 19:19).

Non-Canonical Books

- *Apocrypha* ["Hidden"] (300 BC – 70 AD): 13, included in the LXX translation and embraced by the Council of Trent, 1546.
- *Pseudepigrapha* ["False Inscription"] (200 BC – 200 AD): 54, including *Jubilees*, and *1 Enoch*.
- Lost Writings: Book of the Wars of the Lord (Num 21:14); Book of the Just (Josh 10:13; 2 Sam 1:18); Book of the Acts of Solomon (1 Kgs 11:41); Book of the Annals of the Kings of Israel (1 Kgs 14:19; 2 Chr 33:18); Book of the Annals of the Kings of Judah (1 Kgs 14:29; 15:7); Annals of Samuel the Seer (1 Chr 29:29); History of Nathan the Prophet (2 Chr 9:29); Annals of Shemaiah the Prophet and of Iddo the Seer (2 Chr 12:15); Annals of Jehu son of Hannani (2 Chr 20:34); Annals of Hosai (2 Chr 33:18); Jeremiah's Lament for Josiah (2 Chr 35:25).

Old Testament (*Tenach*) Texts

- Original Hebrew ("*Vorlage*"): In the days of Ezra and Nehemiah.
- Septuagint Translation (LXX): 285-270 BC, 72 scholars at Alexandria; *Primary quoted text in the New Testament*.
- Masoretic Text (MT): Derived from the Council of Jamnia.

Council of Jamnia

- 90 AD: Rejected the LXX, and the Hebrew version on which it was based (*Vorlage*), since it had become the "Bible of the Christians."
- Produced a unified text of the *Tenach* and ensured that divergent texts were destroyed.
- Led to the traditional Masoretic Text.

Masoretes

- A body of Medieval scribes of Tiberias charged with Old Testament text preservation, 500 AD – 950 AD.
- Devised a "pointing" system for implied vowels.
- Oldest dated manuscript is *Codex Cairensis*, 895 AD. (Only the *Nevi'im*; *Torah* and *Ketuvim* are missing.)

Hebrew Texts of Today

- *Codex Leningradensis*, presently stored at the Leningrad Public Library, is used as the textual base for the popular Hebrew texts of today and was copied in 1008 AD from texts written by Aaron ben Moses ben Asher.
 - *Biblia Hebraica*, ed. By R. Kittel, and its revision
 - *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*, ed. By K. Ellinger and W. Rudolf.
- The Samaritan Pentateuch: 4th century BC; differs from the Masoretic text in about 6,000 places, of which 1,000 need to be taken seriously. (Where the Samaritan Pentateuch agrees with the Septuagint against the Masoretic, it should be regarded as significant.) Two oldest codices:
 - 1211 AD, John Rylands Library, Manchester, England.
 - 1149 AD, University Library at Cambridge, England.
 - An Aramaic Samaritan Targum from early Christian times, and an Arabic translation from the 11th century also exist.
- Aramaic Targums: Aramaic became official language of Persian Empire, 5th & 6th Century BC. Post-exilic Synagogue liturgical needs led to translations (*Targums*):
 - Onkelos (highly venerated).
 - "Jonathan" (named after a 14th century scribal mistake).

– Other fragments, post-6th century.

- The Peshita: Eastern Aramaic Version in common use in Syriac Church (*Peshita* = “plain,” or “simple”). Its literary history is complex and problematic; more research is needed.
 - Recasting of Aramaic Targums?
 - 1st century Jewish leadership E of Tigris?
 - Christian origins?

Septuagint Manuscripts

- Papyri Uncials (Capital Letters), Hundreds of various sizes, importance; (2nd century BC – 650 AD).
 - Chester Beatty collection: parts of 11 codices, (2nd – 4th century).
 - Pre-Christian Qumran parchment fragments also significant.
- Vellum Uncials (4th – 10th centuries).
 - *Codex Vaticanus*, 4th century (almost complete).
 - *Codex Sinaiticus*, 4th century (less complete).
 - *Codex Alexandrinus*, 5th century (almost complete).
- Miniscules (Cursive Script): appear in the 9th century; over 1500 recorded, 11th – 16th century.
 - Complutensian Polyglot, 1514-17.
 - Aldine Venice Version, 1518.
 - “Standard Version,” Pope Sixtus V, 1587.
 - Coptic Versions, 3rd & 4th century.
 - Armenian Versions, mid-5th century.
 - Georgian Versions, 5th century.
 - Ethiopic Versions, 13th century.
 - Gothic Versions, fragments, 4th century.

Latin Versions

- Old Latin: 160 AD, Tertullian; 250 AD, Cypriot; LXX and Vorlage clues; only fragments left.
- Vulgate (390 – 405 AD): Latin begins to replace Greek in 3rd century, Jerome commissioned by Pope Damasus I, Composite: LXX, Hebrew, Latin, et al.
- Patristic Quotations.

Dead Sea Scrolls

- 11 caves in the Wadi Qumran; 600 manuscripts; 200 Biblical; 60,000 fragments (85% leather; 15% papyrus); in Cave 4 (4Q) 40,000 fragments of 400 manuscripts (100 Biblical); every book (except Esther) represented.
- Group 1: Wadi Qumran and Masada; all pre-date 70 AD; all agree with LXX and Vorlage.
- Group 2: Wadi Murabba’at and Nahal Hever and Nahal Se’elim; hidden after 100 AD; all agree with the Masoretic.
- Dividing line: Council of Jamnia, 90 AD!

Who is Gog?

Thus hath the Lord GOD shewed unto me; and, behold, he formed grasshoppers in the beginning of the shooting up of the latter growth; and, lo, it was the latter growth after the king’s mowings.

Amos 7:1 (KJV)

Thus the Lord showed me, and behold a swarm of locusts were coming, and, behold, one of the young devastating locusts was Gog, the King.

Amos 7:1 (LXX)

Demon Locusts

“The locusts have no king.” Proverbs 30:27

“And there came locusts upon the earth... And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.” Revelation 9:3, 11

Codes in the Bible?

See our book *Cosmic Codes* for an in-depth study of codes, including: Cryptography Background • Microcodes • Equidistant Letter Sequences • Macrocodes

- Metacodes: Codes of Life—DNA; Our Digital Universe
- Searching for yourself.

Tape 2: The New Testament

The Old Testament was compiled over several thousand years; The New Testament was compiled within *one lifetime*: Four Gospels (Luke in two volumes); Pauline Corpus (and other epistles); circulated with LXX for instruction & worship; Luke & Paul *rely* on contemporary eye-witnesses!

The Role of the Amanuensis

- By hand: *Manu*-scripts
- uphrethj, (*Hyperetes*, “under-rower”): Silvanus (1 Pet 5:12); Tertius (Romans 16:22); John Mark (Acts 13:5); specialized skills, including shorthand
- Shorthand Skills: Psalm 45:1. ryhim rpeAs, (the “ready writer” (KJV), or “skillful writer” (NIV); LXX: oxugrafoj, (*oxygràphos*, a synonym for *tachygràphos*, or “short-hand writer.”)
- Matthew was a former customs official (Mt 9:9) and would also have a working knowledge of tachygraphy; he would have been able to transcribe the Sermon on the Mount *verbatim!*
- Paul mentions *membranae*, a Latin word transcribed into Greek, referring to a parchment notebook, the predecessor to the subsequent codex, the ultimate departure from the scrolls (2 Tim 4:13).

Abbreviations

- Pressures on abbreviation (Zipf’s Law); e.g., Deoxyribonucleic Acid = DNA or North Atlantic Treaty Organization = NATO.
- These writers coped with burdensome manual methods so abbreviations were inevitable. Their use was deliberate and standardized, reflecting a theological position.

Nomina Sacra (“Sacred Names”)

• Christ	Cristoj,	<i>Christos</i>	Cr
• Jesus,	Whsouj	<i>Iesous</i>	Ij
• God,	qeoj,	<i>Theos</i>	qj
• Holy Spirit	pneuma,	<i>Pneuma</i>	pna
• Lord	kurioj,	<i>kurios</i>	kj

“The First and the Last”

- “The First and Last”: Isaiah 41:44; 44:6; 48:12; Rev 1:11; 22:3.
- “The Alpha and Omega”: Rev 1:8; 1:17, 18; 2:8; 21:6; 22:3.
- “The Aleph and the Tau”: The first and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet are *aleph*, and the *tau*. When used with a connector-bar, a *maqeph*, the two-letter prefix, -*ta*, is used as a grammatical element to indicate a direct object. However, there are instances where *ta* is used as a pronoun to indicate the second person masculine singular.
- *hypocatastasis* (“putting down underneath”), a kind of grammatical pun: “a hidden declarative implied metaphor expressing a superlative degree of resemblance.”

Zechariah 12:10

!xe xllir --=ll v' llry>bvAy I [m>dynd' tyBel [: yTkpv' m>
 dyxl'h:-I [: dPismK. wyl ' [' llcps' m>llrq' D' -rva] tae yl ae llj yBhis>-ynllhx]t m>
 'rAkBh:-I [: rmb'h' K. wyl ' [: rmb'h' m>

And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me [ta] whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his first-born.

Early New Testament Manuscripts

- 6,000 copies of Greek New Testament, or portions thereof. Compare with Homer's *Iliad* (about 650); Euripides Tragedies (about 330).
- Lapse for classical Greek: 800-1000 yrs; lapse for NT works: approximately one lifetime. For example, P64, a papyrus now dated before 66 AD (containing Matthew 26: 23, 31), written within the lifetimes involved.

Significant Papyri

- Oxyrhynchus Papyri: Over 35 manuscripts containing papyrus manuscripts; P1 (Matthew), P5 (John 1, 16) P13 (Hebrews 2-5, 10-12), and P22 (John 15-16).
- Chester Beatty Papyri. P45 (2nd century) contains portions of all four Gospels and Acts; P46, contains all of Paul's epistles except the Pastorals, and Hebrews, has been dated late 1st century; again, 20-30 years after they were written; P47 (3rd century) contains Revelation 9-17.
- Bodmer Papyri: P66 (all of John, dated about 175); P72 (all of 1st and 2nd Peter and Jude, 3rd century); and P75 (large parts of Luke 3 - John 15, c.200).

The "Jesus Papyrus"

Redated in 1994: "A papyrus believed to be the oldest extant fragment of the New Testament has been found in the Oxford Library ... It provides the first material evidence that the Gospel according to Matthew is an eyewitness account written by contemporaries of Christ."

Dec 24, 1994, *The Times*, front page.

Advanced technology to the rescue: A scanning laser microscope can differentiate between layers of the papyrus, measuring the height and the depth of ink, as well as the angle of the stylus used by the scribe. Dr. Carsten Thiede, using a scanning laser microscope, and comparing with four other manuscripts—

at Qumran (dated to 58 AD), at Herculaneum (dated prior to 79 AD), at Masada (dated to between 73-74 AD), and ones found at the Egyptian town of Oxyrynchus (65-66 AD)—has concluded that this is either an original of Matthew's Gospel, or an immediate copy, written while Matthew and the other disciples and other eyewitnesses were still alive.

Nomina Sacra

Matthew 26 fragment uses *Ij* for *Ihsouj Iesous*, Jesus and *kj* for *kurioj, kurios*, Lord. This indicates that the deity of Jesus was recognized centuries before it was accepted as official church doctrine at the council of Nicea in 325 AD.

The Gospel of Mark

A Qumran fragment, 7Q5, was written before 68 AD, within 36 years (or less) from the resurrection, while eyewitnesses were still alive.

The Alexandrian Codices

- Codex Alexandrinus: About 1630, Codex Alexandrinus was brought to England. A fifth century manuscript containing the entire New Testament.
- Codex Sinaiticus: 200 years later, a German scholar name Constantin von Tischendorf discovered the Codex Sinaiticus in St. Catherine's Monastery at (the traditional) Mt. Sinai. This manuscript, dated around 350 AD, is one of the two oldest manuscripts of the Greek New Testament.
- Codex Vaticanus: This had been in the Vatican Library since at least 1481, but was not made available to scholars until the middle of the 19th century. Dated slightly earlier (325 AD) than Codex Sinaiticus, is regarded by many as one of the most reliable copies of the Greek New Testament.
(These have become controversial for a number of reasons.)

The English Bible

- John Wycliffe (1329-1384): Most eminent Oxford theologian of his day; he and his associates were the first to translate the entire Bible from Latin into English.
- William Tyndale: Born in 1494, in the age of the Renaissance; graduated in 1515 from Oxford, where he studied Greek and Hebrew. He committed his life to translating the Bible from its original languages for the common man.

1382	Wycliffe Bible	(from Vulgate)
1525	Erasmus' NT	(Greek; TR basis)
1526	Tyndale Bible	(1 st English NT)
1534	Luther's Bible	(1 st German)
1535	Coverdale's	(1 st complete)
1537	Matthew Bible	(from Tyndale's notes)
1539	Great Bible	(Coverdale's revision)
1560	Geneva Bible	(Whittingham, et al)
1568	Bishop's Bible	(Revised "Great Bible")
1609	Douay/Rheims	(Vulgate rendering)
1611	King James Version	

King James Version

James VI of Scotland becomes King of England (known as "James I"). In 1607, more than 50 scholars, through prayerful committees, reviewed 5556 manuscripts available; their major reliance was on *Textus Receptus*. The KJV was heralded as "the noblest monument of English prose."

Textus Receptus

At the end of 3rd century, Lucian of Antioch compiled Greek text to become primary standard throughout Byzantine world. From 6th – 14th century, majority of NT texts were produced in Byzantium in Greek. In 1525, Erasmus, using 5 or 6 Byzantine manuscripts, compiled first Greek text produced on printing press. Basis for Textus Receptus.

Gnostic Heresies

- Satan's Strategy (Genesis 3: doubt; additions and amendments...)
- 55 AD, twisting begins (2 Peter 2:1-3).
- Disparaged existing writings; mixed Greek philosophy and concepts with the revelation of God.
- "All material is evil"; Aeons; emanations; distanced from the material universe...
- Thus, Christ was not "God in the flesh." Jesus was a phantom; only had the appearance of being there; no footprints in the sand; an apparition, etc.
- Already gaining momentum before John died (i.e., 1 John 1:1, 4:2,3; et al.).
- Gnostics known for mutilating the Scriptures: 56 AD, Irenaeus (of the Gnostics): "Wherefore they and their followers have betaken themselves to mutilating the Scriptures which they themselves have shortened."
- HQ for Gnostics: Alexandria.

Textus Receptus Dethroned

- 1730s: Johannes Albert Bengel produced a text that deviated from the *Textus Receptus*, relying on the earlier manuscripts.
- 1831: Karl Lachman, produced a text that represented the 4th century manuscripts.
- 1857-72: Samuel Tregelles, self-taught in Latin, Hebrew and Greek, spent his lifetime in publishing a Greek text that came out—in six parts—from 1857 to 1872.

Westcott & Hort

- Brooke Foss Westcott and Fenton John Anthony Hort were Anglican churchmen who had contempt for the *Textus Receptus*.
- They began a work in 1853 that resulted, after 28 years, in a Greek New Testament based on the corrupt *Vaticanus* and *Siniaticus*.
- Both were influenced by Origen and others who denied the deity of Jesus Christ and embraced the prevalent

Gnostic heresies of the period from the headquarters of the Gnostics, Alexandria.

- There are over 3,000 contradictions in the four gospels alone between these manuscripts. They changed the traditional Greek text in 8,413 places.
- 1845: They founded the Hermes Club—messenger of the gods; guide for departed souls.
- 1851: started a guild at Cambridge “to conduct serious and earnest inquiry into the nature of supernatural phenomenon.” Arthur Wescott, *Life and Letters of Westcott*, Vol 2, p.118.

B. F. Westcott: Wescott’s son said his father’s “faith in what for a better name one must call ‘Spiritism’” (B.F. Wescott, *Life of Westcott*, Vol 2, p.119). In a letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Westcott wrote: “No one now I suppose holds that the first three chapters of Genesis, for example, give a literal history—I could never understand how anyone reading them with open eyes could think they did.”

Life of Westcott, Vol 11, p.69

Darwin? Hort wrote in April 3, 1860: “But the book which has engaged me most is Darwin. What may be thought of it, it is a book that one is proud to be contemporary with. My feeling is strong that the theory is unanswerable.”

F. J. Hort, *Life of Hort*, Vol 1, p.416

Universal Fatherhood of God? Westcott believed in the Universal Fatherhood of God. In reference to John 10:28, 29 he wrote: “The thought which is concrete in verse 28 is here traced back to its most absolute form as resting on the essential power of God, in His relation of Universal Fatherhood.”

B. F. Westcott, *The Gospel According to St. John*, p.159

Christology: Westcott said Christians were “Christ’s.” In reference to 1 John 2:20: “Christians are themselves in a true sense ‘Christ’s.’”

B. F. Westcott, *The Epistles of St. John*, p. 73.

Adam’s Fall: Hort said, “I am inclined to think that no such state as Eden (I mean the popular notion) ever existed, and that Adam’s fall in no degree differed from the fall of each of his descendents.”

F. J. A. Hort, *Life of Hort*, Vol 1, p.78.

Atonement: Hort writing to Westcott: “I entirely agree ... having for many years believed that the absolute union of the Christian (or rather of man) with the Christ Himself is the spiritual truth of which the popular doctrine of substitution is an immoral and material counterfeit—certainly nothing could be more unscriptural than the modern limiting of Christ’s bearing our sins and sufferings to His death, but that is only one aspect of an almost universal heresy.”

(Ref. 1 Pet 2:24) F.J.A. Hort,
Life of Hort, vol 1, p.430.

Hort writes in a letter to F. D. Maurice: “Finally St. Paul’s mysterious words ‘without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins’—I have labored so utterly to apprehend in any measure what this idea is, that I hope you will deepen and widen the hints you have already given. I am quite conscious that I have given but few distinct objections to the common belief (redemption through the blood of the lamb) in what I have written, but so indeed it must be; language cannot accurately define the twinge of shrinking horror which mixes with my thought when I hear the popular notion asserted.”

Arthur Fenton Hort, *Life and Letters of F. J. A. Hort*, Vol 1, p.122

Sinlessness of Christ: Westcott denies the sinlessness of Christ in reference to Heb 2:10. “The concept is that of bringing Christ to the full perfection of His Humanity which carries with it the completeness of power and dignity. This perfection was not reached ‘til after death.”

B. F. Westcott, *The Epistle to the Hebrews*, p. 49.

Resurrection: Westcott states concerning the resurrection: "The resurrection seems to me to be the image of man unfallen to a higher life—not future but present. Not I shall be hereafter but I am."

B. F. Westcott, *Life of Westcott*, Vol 2, p.77.

Roman Paganism: Hort writes to Westcott: "I have been persuaded for many years that Mary-worship and Jesus-worship have very much in common and their causes and results."

F. A. J. Hort, *Life of Hort*, Vol 2, p.50.

Heaven: Hort denies heaven as literal; re: 1 Pet 1:4, 'reserved in heaven': "It is hardly necessary to say that this whole local language is figurative folly."

F. J. A. Hort, *The First Epistle of Peter*, p.39

Non-literal Views: Hort: "the true lesson is that the language which speaks of a ransom is but figurative."

F. J. A. Hort, *The First Epistle of St. Peter*, p.77, 80

Hort refers to the appearing of Jesus Christ in 1 Peter 1:7 as "figurative." "There is nothing in either this passage or others on the same subject, apart from the figurative language of Thessalonians, to show that the revelation here spoken of is to be limited to a sudden preternatural theophany. It may be a long and varying process, though ending in a climax."

F. J. A. Hort, *The Epistle of St. Peter*, p.44, 45.

Textus Receptus: Hort described the *Textus Receptus* as "vile" and "villainous."

F. J. A. Hort, *Life of Hort*, Vol 1, p.211

Orthodoxy: Westcott admits, "How certainly I should have been proclaimed a heretic."

B. F. Westcott, *Life of Westcott*, Vol 1, p.233.

Would you trust either one of these fellows to teach *your* Sunday School class?

What Does the Bible Say?

The Lord's Prayer: *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.*

(Mt 6:13)

Christ's Mission: *For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.* (Mt 18:11)

Hypocritical Targets: *Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.* (Mt 23:14)

Second Coming: *Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.* (Mt 25:13)

His Deity: *The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God;* (Mk 1:1)

Repentance: *When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.* (Mk 2:17)

Eternal Judgment: *Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.* (Mk 9:44)

Forgiveness: *But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.* (Mk 11:26)

Virgin Birth: *And Joseph ["father"] and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him.* (Lk 2:33)

Word of God: *And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God. (Lk 4:4)*

Resurrection: *And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. (Lk 24:40) Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; (Acts 2:30) For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living. (Rom 14:9)*

Salvation: *That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. (Jn 3:16) 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)*

Paul's Call: *And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. (Acts 9:5,6)*

Creator Role: *And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: (Eph 3:9)*

Deity of Christ: *For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, (Eph 3:14)*

Holy Spirit: *Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: (1 Pet 1:22)*

Atonement: *Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with*

the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; (1 Pet 4:1)

Trinity: *For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one. (1 Jn 5:7,8)*

Second Coming: *Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. (Rev 11:17)*

Last 12 Verses of Mark?

- Westcott & Hort: Last part of Mark (16:9-20) = a later addition?
- 150 AD: Irenaeus quotes it in his commentary! (He must have been clairvoyant.)
- Hypolatus, also, in 2nd century...several hundred years *before* the Alexandrian Codices.

Authentication Codes?

- An automatic security monitor, watching over every single letter of the text, that doesn't rust or wear out, running continually over several thousand years...
- Fingerprint signature of the Author.
- Non-compromisable design.

Sevens in the Bible

- Occur in over 600 passages: Some overt, some structural, some hidden.
- Heptadic Structures as a signature?

Design Challenge: A Genealogy

- The number of words must be divisible by 7, evenly.
- The number of letters must also be divisible by 7, evenly.

- The number of vowels and the number of consonants must also be divisible by 7.
- The number of words that begin with a vowel must be divisible by 7.
- The number of words that begin with a consonant must be divisible by 7.
- The number of words that occur more than once must be divisible by 7.
- The number of words that occur in more than one form must be divisible by 7.
- The number of words that occur in only one form must be divisible by 7.
- The number of nouns shall be divisible by 7.
- Only 7 words shall not be nouns.
- The number of names shall be divisible by 7.
- Only 7 other kinds of nouns are permitted.
- The number of male names shall be divisible by 7.
- The number of generations shall be divisible by 7. (21)

This is the genealogy of Jesus Christ found in Matthew 1:1-11, (in Greek)!

Dr. Ivan Panin

- Born in Russia Dec 12, 1855.
- Exiled at an early age; emigrated to Germany, and the U.S.
- Graduated from Harvard in 1882.
- Discovered Christ.
- Discovered the heptadic structures underlying the Biblical text in 1890.
- Committed the rest of the 50 years of his life generating 43,000 pages of discoveries.
- Went to his Lord on October 30, 1942.

The Last 12 Verses of Mark

- Appearance to Mary; disciples' disbelief 9-11
- Subsequent appearances 11-18
- Conclusion 19-20

- Simple narrative 9-14
- Christ's discourse 15-18
- Conclusion 19-20

The Last 12 Verses of Mark

- Words 175 (7 x 25)
- Vocabulary 98 (7 x 7 x 2)
- Letters 553 (7 x 79)
- Vowels 294 (7 x 42)
- Consonants 259 (7 x 37)

Vocabulary:

- Total Vocabulary 98 (7 x 14)
- Found before in Mark 84 (7 x 12)
- Only here 14 (7 x 2)
- Used in Lord's address 42 (7 x 6)
- Not part of His vocab 56 (7 x 8)

Chances of Multiples of 7

For 2	$7^2 = (7 \times 7)$	49
For 3	$7^3 = (7 \times 7 \times 7)$	343
For 4	$7^4 = (7 \times 7 \times 7 \times 7)$ etc.	2,401
For 5	7^5	16,807
For 6	7^6	117,649
For 7	7^7	823,543
For 8	7^8	5,764,801
For 9	7^9	40,353,607

Would you like to try this?

- 8 hrs/day, 40 hrs/wk, 50 weeks/year = 2000 hrs/year, or 120,000 min/year.
- 7^9 chances = 40,353,607 attempts @ average of 10 minutes/attempt = 403,536,070 minutes or **3,362 years!** (*It gets worse...*)

Words

• Words, total	175	(7 x 25)
• Address of the Lord	56	(7 x 8)
• Rest of the passage	119	(7 x 17)
• vv.9-11	35	(7 x 5)
• vv.12-18	105	(7 x 15)
• v.12	14	(7 x 2)
• vv.13-15	35	(7 x 5)
• vv.16-18	56	(7 x 8)
• vv.19-20	35	(7 x 5)

Numerical (Gematrixal) Values

Total:	103,663	(7 x 14,809)
• vv9-11	17,213	(7 x 2,459)
• v.9	11,795	(7 x 1,685)
• v.10	5,418	(7 x 774)
- 1 st word	98	(7 x 14)
- Middle	4,529	(7 x 647)
- Last word	791	(7 x 113)
• v.11	11,795	(7 x 1,685)
• vv.12-20	86,450	(7 x 12,350)

Vocabulary:

• Total	98	(7 x 14)
• Not before in Mark	14	(7 x 2)
• Found later in NT	7	(7 x 1)
• Occurrences	35	(7 x 5) times
• Numeric value	8,246	(7 x 1,178)
• v.20 vocabulary 14	(7 x 2)	
- found previously	7	(7 x 1)
- found only here	7	(7 x 1)

Word Forms:

• Total Forms	133	(7 x 19)
• Value of total	89,663	(7 x 12,809)
• Occur once	112	(7 x 16)
• Occurring more than once	21	(7 x 3)
• Occurring 63 times	63	(7 x 9)

- Total Occurrences 112 + 63 = 175 (7 x 25)
- Total Value 103,663 (7 x 14,809)

qanasimoj, *deadly*:

- Not found elsewhere in New Testament
 - Has a numeric value of 581 (7 x 83)
- Is preceded
 - in the vocabulary by 42 (7 x 6) words
 - in the passage itself by 126 (7 x 18) words

Chances of Multiples of 7

For 10	7 ¹⁰	282,475,249
For 11	7 ¹¹	1,977,326,743
For 12	7 ¹²	13,841,287,201
For 13	7 ¹³	96,889,010,047
For 14	7 ¹⁴	678,223,072,849
For 15	7 ¹⁵	4,747,561,509,943
For 16	7 ¹⁶	33,232,930,569,601
For 17	7 ¹⁷	232,630,513,987,207
For 18	7 ¹⁸	1,628,413,597,910,449
For 19	7 ¹⁹	11,398,895,185,373,143
For 20	7 ²⁰	79,792,266,297,612,001
For 21	7 ²¹	558,545,864,083,284,007
For 22	7 ²²	3,909,821,048,582,988,049
For 23	7 ²³	27,368,747,340,080,916,343
For 24	7 ²⁴	191,581,231,380,566,414,401
For 25	7 ²⁵	1,341,068,619,663,964,900,807
For 26	7 ²⁶	9,387,480,337,647,754,305,649
For 27	7 ²⁷	65,712,362,363,534,280,139,543
For 28	7 ²⁸	459,986,536,544,739,960,976,801
For 29	7 ²⁹	3,219,905,755,813,179,726,837,607
For 30	7 ³⁰	22,539,340,290,692,258,087,863,249
For 31	7 ³¹	157,775,382,034,845,806,615,042,743
For 32	7 ³²	1,104,427,674,243,920,646,305,299,201
For 33	7 ³³	7,730,993,719,707,444,524,137,094,407
For 34	7 ³⁴	54,116,956,037,952,111,668,959,660,849

Still want to try?

- $7^{34} = \sim 5.4 \times 10^{28}$ tries would be needed.
- There are $\sim 3.15 \times 10^7$ sec/year;
- 400 million tries per second?
- At 4×10^8 tries/sec, it would take about 4.3×10^{12} computer-years: = 1,000,000 supercomputers 4,300,000 years? *And that's with only 34 distinctive features of sevens; Panin has identified 75!*

Unique Vocabularies?

- Vocabulary unique to Matthew
 - occurs 42 times (7 x 6)
 - with 126 letters (7 x 18).
 - How could this have been organized?
 - prior agreement with other authors?
 - or was this Gospel written *last*?
 - Gospel of Matthew
 - Gospel of Mark
 - Gospel of Luke
 - Gospel of John
 - James, Peter, Jude, and Paul ...each "written last."
- * * *
- **Deut 4:2:**
Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.
 - **Rev 22:18,19:**
For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: *And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*

- **Psalm 12:6, 7:**
The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.
- **Isaiah 40:8:**
The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.
- **Deut 12:32:** *What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.*
- **Matthew 24:35:** *Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*
- **Jeremiah 26:2:** *Thus saith the LORD; Stand in the court of the LORD'S house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the LORD'S house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word:*
- **Mark 8:38:** *Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.*
- **Psalm 138:2:** *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.*
- Sir Frederick Kenyon, noted expert: "We have in our hands, in substantial integrity, the veritable word of God."
Story of the Bible, p.113.

Why We Accept the Bible

- The authentication of Christ.
 - LXX: over 300 detailed specifications.
 - Daniel “70 Weeks” undeniable.
- The authentication by Christ.
 - The Torah, Daniel, et al.
- Integrated Design
 - Transcendental Origin, 66 separate books penned by over 40 different individuals over several thousand years that anticipate, in detail, events *before* they happen. A design from *outside* our time domain!

How Can You Know?

- John 7:17: *If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.*

* * *

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