



the Dean Burgon News

IN DEFENSE OF TRADITIONAL BIBLE TEXTS

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NO. 35 OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE DEAN BURGON SOCIETY August, 1988--April, 1989

DBS IN GRAFTON JULY 12-13!

What A Meeting!

What a memorable meeting we had at the METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH in LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, for our 10th Anniversary meeting of the DEAN BURGON SOCIETY, AUGUST 3-4, 1988!! Though this meeting is HISTORY, we look back on it with fond memories, and THANK publicly both Dr. Thomas Golden, President of FAITH BIBLE COLLEGE, who invited us, and Pastor Wayne Adams, who allowed us to use his fine facilities. The church staff was helpful and cooperative, and we thank ALL CONCERNED!

Get Video & Audio '88

You can capture all of the sights and sounds of our DEAN BURGON SOCIETY '88 meeting by ordering either the AUDIO CASSETTES (#1637/1-5) for a GIFT to DBS of \$15.00 or the VIDEO CASSETTES (#1637VC1-2) for a GIFT to DBS of \$25.00. You can RE-LIVE the Louisville 10th Anniversary meetings of our DEAN BURGON SOCIETY in this way. We had some very good messages this past year.

Come To Illinois!

This year, the DEAN BURGON SOCIETY annual meetings will be hosted by Pastor William Hendricks and his FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF GRAF-

TON in GRAFTON, ILLINOIS. The meetings will be on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, July 12 and 13, 1989. We invite you ALL to join us there for these meetings. The FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH is affiliated with the GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF REGULAR BAPTIST CHURCHES, and is located at 150 Brown Street (Box 288 for mail) in Grafton, Illinois. The PHONE numbers are: 618-786-3379 and/or 618-786-2016. I'm sure that Pastor Hendricks would appreciate your giving him a PHONE CALL and telling him you'll be there! Ask him about nearby motels also.

The Tentative Schedule

Our schedule of meetings will be similar to that which we have had in past years. We will have our EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING lunch on Wednesday, July 12th, from 12-2 p.m. with the MEETING from 2-5 p.m. SUPPER is from 5-7 p.m. (Anyone who wishes may sit in on these meetings with us.) Our PUBLIC MEETING will be from 7-9 p.m. on WEDNESDAY evening.

On THURSDAY, July 13th here's the schedule: Speakers from 9-10 a.m. and from 10-11 a.m. QUESTIONS & ANSWERS from 11-12 a.m. LUNCH from 12-2 p.m. and speakers from 2-3 p.m. and 3-4 p.m. with QUESTIONS & ANSWERS from 4-5 p.m. SUPPER from 5-7 p.m. Speakers again from 7-8 p.m. and 8-9 p.m. You won't want to miss a single session!

Where Is Grafton?

Here's a LITTLE MAP to let you know just exactly where GRAFTON, ILLINOIS is. You'll note that it is just west of ALTON, ILLINOIS, and just northwest of ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.



Now that you know where it is, can we count on YOU to be with us WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, JULY 12-13, 1989?! We'd love to meet you!

Our Speakers

Our program this year is being planned by one of our DBS Vice Presidents, Pastor Bob Steward. He has contacted the various people and is awaiting their replies as to their

THE DEAN BURGON SOCIETY, INC. proudly takes its name in honor of Rev. John William Burgon (1813-1888), the Dean of Chichester in England, whose tireless and accurate scholarship and contribution in the area of New Testament Textual Criticism; whose defense of the Traditional Greek New Testament Text against its many enemies; and whose firm belief in the verbal inspiration and inerrancy of the Bible, we believe, have all been unsurpassed either before or since his time!

topics. This year, we plan to have speaking divided up in both 50' sessions on occasion, and also some 25' sessions, allowing two to speak in one major session. This will permit more speakers and more topics to be treated. During some of the 25' sessions, in fact, we may also have some 5' or 10' segments from various men and women who have been active "IN DEFENSE OF TRADITIONAL BIBLE TEXTS" and would like to give their testimony concerning these things. If YOU are interested in giving your 5' TESTIMONY during these segments, please contact Pastor Bob Steward by phoning him at 517-539-7301 or 517-539-7292 or writing him at FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 3088 Mostetler Rd. Box 470, Harrison, Michigan. He'd be glad to hear from you and discuss this with you.

Our Theme

The THEME of each of our speakers is "IN DEFENSE OF TRADITIONAL BIBLE TEXTS." Though the specific MESSAGES might be different--and they should be--this will continue to be our MAIN THEME AND EMPHASIS. We, as the DEAN BURGON SOCIETY, are a ONE ISSUE organization. It is true that our Executive Committee Members and DBS Members come from various places, ministries, and positions, yet this ONE ISSUE binds us all into ONE. Without a SOUND BIBLE, there can be no such thing as SOUND DOCTRINE! We HAVE a SOUND BIBLE in our KING JAMES BIBLE, the "TRADITIONAL BIBLE TEXT" of the English-speaking world! We also have a SOUND BIBLE in our MASORETIC HEBREW TEXT that underlies our KJB, the "TRADITIONAL BIBLE TEXT" of the Hebrew Old Testament. We also have a SOUND BIBLE in our RECEIVED GREEK TEXT that underlies our KJB, the "TRADITIONAL BIBLE TEXT" of the Greek New Testament. We stand for ALL of these "TRADITIONAL BIBLE TEXTS" without apology! This is the THEME of our DEAN BURGON SOCIETY! Won't YOU join with us in this needed THEME in 1989?!

Executive Committee

Elected at our Louisville Meeting last July as members of the DBS Executive Committee and as DBS TITLED OFFICERS were as follows: (A) TITLED OFFICERS: (1) Vice President: Dr. M. James Hollowood of Watertown, WI; (2) Vice President: Pastor Bob Steward, of Harrison, MI; (3) Secretary: Mr. Pete VanKleeck, of Philadelphia, PA; (4) Treasurer: Pastor Harry Morgan, of Pennsauken, NJ; and (5) President: Dr. D. A. Waite, of Collingswood, NJ. (B) Other members of the DBS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE were: (6) Pastor Robert Barnett, of Grayling, MI; (7) Pastor Paul Fedena, of Fairless Hills, PA; (8) Pastor Paul Gordon, of Fairless Hills, PA; (9) Mr. Shirl Graham, of Rosebush, MI; (10) Pastor Bill Hendricks, of Grafton, IL; (11) Pastor David Hollowood, of Freeport, IL; (12) Pastor Rob Madden of Sacramento, CA; (13) Pastor William McCallister, of Carson City, MI; (14) Pastor Jack Moorman, of Shropshire, England; (15) Dr. F. G. Pangburn, of Bridgeton, NJ; (16) Mr. I. Eugene Runte, of Barleysville, IL; (17) Mr. Stephen Rushmeier, of Johnson Creek, WI; (18) Mr. R. O. Sanborn, of St. Petersburg, FL (Now, HOME in HEAVEN as of August 4, 1988, one day after being re-elected); and (19) Pastor William VanKleeck, of Roscommon, MI. Please PRAY for our present DBS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE!

A Soldier Fallen

Another DBS SOLDIER, and faithful and helpful member of our DBS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE has FALLEN! My own father-in-law, Mr. R. O. Sanborn, formerly of St. Petersburg, Florida, has gone home to be with the Lord Jesus Christ, and to join his wife, Gertrude G. Sanborn, who preceded him by only two months. Dad Sanborn was a faithful and regular monthly contributor to the DEAN BURGON SOCIETY and, as a successful Christian layman, stood clearly and in an outspoken manner for the KING

JAMES BIBLE! He will be missed by all of us! Who will take his place in the ranks?!! Will YOU?

Get Statement

If you have not already done so, why not send for a copy of our blue "ARTICLES OF FAITH" of the DEAN BURGON SOCIETY. It gives our doctrinal position as well as giving our organizational structure, purposes, and principles. There is a MEMBERS APPLICATION BLANK in the back of this booklet that you can use either to JOIN the DBS (\$7.00 per year) or to SUBSCRIBE to our DEAN BURGON NEWS (\$3.50 per year). Why not do one or the other or both NOW!

Beware New Group

In a letter of December 31, 1988, we were informed by Dr. Wilbur N. Pickering of the formation of a new group called the MAJORITY TEXT SOCIETY. Dr. Pickering is its President. Other officers are Arthur L. Farstad, Vice President; Frank C. Carmical, Secretary; and Zane C. Hodges, Treasurer. The letter stated:

"What better way to honor the one hundredth anniversary of the death of John William Burgon (d. 1888), that grand champion of the Majority (nee Traditional) Text, than by the organization of a Society to give continuity to that championship? I believe the time is right for such an initiative."

"The years 1976-79 saw a flurry of activity that brought the claims of the Majority Text to the public eye. The publication of The Greek New Testament according to the Majority Text in 1982 (2nd ed. 1985) gave substance to our claims and generated another round of scholarly attention."

But, is this SOCIETY SOUND? The DEAN BURGON SOCIETY says NO!!

JOIN THE DEAN BURGON SOCIETY NOW !

No To "Majority Text"!

We have TWO very good refutations of the so-called "MAJORITY TEXT" of Hodges and Farstad, such as advocated by the "MAJORITY TEXT SOCIETY." If you want a BRIEF, yet adequate refutation, we urge you to order #1448 for a GIFT to DBS of \$3/\$1.50 by Rev. D. A. Waite, Th.D., Ph.D. It is entitled, "SEVEN DEFECTS IN THE SO-CALLED 'MAJORITY GREEK TEXT.'"

For a longer, and more exhaustive treatment, we recommend you get #1617 for a GIFT to DBS of \$12.00. It is 160 large pages of solid documentation and refutation of this text by Rev. Jack A. Moorman. It is entitled, "WHEN THE KJV DEPARTS FROM THE 'MAJORITY TEXT'--A NEW TWIST IN THE CONTINUING ATTACK ON THE AUTHORIZED VERSION--WITH MANUSCRIPT DIGEST." While we're glad for any help Dr. Pickering's book on the IDENTITY OF THE N.T. TEXT (#556 for a GIFT to DBS of \$10.50) is in exploding the false theories of Westcott and Hort, we do NOT believe the so-called "MAJORITY TEXT" has been constructed in any way whatsoever in accord to the principles of DEAN JOHN WILLIAM BURGON!

For the true principles of DEAN JOHN WILLIAM BURGON in handling the New Testament Greek text, get our book on "HOW AND WHEN DEAN JOHN WILLIAM BURGON WOULD REVISE THE TEXTUS RECEPTUS AND THE KJV." It is #804 (55 pages) and is available for a GIFT to DBS of \$5.00. With this study, you can see not only the precise METHODS advocated by Dean Burgon, but also the precise ways in which the METHODS used by the so-called "Majority Text" do NOT follow what Dean Burgon has suggested. In fact, the "Majority Text" is a veritable BLASPHEMY against the methods advocated by Burgon! Get #804 and you can see this for yourself! Don't forget to get also #1448 and #1617 so that you can be well armed with the TRUTH against the so-called "MAJORITY TEXT" of Hodges & Farstad!

Student Winner

The following is the winning essay from the High School Essay Contest on the KJV which was sponsored by Rev. J. Paul Reno of Hagerstown, Maryland and Dr. David Otis Fuller.

"THE SUPERIORITY OF THE KJV OVER THE NIV"

By Chris Johnson

The Translators. When looking at a particular translation, one must begin with the translators themselves. Just what do the translators believe? What is their purpose in translating the Scriptures?

54 Men. The task of translating the KING JAMES VERSION was given to more than 54 different men, a large number of whom were Puritans. Each man had an assigned portion of Scripture to translate out of the original Hebrew and Greek texts. It was then passed on to each of the other scholars for their individual criticism.

The Groups. The NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION was translated by over one hundred. It was revised three times, but, as the preface to the version states, "to safeguard the translation from sectarian bias," scholars from many denominations were assigned the work. Those denominations include Anglican, Assemblies of God, Baptist, Brethren, Christian Reformed, Church of Christ, Evangelical Free, Lutheran, Mennonite, Methodist, Nazarene, Presbyterian, and Wesleyan. It should be quite obvious to anyone that striving to prevent sectarian bias by joining together several different denominations and sects can lead only to compromise. We are talking about a compromise of the truth of the God-inspired Scriptures by which only mankind can learn how to be saved from an eternal hell. That in itself, or even the possibility of such corruption, should be sufficient to condemn the NIV to the lower rank of translations.

The Purpose. The purpose for translating the Scriptures into the AUTHORIZED VERSION was so that the English speaking people would have

a reliable translation in their own language; so that it could be read in the home of the common man in his own tongue. Many translations at that time were never completed, and those that were completed were corrupted and/or in Latin or another language which only highly educated men could read.

The KJV's Textual Basis. The basis for the KJV is the Hebrew Masoretic Text and the Greek Received Text, or Textus Receptus. The Received Text is composed of the basic manuscript copies from which the New Testament as translated and has been traced back to its apostolic origin. [One Dr. Nolan spent 28 years tracing the Received Text to its apostolic original. David Otis Fuller, 'God Wrote Only One Bible' Tract, p. 4].

The KJV's Translation Methods. The translators strove for a word-for-word translation as much as their ability allowed while, at the same time, instilling a smoothness and melody which had never before been reached in an English Bible. Concerning the direct translation of the Authorized Version, it has been said that

"If accuracy and strictest attention to the letter of the text be supposed to constitute an excellent version, this is of all versions the most excellent."² ["How We Got Our Bible" tract, p. 7, Trinitarian Bible Society, London.]

Concerning its easy readability, yet authoritativeness, it has been described as the

"purest well of our native English, in its grand simplicity standing out in contrast to the ornate and affected diction of the language of that time."²

[Loc. cit.]

The NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION'S Purpose. The purpose for the New International Version was to introduce a Bible that would "fit in" with the modern-day world. It was to be a Bible that anyone could read and understand. As the

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preface to the NIV states:

"The New International Version should be idiomatic but not idiosyncratic, contemporary but not dated. . . . A present-day translation is not enhanced by forms that in the time of the King James Version were used in everyday speech. . . . Because for most readers today the phrase 'the Lord of hosts' and 'God of hosts' have little meaning, this translation renders them 'the LORD Almighty and 'God Almighty.'" [Preface to the New International Version].

Although it is classified as a translation, it could be better defined as an interpretation in some portions.

The NIV O.T. & N.T. Texts.

Although the Old Testament translation was based mainly on the same text as that used for the KJV, other versions were consulted where the Masoretic Text "seemed doubtful." [NIV Preface]. The New Testament was translated by using an eclectic method (choosing best portions from all available sources). Such a method can be good in one sense, yet, if all available manuscripts are not considered, it can be fatal.

The Flaws In NIV's Texts.

The particular method used in translating the NIV's Old and New Testaments has been fatal in that several corrupt manuscripts have been consulted and employed. This produced several rather serious doctrinal alterations. The NIV Greek text is much closer to the one used by the Jehovah's Witnesses' New World Translation than it is to that of the King James Bible.

NIV Treatment Of Evidence.

The NIV translators were not always consistent in their treatment of evidence. In several passages, phrases and sentences have been left totally out of the NIV's text on the basis of supposedly earlier and more reliable manuscripts. There is no evidence that the earli-

er the manuscript the more reliable it is. "Later" manuscripts are usually copies, or copies of copies, of "earlier" ones. There were corrupt manuscripts made during and right after the apostles' time just as there were in later centuries, so the date does not necessarily prove reliability.

Example Of NIV Inconsistency.

An example of this inconsistency can be found in Mark 16:9-20. While the majority of manuscripts confirm this passage of Jesus' resurrection as being true the NIV states after verse 8 that, "The most reliable early manuscripts do not have Mark 16:9-20." This is done mainly on the evidence of two 4th century Greek manuscripts. Another example of such degradation of the Scriptures is found in 1 John 5:7-8. A portion of these verses which so capably present the Trinity and Unity of God, is left out of the text and put in a footnote. Other important references left out can be found in Matthew 5:22; 5:44; 6:13; 17:21; 18:11; Mark 7:16; 11:26; Luke 9:55-56; Romans 8:1; and Colossians 1:14.

Translating From The Hebrew And Greek. It must be understood that sentence structure and thought patterns differ from language to language. This means that if one changes the sentence structure while translating, the original thought is either lost or not fully conveyed. In some places, words must be added to the context for it to make sense. This presents little problem when translating from Hebrew or Greek into English because the English language has such a rich vocabulary and variety about it that, in most cases, it is quite capable of retaining the Hebrew and Greek sentence structure.

KJV Differs From NIV In Translating. The KJV adheres to the original sentence structure when possible; the NIV does not. In its attempt to simplify and explain one particular thought from one particular passage, the NIV loses several other thoughts which may be presented in that same passage. One can-

not accurately translate by striving "for more than a word-for-word translation" [Preface to NIV] and attempting, through the reorganization of sentence structure, to present the THOUGHTS contained in a passage. After all, it is the WORDS of God being dealt with, not the THOUGHTS. What ability do mere humans have to divine the WORDS of the omniscient God? "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord." (Isaiah 55:8).

NIV Doctrinal Alterations.

There are a number of doctrinal alterations in the NIV, although, for the most part, it avoids those most obvious. Nevertheless, there are several passages which have been inaccurately translated. This causes confusion.

In Matthew 1:25, the NIV omits the word, "firstborn" on a minimum of evidence. This is a blow to true Christianity in that it supports the Roman Catholic doctrine of Mary's perpetual virginity, that she had no children by an earthly father after Jesus was born.

In Matthew 5:22, the NIV states that "anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment." The KJV states "angry without a cause." God does not set down laws and principles for men and then go contrary to them Himself. There is such a thing as righteous and holy anger, but the NIV gives the impression that there is not such a thing. Does not Psalm 7:11 state that "God is angry with the wicked every day?" The word literally means "to foam at the mouth; to be enraged; to abhor." Compare the AV's Psalm 7:11 to that of the NIV: "God is a righteous judge, a God who expresses his wrath every day." What a lenient, unauthoritative "view" the NIV presents!

In 1 Timothy 3:16, the NIV jeopardizes the deity of Christ when it uses the pronoun "He" and states "He appeared in a body" instead of "God was manifest in the flesh." (1 Timothy 3:16). The ma-

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majority of manuscripts, following the Received Greek Text, read "God" rather than "He," thereby giving a most definite and unarguable statement of Christ's deity. These few, of the several, alterations the NIV makes of the Holy Scriptures serve to show that in striving to prevent sectarian bias, the translators have compromised between several religions to produce a Bible in which the whole and real truth cannot be found.

The KJV As The Word of God In English. The King James Bible of 1611, because of its superior texts, superior translators, and superior techniques, can be truthfully proclaimed to be the Word of God in English to the English-speaking people. Two versions which differ so greatly as the KJV and NIV cannot both claim to be so. Jesus tells us in Matthew 24:35, "MY WORDS shall not pass away." The word "WORDS" here actually mean something that is said as well as the thought that goes with it. The words in the NIV are vastly different from those in the KJV. They are more lenient, less authoritative, and there are inaccuracies which undermine God's Word.

God A God of Order. God is a God of order, not disorder; yet, the NIV is disorderly in places. Take, for example, John 18:1, John 19:41, and Luke 13:19. The same Greek word for "garden" is used in all three instances., but the NIV translates John 18:1 as an "olive grove" and the other two passages as "a garden." Other such examples can be found at Matthew 2:15; 1 Corinthians 4:9; and Galatians 5:25.

KJV, The Bible Of Revival. It is interesting to note that people in the revivals on which God truly breathed in the past were using the King James Bible. It is also interesting that the American astronauts read and broadcast to the world the creation story from the Authorised Version while they were encircling the moon.

Westcott & Hort's Variations. When one looks at the few examples printed above of the inconsisten-

cies of the NIV, one is not quite so dismayed, as when he backs off and looks at the book as a whole. Westcott and Hort, who brought the Vaticanus and Sinaiticus manuscripts to authority in 1881, made over 5,337 deviations in their own Greek text from the Textus Receptus. The NIV relies heavily on the Westcott-Hort Text.

Westcott & Hort Leaned Toward Romanism. It is quite apparent from statements made by Mr. Westcott and Mr. Hort that both leaned toward the Roman Catholic persuasion. Mr. Westcott stated:

"After leaving the monastery, we shaped our course to a little oratory which we discovered on the summit of a neighboring hill. . . . Fortunately, we found the door open. It is very small, with one kneeling-place; and behind a screen was a 'Pieta' the size of life (i.e. a Virgin and dead Christ). . . . Had I been alone I could have knelt there for hours." [God Wrote Only One Bible" by J. J. Ray, p. 29.].

Mr. Hort wrote:

"I have been persuaded for many years that Mary-worship and Jesus-worship have very much in common in their causes and their results." [Loc. cit.]

No Peace In The NIV. In such a version as the NIV, one cannot find a true peace because of the fusions and confusions of so many religions. One is made uncomfortable and wary as to what the truth is. If one knows that only one thing has been omitted or added, there is a perpetual doubt as to the authenticity of the rest. One cannot fully trust that he has an accurate translation of the Word of God, and he cannot be sure that his Christian life is in harmony with what God wishes it to be.

The KJV Superior To The NIV. I have come to the conclusion that the King James Bible is the Word of God to the English speaking world

which is superior to all others "versions." The New International Version is inferior, conforming with the worldly expectations of unbelieving readers. "Making the Word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye" (Mark 7:13).

A SUMMARY

OF
Rev. Jack A. Moorman's Book,
"WHEN THE KJV DEPARTS
FROM THE SO-CALLED
'MAJORITY' GREEK TEXT"

By: Rev. D. A. Waite, Th.D., Ph.D.
President, THE DEAN BURGON SOCIETY

April 1, 1989

[NOTE: The entire 160-page book is available as #1617 for a GIFT to DBS of \$12.00.]

I. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS ABOUT THIS BOOK

A. The Author. The author is Rev. Jack A. Moorman who was trained in the United States and for many years was a missionary in South Africa. He was also active as President and Professor in a Baptist College in Johannesburg while there. He has studied and taught in the area of Biblical Textual Criticism, and has accumulated a voluminous library on this difficult subject. He is now a missionary in England. Before departing from South Africa, he was granted an honorary doctor's degree from the college there.

B. Other Books Published. In addition to this present book, he has written FOREVER SETTLED--A SURVEY OF BIBLE DOCUMENTS AND HISTORY. This is published by THE BIBLE FOR TODAY. It is 217 large pages and is available for a GIFT to DBS of \$15.00. This is an excellent history of the entire textual subject, and should be in the hands of EVERYONE! He has also written a new book which will be available soon entitled "MISSING

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IN MODERN BIBLES--IS THE FULL STORY BEING TOLD?" It is 80 large pages, and will be available soon when published by THE BIBLE FOR TODAY. It is a chapter by chapter analysis of the Westcott & Hort Greek text compared to the Textus Receptus showing the former to be 2,886 WORDS SHORTER than the latter! It also shows those words left out of the NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION among many other things.

C. The Full Title Of This Work. The complete title of this book we are summarizing here is: "WHEN THE KJV DEPARTS FROM THE 'MAJORITY' TEXT--A NEW TWIST IN THE CONTINUING ATTACK ON THE AUTHORIZED VERSION--WITH MANUSCRIPT DIGEST."

D. The Manuscript Digest. The "manuscript digest" is an extremely valuable part of this book, occupying from pages 31 to 114. It considers every one of the 373 readings of the so-called "Majority" Greek text that change the English translation of the Textus Receptus, giving a full support for these T.R. readings by using (1) four pre-KJV versions [Tyndale, Great, Geneva, and Bishops]; (2) three standard T.R. editions [Stephanus, Beza, and Elzevir]; (3) the papyri; (4) the uncials; (5) the minuscules; (6) "indications" of Von Soden; (7) ancient versions; and (8) quotations of the Church Fathers. This gives ample evidence to retain the Textus Receptus readings that underly the King James Bible.

II. THE UGLY TRUTH ABOUT THE SO-CALLED 'MAJORITY' TEXT OF HODGES & FARSTAD

A. The "Majority" Text of Hodges & Farstad Is Based Mostly On Von Soden's Work. This so-called "Majority" text is not based on "new collations of the manuscripts, but is derived almost entirely from the 1913 edition of HERMANN VON SODEN for Matthew to Jude, and H. C. Hoskier's work (1929) for Revelation." [J. A. Moorman, WHEN THE KJV DEPARTS FROM

THE 'MAJORITY' TEXT, p. 8]

Thus we have, in effect, in the so-called "MAJORITY" text of Hodges & Farstad, merely "Hermann von Soden in a new suit of clothes" [Loc. cit.] Where is the scholarship in this? These editors have merely been "copycats" and "pirates" of another man's work.

B. The "Majority" Text Of Hodges & Farstad Does NOT Follow Dean Burgon's Methods. The newly formed "MAJORITY TEXT SOCIETY," is promoting their group in honor of the 100th anniversary of Dean John William Burgon's death. If you read between the lines of their public announcement, you are led to conclude that their "Majority" Greek text would be approved by Dean Burgon and that they are, somehow, Burgon's successors in the field. Nothing could be further from the truth! Burgon called for ORIGINAL collations of manuscripts! He would never beg, borrow, or steal from another man's work in wholesale fashion to accomplish his purposes. This is merely a short-cut method which was seized by Nelson Publishers as a means of making profit on an ill-advised, short-cut, inferior, unscholarly product of Hodges and Farstad. In this regard, BOTH publisher and editors are to be faulted.

C. Von Soden's Theological And Textual Beliefs Are NOT To Be Trusted. As to his theological position, Berlin professor Hermann "von Soden was a RATIONALIST" [Loc. cit.]. As to his textual framework and belief,

"Von Soden's text is so THOROUGHLY ALEXANDRIAN that it falls into line with HORT, irrespective of MS evidence." [Ibid., p. 11].

Regardless of any other strengths or weaknesses, surely this is a very shaky and dangerous reed on which to lean!

D. Von Soden's Work Was Inaccurate, Partial, And "HONEYCOMBED WITH ERRORS." Here are some assessments of Von Soden's work from a number of different sources.

1. Hermann C. Hoskier

Concluded That Von Soden's Work Was "HONEYCOMBED WITH ERRORS." Hoskier, himself a very painstaking textual scholar and writer, wrote:

"I had looked for great things from Dr. von Soden's final volume of the Text. . . . Alas, he has but COMPLICATED OUR PROBLEMS, and instead of writing a eulogy on his work I REGRET TO HAVE TO CONDEMN IT STRONGLY. . . . As to the presentment of the combined critical material, after making every allowance for the division of work among forty people it can only be said that THE APPARATUS IS POSITIVELY HONEYCOMBED WITH ERRORS, and many documents which should have been recollated have not been touched, others only partially, and others again have been INCORRECTLY HANDLED." [Ibid., p. 9]

As if this were not enough, Hoskier, "in the next twenty pages" of his work "proceeds to document a MOST SCATHING INDICTMENT." After hearing of von Soden's sudden death, Hoskier wrote: "I regret that there has been so much to criticize as to his work. I wish I could have seen any way to modify it." [CODEX B AND ITS ALLIES, p. 461, available in reprint form as #1643 for a GIFT to DBS of \$50.00. It is a two volume set of 924 pages in all.]

2. James Royce Believed That Von Soden's Work Contained "UNACCEPTABLE INACCURACY." In 1979, he wrote:

"Von Soden's critical edition of the Greek N.T. has remained a principle source of information on the readings of many minuscules. . . however, there have been frequent charges of undue complexity and UNACCEPTABLE INACCURACY." [Moorman, Ibid., p. 10].

3. Frederik Wisse Thought Von Soden's Work "COULD NOT BE TOLERATED FOR ANY PURPOSE." In his Profiles On Luke, he wrote:

REQUEST OUR DBS "ARTICLES OF FAITH"

"In order to make an independent judgment of the matter, a test was run to measure the EXTENT OF VON SODEN'S INACCURACY. Luke 1 was chosen, since it is one of the sample chapters of the Profile Method, and, more importantly, hundreds of twice-checked collations were available with microfilms through the office of the IGNTP in Claremont."

"A careful count revealed that von Soden claims to use 120 MSS in the apparatus to Luke 1. It should be borne in mind that von Soden does not always use a MS throughout. A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF MSS WERE ONLY PARTIALLY COLLATED. Why these MSS were not used in toto is not clear, but time and opportunity must have been the determining factors . . ."

"Through the good offices of the IGNTP, 99 of the 120 MSS could be checked . . ."

"ONCE THE EXTENT OF ERROR IS SEEN, THE WORD 'INACCURACY' BECOMES A EUPHEMISM. Of the 99 checked MSS, 76 were missing one or more times when they should have been cited, or were listed when they should NOT have been. This breaks down into 59 MSS which were MISSING in von Soden's apparatus from 1 to 4 times, and 39 which were ADDED INCORRECTLY from 1 to 6 times."

". . . VON SODEN'S INACCURACIES CANNOT BE TOLERATED FOR ANY PURPOSE. HIS APPARATUS IS USELESS FOR A RECONSTRUCTION OF THE TEXT OF THE MSS HE USED." [Profile Method, pp. 16- 17].

And yet, despite Wisse's cautions, "Hodges and Farstad went ahead and used von Soden to RECONSTRUCT THE RECEIVED TEXT"! [Moorman, Ibid., p. 11]

E. Von Soden Made Only A Cursory Sampling Of The Vast Numbers Of Manuscripts.

1. Von Soden's Work Was Extremely Partial. Moorman shows that (1) von Soden did not SEE a "MAJORITY" of the manuscripts; (2) von Soden did not COLLATE a "MAJORITY" of the manuscripts which he did see; and (3) among the manuscripts von Soden did collate, only a RELATIVE FEW received a HIGH PERCENTAGE collation. [Ibid., p. 12].

2. A Very Important Question For Hodges And Farstad. In view of the foregoing, Moorman asked a very pertinent and obvious question:

"How can Hodges and Farstad reconstruct the God-honoured Textus Receptus on the claim of 'MAJORITY' MS support when neither they nor von Soden nor anyone else has even begun to collate the 'MAJORITY' of MSS?" [Loc. cit.]

This question cries out for an ANSWER. Surely HODGES' HURRY, FARSTAD'S FALLACIES, and NELSON'S NEGLECT must be, at this point, quite obvious! The so-called "MAJORITY" TEXT indeed!

3. Von Soden Used ONLY 414 Manuscripts Out Of Over 5,255!

Now for our more MATHEMATICAL students who might be reading this summary, a "MAJORITY" of 5,255 is 2,628. Even if, per chance, 100% of the 414 manuscripts used by von Soden were in agreement, (and they were NOT!) this is a long, LONG, LONG way from 2,628. In fact, it is a little less than 8% of 5,255! What gives Nelson Publishers and the editors, Hodges and Farstad, the right to call their Greek Text a "MAJORITY" Text?! Over whose eyes have they attempted to pull the proverbial wool?

4. The Tally By Type Of The Manuscripts Von Soden Used.

Moorman lists every one of the 414 manuscripts von Soden used (pp. 13-14). Here's the box score:

a. Von Soden Used Only 16% Of The Papyri Manuscripts

(13 Out Of 81).

b. Von Soden Used Only 31% Of The Uncial Manuscripts (84 Out Of 267).

c. Von Soden Used Only 11% Of The Cursive Manuscripts (317 Out Of 2,764).

d. Von Soden Used 0% Of The Lectionary Manuscripts (0 Out of 2,143).

e. Von Soden Used IN ALL Only 8% OF ALL THE MANUSCRIPT EVIDENCE (414 Out Of 5,255).

f. Neither Van Soden Nor Hodges and Farstad Made Any Use Of The Early Versions Or The More Than 86,000 Quotations From The Church Fathers. If you are attempting to revise the Textus Receptus Greek New Testament according to the principles laid down by Dean John William Burgon, you must be certain to include both the evidence of the Early Versions of the New Testament and also the more than 86,000 quotations of the New Testament from the Church Fathers. To eliminate this evidence in an effort to modify the Textus Receptus in from 1,800 to 3,000 places and to use a mere 8% of the MANUSCRIPT evidence is a FATAL FLAW--A TRAVESTY ON TRUTH!

III. CONFIDENCE RESTORED IN THE READINGS OF THE TEXTUS RECEPTUS

From page 31 through page 114 of Moorman's book, there is a "MANUSCRIPT DIGEST," giving an enormous amount of solid evidence in favor of the Greek readings underlying the KING JAMES BIBLE which are opposed to the readings either of the so-called "MAJORITY" text or the "CRITICAL" text. There are 373 verses included in this "DIGEST." It is well worth the price of the book just to have the benefit of this careful, painstaking research. You have no need to apologize for the readings that underlie our KING JAMES BIBLE to anyone. You can accept them with CONFIDENCE as well as with FAITH in a God Who not only PROMISED to preserve His Words, but Who has FULFILLED that promise!

Send TODAY for this #1617 for a GIFT to DBS of \$12.00!

PRAY FOR THE DEAN BURGON SOCIETY!

SEE YOU JULY 12-13!

Our Schedule

This year's 11th ANNUAL DEAN BURGON SOCIETY MEETING will seek to use MORE SPEAKERS than in the past. One of our DBS Vice Presidents, Pastor Bob Steward of Harrison, Michigan, is our PROGRAM CHAIRMAN. He and the President worked out the following TENTATIVE TIME SCHEDULE for meetings. We hope to have all the speakers' names and topics in our NEXT ISSUE of the DEAN BURGON NEWS:

I. WED., JULY 12, 1989:

- 12:00--2:00 p.m. LUNCH
 2-5 p.m. DBS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 2-5 p.m. DBS LADIES MEETINGS
 5-7 p.m. SUPPER
 7-8 p.m. MESSAGE
 Pastor Bob Steward (MI)
 8-9 p.m. MESSAGE
 Pastor Paul Fedena (PA)

II. THUR., JULY 13, 1989:

- 9-10 a.m. MESSAGE
 Evangelist Gary Hudson (FL)
 10-11 a.m. MESSAGE
 Dr. M. James Hollowood (WI)
 11-11:30 a.m. MESSAGE
 Evangelist Bill Randolph
 11:30--12 a.m. QUESTION TIME
 12-2 p.m. LUNCH
 2-2:30 p.m. MESSAGE
 Pastor Bill VanKleeck
 2:30-3 p.m. MESSAGE
 Mr. Steve Rushmeier
 3-3:30 p.m. MESSAGE
 Mr. Pete VanKleeck

- 3:30-4 p.m. MESSAGE
 Pastor Dave Hollowood
 4-4:30 p.m. TESTIMONIES
 Two or Three Short Testimonies
 4:30-5 p.m. QUESTION TIME
 5-7 p.m. SUPPER
 7-8 p.m. MESSAGE
 Pastor Bob Barnett
 8-9 p.m. MESSAGE
 Dr. D. A. Waite

Ladies Meet

WE HOPE that there will be a number of local ladies, wives of our Executive Committee, other DBS members' wives, and other interested ladies who will want to meet together to discuss matters of common interest in this area of the DEFENSE OF TRADITIONAL BIBLE TEXTS. As of now, they plan to meet from 2 to 5 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, July 12th when the DBS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE will be meeting. In this way, the Ladies will be able to attend all of the general sessions, and yet will have some time together as well. Mrs. Waite will be in charge of the LADIES MEETINGS as in other years.

Maps & Motels

Everyone who would like a more DETAILED MAP as well as a list of the MOTELS in and around GRAFTON, ILLINOIS, is urged to write us or call 609-854-4452 (day or night),

and we'll be happy to mail you as many as you might want. If you would like MORE INFORMATION about the Motels, or anything else about the meetings, just PHONE PASTOR BILL HENDRICKS in Grafton, Illinois, at 618-786-2016 or 618-786-3379. He'd be happy to assist you, I am sure.

More Topics

Some of the TOPICS that we'll be taking up this year at the conference are as follows: (1) "WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE NEW SCOTFIELD BIBLE?"; (2) "THE BETRAYAL OF THE WORD OF GOD"; (3) "THE SERIOUS DEFECTS IN THE SO-CALLED HODGES & FARSTAD 'MAJORITY TEXT'"; and (4) "WHY I LEFT RUCKMANISM." These, and SEVEN OTHERS will be covered at Grafton, Illinois, JULY 12-13, 1989. You won't want to miss a single one of these messages.

Tapes & VCRs

We would URGE YOU to PUT IN YOUR ORDER AHEAD OF TIME for either the AUDIO CASSETTES, or the VIDEO CASSETTES so you can SEE and/or HEAR these vital messages! There will be TWO VIDEO CASSETTES for a GIFT to DBS of \$25.00, and about SIX AUDIO CASSETTES for a GIFT to DBS of about \$18.00. Let us hear from you TODAY!

THE BIBLE YOU CAN TRUST--THE KING JAMES VERSION!



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