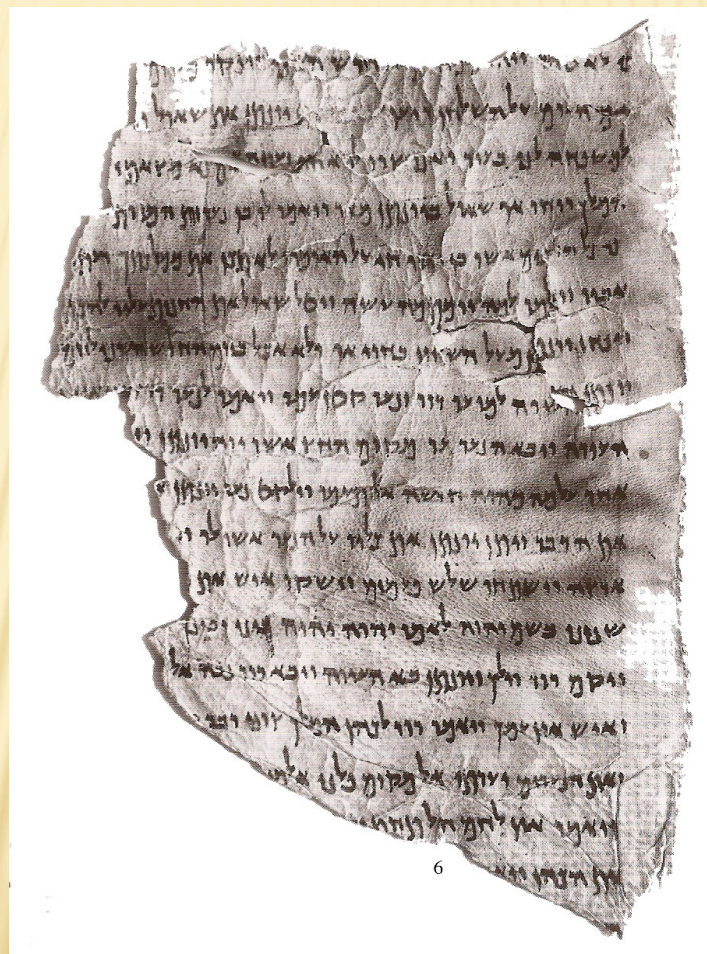
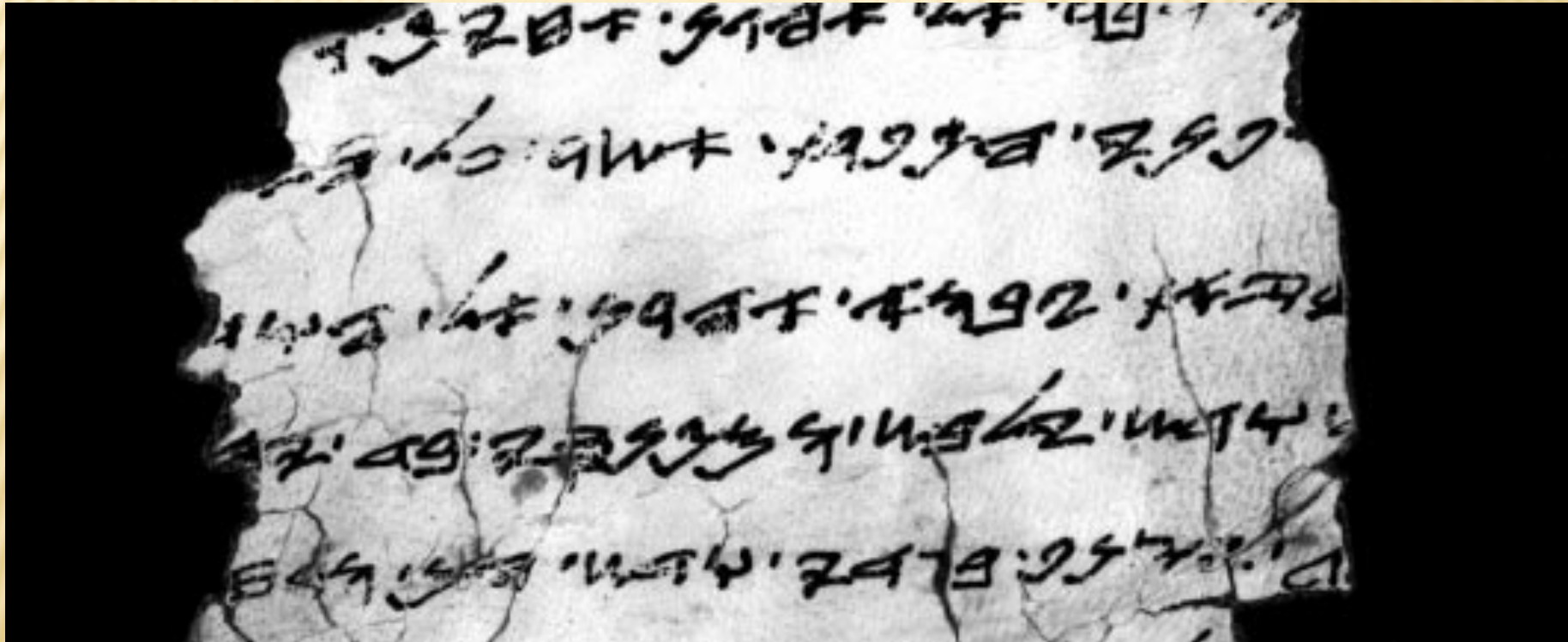


BIBLICAL TEXTUAL CRITICISM

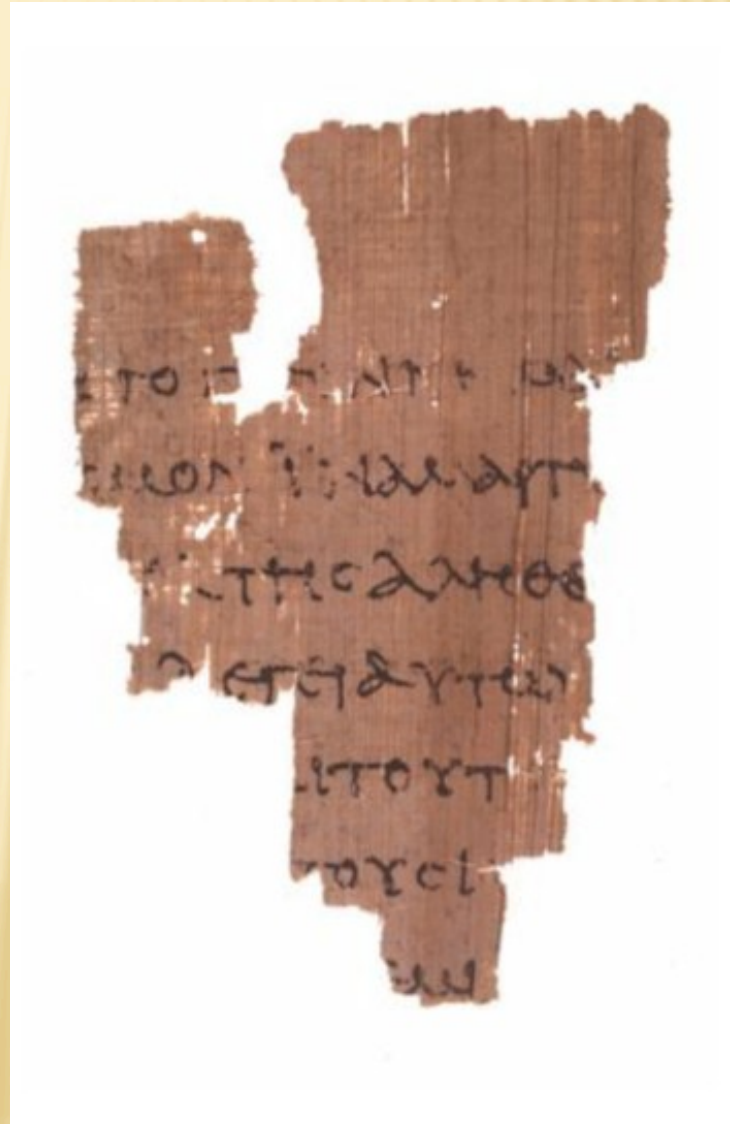
OLDEST FRAGMENT OF OT: 4QSAM^B



4QpaleoLeviticus^a



OFFICIAL FRANCHISE OF THE

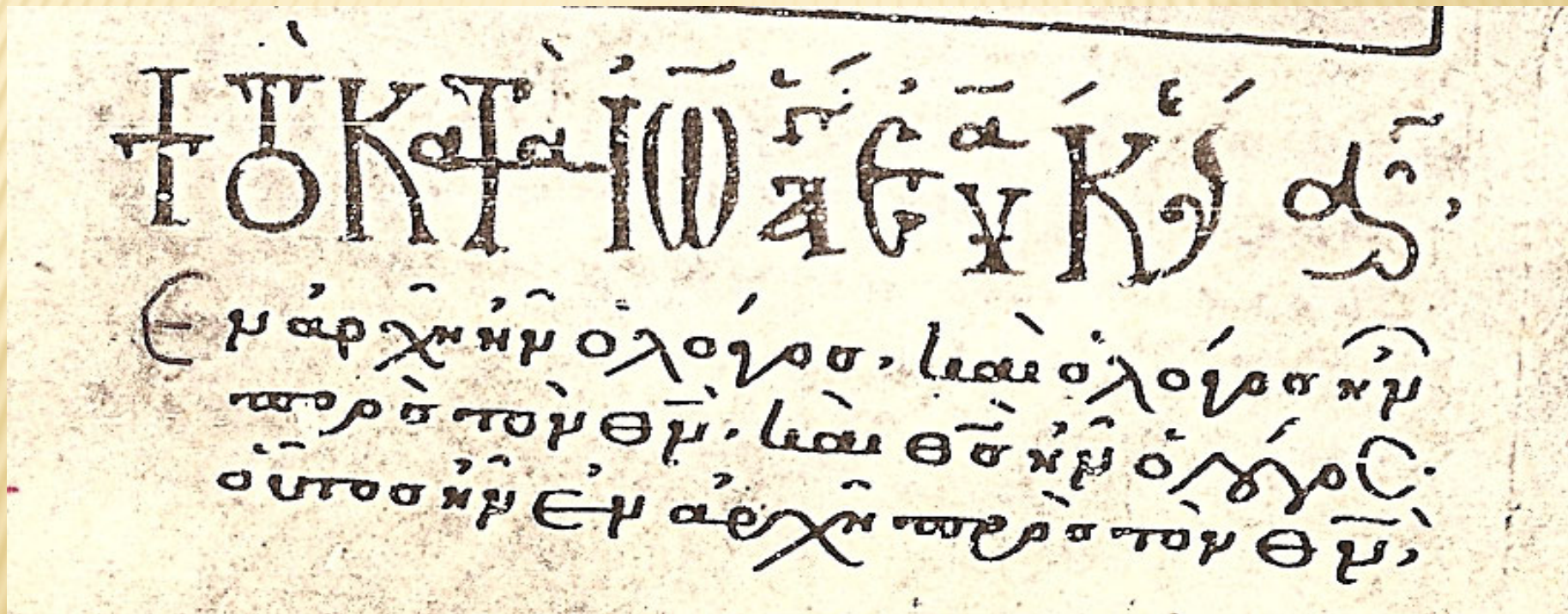


UNCIAL WRITING

ΠΑΥΛΟΣ ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ
ΟΥΚ ΑΠΑΝΘΡΩΠΩ
ΟΥΔΕ ΔΙΑΝΘΟΥ ΑΛΛΑ
ΔΙΑ ΙΥΧΥ ΚΑΙ ΘΥΠΑ
ΤΡΟΣΤΟΥ ΕΓΙΡΑΝΤΟΣ
ΑΥΤΩΝ ΕΚ ΝΕΚΡΩ 6
ΚΑΙ ΟΙΣΥΝ ΕΜΟΙ ΠΑ
ΤΕΣ ΑΔΕΛΦΟΙ ΤΑΙΣ
ΚΛΗΣΙΑΙΣ ΤΗΣ ΓΑΛΑ
ΤΙΑΣ ΧΑΡΙΣ ΥΜΙΝ ΚΑΙ
ΕΙΡΗΝΗ ΑΠΟ ΘΥΠΑ
ΤΡΟΣΗΜΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΚΥ
ΙΥΧΥ ΤΟΥ ΔΟΝΤΟΣ
ΑΥΤΟΝ ΠΕΡΙ ΤΩΝ 7
ΑΜΑΡΤΙΩΝ ΗΜΩΝ

ΑΡΕΣΚΙΝΕΙ ΕΤΙΑΝ
ΘΡΩΠΟΙΣ ΗΡΕΣΚΩ
ΧΥΔΟΥΛΟΣ ΟΥΚ ΑΝΗ
ΜΗΝ
ΓΝΩΡΙΖΩ ΔΕ ΥΜΙΝ 14
ΑΔΕΛΦΟΙ ΤΟ ΕΥΑΓΓΕ
ΛΙΟΝ ΤΟ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙ
ΣΘΕΝ ΥΠΕΜΟΟΥ ΟΤΙ
ΟΥΚ ΕΣΤΙΝ ΚΑΤΑ ΑΝ
ΘΡΩΠΟΝ ΟΥΔΕ ΓΑΡ
ΕΓΩ ΠΑΡΑ ΑΝΘΡΩΠΟΥ
ΠΑΡΕΛΑΒΟΝ ΑΥΤΟΥ
ΔΕ ΕΔΙΔΑΧΘΗΝ ΑΛΛΑ
ΔΙΑΠΟΚΑΛΥΨΕΩ ΙΥ
ΧΥ

MINUSCULE WRITING



THE “ORIGINAL TEXT”

- ✘ Of all the thousands of biblical mss, no two are identical, and *not one is a ms written by the original author*
- ✘ What does this fact imply for the idea of the authority of the original mss?

WHAT IS TEXTUAL CRITICISM?

- ✖ Usual definition: the art and science of recovering the original text of a literary work
- ✖ Preferable definition with respect to the Bible: the art and science of evaluating variant readings, studying the transmission of the work in antiquity, and reconstructing earlier written forms of the work

WHY TEXTUAL CRITICISM?

- ✗ The text of the Bible was modified as it was passed down
 - + sometimes accidentally
 - + sometimes intentionally
- ✗ for a variety of reasons

UNINTENTIONAL CHANGES

DUPLICATION OF LETTERS, WORD, OR PHRASE (DITTOGRAPHY)

- ✘ Ezek 16: 6: and I said to you in your blood, "Live!",
and I said to you in your blood, "Live!" *most witnesses]* *phrase only once in a few witnesses*
- ✘ Acts 19:34: Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!
most witnesses] *phrase repeated in B*

OMISSION OF LETTERS, WORD, OR PHRASE (HAPLOGRAPHY)

- ✖ Gen 4:8 MT: And Cain said to Abel his brother ...]
LXX: And Cain said to Abel his brother, let us go into the field
- ✖ Jn 1:3 apart from him not one thing has come into being $\text{ὅτι ἄνθρωπος ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἦλθεν}$ apart from him nothing has come into being $\text{ὅτι ἄνθρωπος ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἦλθεν}$

OMISSION BY PARABLEPSIS (EYE SKIP)

- ✘ Jdg 16:13-14: "And he said to her, "If you weave the seven braids of my hair with a web [and fasten it to the wall with a pin, I'll grow weak and become like any man." So she put him to sleep and wove the seven braids of his hair with a web] and fastened it with a pin. MT *omits portion in brackets*
- ✘ Jn 17:15 B: I do not pray that you take them [from the world but that you keep them] from the evil one

LETTERS/WORDS THAT LOOK SIMILAR (GRAPHICAL CONFUSION)

- Jer 35:11: Come, let us enter Jerusalem to get away from the armies of the Babylonians and the armies of Aram אַרַם MT] ... and the armies of Edom אֱדוֹם P
- Matt 1:4: Aminadab *most mss*] Aminadam *some minuscules*—both b and m resemble modern u in certain forms of minuscule script

LETTERS/WORDS THAT SOUND SIMILAR (AUDITORY CONFUSION)

- Ps 100:3: he has made us, and not we ourselves
ולא אנחנו MT *ketiv*] he has made us, and we are
his ולו אנחנו MT *qere*
- Rom 5:1: we have peace with God ΕΧΟΜΕΝ] let us
have peace with God ΕΧΩΜΕΝ

INTENTIONAL CHANGES

CORRECTION OF A PASSAGE WITH PERCEIVED THEOLOGICAL PROBLEMS

- Jdg 18:30: Jonathan, son of Gershom, son of Moses (משה) MT *mss*] Jonathan, son of Gershom, son of Manasseh (מנשה) MT
- Jn 7:8: I am *not* going up to this festival *some mss*] I am *not yet* going up to this festival *most mss*

CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL, HISTORICAL, OR FACTUAL ISSUES

- Gen 2:2: and God completed his work on the seventh day MT] and God completed his work on the sixth day SP LXX P
- Mk 1:2: through Isaiah the prophet *oldest mss*] through the prophets *most mss*

LARGE-SCALE VARIANTS

10TH COMMANDMENT: SP

- ✘ Exod 20:17b SP: And it shall be when the Lord your God brings you into the land of the Canaanites, where you are entering, to possess it, that you shall take for yourselves large stones and plaster them with plaster, and you shall write on the stone all the words of this law, and it shall be when you cross over the Jordan, you shall set up these stones, which I have commanded you today, on Mount Gerizim, and you shall build there an altar to the Lord your God, an altar of stones not worked with iron, with whole stones you shall build the altar of the Lord your God, and you shall offer on it offerings to the Lord your God, and you shall sacrifice peace offerings, and you shall eat there and drink before the Lord your God....

1 SAM 10:27-11:1

- ✘ But some worthless fellows said, “How can this man save us?” They despised him and brought him no present. But he held his peace. Nahash the Ammonite went up and besieged Jabesh-gilead; and all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, “Make a treaty with us, and we will serve you.”
- ✘ But some worthless fellows said, “How can this man save us?” They despised him and brought him no present. But he held his peace. Now Nahash, *king of the Ammonites, had been grievously oppressing the Gadites and the Reubenites. He would gouge out the right eye of each of them and would not grant Israel a deliverer. No one was left of the Israelites across the Jordan whose right eye Nahash, king of the Ammonites, had not gouged out. But there were seven thousand men who had escaped from the Ammonites and had entered Jabesh-gilead. About a month later, Nahash the Ammonite went up and besieged Jabesh-gilead; and all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, “Make a treaty with us, and we will serve you.”*

DAVID & GOLIATH: 1 SAM 17

- ✘ LXX omits 17:12-31 (David sent to front lines with food for his brothers)
- ✘ LXX omits 17:41 (Saul's armor bearer)
- ✘ LXX omits 17:50 (no sword in David's hand)
- ✘ LXX omits 17:55-58 (Saul asks who David is)
- ✘ LXX omits 18:1-5 (David & Jonathan)

HOW OLD WAS SAUL? 1 SAM 13:1

- ✗ MT: Saul was a year old when he began to reign, and he reigned two years over Israel.
- ✗ LXX: omit
- ✗ LXX^L: Saul was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned two years over Israel.
- ✗ T^J: Saul was like a one year old with no sins when he became king. Then he reigned for two years over Israel.
- ✗ P: Saul was thirty-one years old when he became king over the kingdom of Israel.
- ✗ KJV: Saul reigned one year, and when he had reigned two years over Israel,
- ✗ NRSV: Saul was . . . years old when he began to reign; and he reigned . . . and two years over Israel.

JN 7:53-8:11—WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY

- ✘ Omitted in earliest and best mss & versions, Alexandrian & Western
- ✘ Added here in later mss & versions, Byzantine
- ✘ Added here with marks indicating uncertainty in few witnesses
- ✘ Added after Jn 7:36; 21:25 (end of book); Lk 21:38; 24:53 (end of book) few mss

MK 16:9-20—ENDING OF MARK

- ✘ Omitted in oldest mss & several old versions & fathers
- ✘ Added in most witnesses
- ✘ “But they reported briefly to Peter and those with him all that they had been told. And after these things Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation” in several witnesses, usually before 16:9-20

BETWEEN MK 16:14-15—FREER LOGION

- ✘ “And they excused themselves, saying, ‘This age of lawlessness and unbelief is under Satan, who does not allow the truth and power of God to prevail over the unclean things of the spirits [or, does not allow what lies under the unclean spirits to understand the truth and power of God]. Therefore reveal your righteousness now’ – thus they spoke to Christ. And Christ replied to them, ‘The term of years of Satan’s power has been fulfilled, but other terrible things draw near. And for those who have sinned I was handed over to death, that they may return to the truth and sin no more, in order that they may inherit the spiritual and incorruptible glory of righteousness that is in heaven.’”

**CRUCES INTERPRETUM, ORTHODOX
CORRUPTIONS, ETC.**

JOB 2:9—BLESS GOD AND DIE

- ✘ Bless God and die—MT
- ✘ Say some words to the Lord and die—LXX
- ✘ Revile your God and die—P
- ✘ Curse God and die—original



EXOD 34:29—HORNS OF MOSES

- ✘ Moses did not know that the skin of his face was shining (קָרַן) because he had been talking with God—MT
- ✘ He did not know that his face was horned (cornuta = קָרַן) because of contact with the word of God—V

JN 1:18—ONLY-BEGOTTEN GOD?

- ✗ Only-begotten (unique) God—earliest Alexandrian witnesses
- ✗ Only-begotten (unique) Son—most witnesses, Western & Byzantine
- ✗ Only-begotten Son of God—a few witnesses
- ✗ Only-begotten—two witnesses

REV 13:18—666 OR 616?

- ✗ 666—most witnesses
- ✗ 616—a few witnesses

$666 = 50+6+200+50 + 200+60+100 =$ נרון קסר

$616 = 6+200+50 + 200+60+100 =$ נרו קסר