Total Onslaught
by Professor Walter J. Veith

Battle of the Bibles

Study Guide #213

Amazing Discoveries®
1) What did Jesus say we should live by (Matthew 4:4)? (00:02:00)

2) What is one way we can know if someone has the light of truth (Isaiah 8:20)? (00:02:14)

3) Revelation 22:18-19 gives a warning from God. What does it mean? (00:02:54)

4) How many streams of Bible texts are there, according to David Otis Fuller’s quote below? (00:12:58)

*The first stream which carried the Received Text in Hebrew and Greek, precious manuscripts were preserved by such as the church at Pella in Palestine where Christians fled, when in 70 A.D. the Romans destroyed Jerusalem; by the Syrian Church of Antioch which produced eminent scholarship; by the Italic Church in northern Italy; and also at the same time by the Gallic Church in southern France and by the Celtic Church in Great Britain; by the pre-Waldensian, the Waldensian and the churches of the Reformation...The second stream is a small one of a very few manuscripts.*
Original New Testament Manuscripts

Lost Manuscripts of the Traditional Text
Almost identical with originals in text

Ancestor of Alexandrian Family (Lost)
Text an abbreviation of original text

Papyrus 75
C200 A.D.
Papyrus 66
C200 A.D.
Mixed Text

Lost Manuscripts of the Traditional Text
Almost identical with originals in text

Ancestor of Western Family (Lost)
Text an expansion of original text

Peshitta Syriac
2nd Cent.

Old Latin Version
2nd Cent.

Latin Vulgate
4th Cent.

Gothic Version
4th Cent.

The Vast Majority of Extant Received Text Bibles:
- King James version
- New King James version
- Young's Literal Translation
- Geneva
- Tyndale
- Coverdale

Peshitta
Syriac
2nd Cent.

Codex
B
4th Cent.

Codex
D
5th or 6th Cent.

Codex
E2
7th Cent.

Codex
W
(Matthew)
4th or 5th Cent.

Codex
D
(Matthew)
5th or 6th Cent.

Codex
A
(Gospels)
5th Cent.

Codex
Aleph
4th Cent.

Papyrus 66
C200 A.D.

Mixed Text
Manuscripts belonging to the same family have the same text. They agree closely in wording.
5) Which manuscripts come from the time of the early Church’s conception? *(00:14:30)*

Les Garrett, *Which Bible Can We Trust?* (Christian Centre Press, 1982):64:

*These manuscripts have in agreement with them, by far the vast majority of copies of the original text. So vast is this majority that even the enemies of the Received Text admit that nineteen-twentieths of all Greek manuscripts are of this class.*

6) Which manuscripts originated in Rome and Alexandria? *(00:15:10)*

These papyrus fragments, discovered in Egypt, contain a Hebrew version of the Ten Commandments.
David Otis Fuller (ed.), Which Bible and True or False?:
The second stream is a small one of a very few manuscripts. These last manuscripts are represented:

a. In Greek: The Vatican MS., or Codex B, in the library at Rome; and the Sinaitic, or Codex Aleph.
b. In Latin: The Vulgate or Latin Bible of Jerome. (383 A.D.)
c. In English: The Jesuit Bible of 1582, which later with vast changes is seen in the Douay, or Catholic Bible.
d. In English again: In many modern Bibles.

So the present controversy between the King James Bible in English and the modern versions is the same old contest fought out between the early church and rival sects; and later, between the Waldenses and the Papists from the fourth to the thirteenth centuries; and later still between the Reformers and the Jesuits in the sixteenth century.

7) When was Codex Aleph found? (00:15:40)

8) When did this battle of the Bibles begin? (00:17:45)

9) The modern translations are based on manuscripts found in which city? (00:18:25)

Les Garrett, Which Bible Can We Trust? (Christian Centre Press, 1982): 15:
We need to understand, that many of the new translations are taken from old manuscripts. People think that these are more reliable. In actual fact they are saying, that a manuscript found in a waste paper basket in a cave in Mt. Sinai and questionable manuscripts from Alexandria in Egypt, are more reliable than the Received Text.
10) Who is Origen and what was his role in the history of Scripture translation? (00:19:14)

11) According to Les Garrett, what was Origen’s philosophy towards his work with the Bible? (00:19:50)

Les Garrett, *Which Bible Can We Trust?* (Christian Centre Press, 1982): 16:

Origen, being a textual critic, is supposed to have corrected numerous portions of the sacred manuscripts. Evidence to the contrary shows he changed them to agree with his own human philosophy of mystical and allegorical ideas. Thus, through deceptive scholarship of this kind, certain manuscripts became corrupt.

12) What does 2 Corinthians 2:17 have to say about the corruption of God’s Word? (00:20:17)

13) What role did Constantine play in this battle of the Bibles? (00:20:50)
14) What did true believers do with Eusebius’ translation? (00:21:40)

15) What is the Arian heresy? (00:22:21)

16) Which text was the Jehovah’s Witness’ Bible translated from? (00:26:40)

17) William Tyndale was a great force in the Reformation. Which manuscript did Tyndale study from? (00:27:48)

18) What did Tyndale say that proves his love for the Scriptures? (00:28:00)
19) According to the references below, what was the Jesuits’ attitude towards the Textus Receptus? (00:31:15)


> Then the Bible, that serpent which with head erect and eyes flashing threatens us with its venom while it trails along the ground, shall be changed into a rod as soon as we are able to seize it...For three centuries past this cruel asp has left us no repose. You well know with what folds it entwines us and with what fangs it gnaws us.


> Q. What if the Holy Scriptures command one thing, and the Pope another contrary to it?
> A. The Holy Scriptures must be thrown aside.
> Q. What is the Pope?
> A. He is the Vicar of Christ, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, and there is but one Judgment-Seat belonging to God and the Pope.

Von Dobshutz, *The Influence of the Bible*: 136:

> Wherever the so-called Counter-Reformation, started by the Jesuits, gained hold of the people, the vernacular was suppressed and the Bible kept away from the laity. So eager were the Jesuits to destroy the authority of the Bible—the Paper Pope of the Protestants, as they contemptuously called it—that they even did not refrain from criticizing its genuineness and historical value.
Les Garrett, *Which Bible Can We Trust?* (Christian Centre Press, 1982): 60:

The Jesuits were called to help and they said, “We must undermine the Bible of the Protestants and destroy their teachings.” ...The Queen of England realizing the damage the Jesuit Bible would do, sent to Europe for Beza, who was with John Calvin, to help ...Thomas Cartwright...With one hand he took hold of all the Greek manuscripts and with the other hand he took hold of all the Latin manuscripts from the Received Text, and he hit the Jesuit Bible blow after blow.

Finally the Spanish Armada came against England with 136 armed ships, some with 50 cannons...England could only gather thirty ships and these were lead by Sir Francis Drake. Freak storms came down the English Channel and the Spanish ships were found wrecked right up to the Scottish coast and England became a great sea power.
20) What were the Jesuits in England willing to do in order to bring the Church of England back to Catholicism (hint: see quote below)?

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**Priest and Professor of Theology DeSanctis, *Popery and Jesuitism at Rome*: 128, 134:

> Despite all the persecution they [the Jesuits] have met with, they have not abandoned England, where there are a greater number of Jesuits than in Italy. There are Jesuits in all classes of society; in Parliament; among the English clergy, among the Protestant laity, even in the higher stations. I could not comprehend how a Jesuit could be a Protestant priest, or how a Protestant priest could be a Jesuit; but my Confessor silenced my scruples by telling me omnia munda mundis, and that Saint Paul became a Jew that he might save the Jews; it was not wonder therefore that if a Jesuit should feign himself a Protestant, for the conversion of a Protestant. But pay attention, I entreat you, to discover concerning the nature of the religious movement in England termed Puseyism.

The English Clergy were formerly too much attached to their Articles of Faith to be shaken from them. You might have employed in vain all the machines set in motion by Bossuet and the Jansenists of France, to reunite them to the Romish Church; and so the Jesuits of England tried another plan. This was to demonstrate from history and ecclesiastical antiquity the legitimacy of the usages of the English Church, whence, through the exertions of the Jesuits concealed among its clergy, might arise a studious attention to Christian antiquity.
The Masonic MINDSET

21) What did Freemason Albert Pike think about the Received Text versions of God’s Word?

Albert Pike, *Morals and Dogma*: 818:

*The absurd reading of the established Church, taking literally the figurative, allegorical, and mythical language of a collection of Oriental books of different ages...*

*The folly of regarding the Hebrew books as if they had been written by the unimaginative, hard, practical intellect of the England of James the First and the bigoted stolidity of Scottish Presbyterianism...*

22) And what was his opinion of the Jesuit version?

Albert Pike, *Morals and Dogma*: 818:

*The better to succeed and win partisans, the Templars sympathized with regrets for dethroned creeds (Pagan Religions) and encouraged the hopes of new worships, promising to all liberty of conscience and a new orthodoxy that should be the synthesis of all the persecuted creeds.*
The Catholic **CANON**

23) What action did the Pope take to prove that Roman Catholicism does not agree with the *Textus Receptus*? *(00:41:38)*

24) What does the word *apocrypha* mean and what does it describe in the context of Scripture? *(00:41:55)*

**Council of Trent, Fourth Session, 1546:**

*Whoever shall not receive as sacred and canonical all these books and every part of them, as they are commonly read in the catholic church, and are contained in the old Vulgate Latin edition, or shall knowingly and deliberately despise the aforesaid traditions, let him be accursed.*

25) List a Scripture verse that can be used to dispute each of the Apocrypha’s doctrinal errors listed below:

1. *Tobias 6:4-8:*

   *Open the fish, and take the heart and liver and the gall…..if a devil or an evil spirit trouble any, we must make a smoke thereof before the man or the woman, and the party shall no more be vexed. As for the gall, it is good to anoint a man that hath witness in his eyes, and he shall be healed.*

   **Rebuke from the Bible:** *(00:43:06)*
2. Tobias 12:9:
For alms doth deliver from death, and shall purge away all sin.

Rebuke from the Bible: (00:43:36)

3. 2 Macabees 12:43-46:
For if he had not hoped that they that were slain should have risen again, it had been superfluous and vain to pray for the dead....Whereupon he made reconciliation for the dead, that they might be delivered from sin.

Rebuke from the Bible: (00:44:15)

26) Fill in the table below with the King James translations of the following verses: (00:44:33)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vulgate Translations</th>
<th>King James Version</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Timothy 3:16, Douay Version:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Scripture inspired of God is profitable.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebrews 11:21, Vulgate:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob adored the top of his rod.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revelation 22:14, Codex Vaticanus:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blessed are they that wash their robes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
27) What are the Dead Sea Scrolls? *(00:45:20)*

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Qumran cave, where most of the Dead Sea Scrolls were found

28) Which four ancient groups were associated with Christianity but in reality taught the deity of humanity, and that Christ’s deity is non-exclusive? *(00:47:04)*

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 

29) To which apostle is the following quote attributed? *(00:47:32)*

*And the Lord cried out, saying, My power, my power, you have forsaken me. And when he had said it, he was taken up ...And as they declared what things they had seen, again they saw three men come forth from the tomb, and two of them supporting one, and a cross following them. And the heads of the two reached to heaven, but the head of him who was led by them overpassed the heavens. And they heard a voice from the heavens, saying, You have preached to them that sleep. And a response was heard from the cross, Yes.*
Hort and **WESTCOTT**

30) Who were Westcott and Hort? *(00:57:31)*

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31) David Otis Fuller refers to Westcott and Hort as “two Cambridge Professors who did not even believe in the verbal inspiration of the Scriptures.” What beliefs shaped Westcott and Hort in their revisions of the manuscripts? *(00:59:18)*

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**Hint:**

*Another last word on Darwin...I shall not let the subject drop in a hurry, or to speak more correctly, it will not let me drop... (November 9, 1860 letter from Hort to Macmillan).*

32) Which Bible versions today are influenced by Westcott and Hort’s revisions?
A stained glass window depicting Brooke Foss Westcott as Bishop of Durham

Dean Burgon, *Traditional Text: 10:*

No sooner was the work of Evangelists and Apostles recognized as the necessary counterpart and complement of God’s ancient Scriptures and became the “New Testament,” than a reception was to be found to be awaiting it in the world, closely resembling that which He experienced who is the subject of its pages. Calumny and misrepresentation, persecution and murderous hate assailed Him continually...And the Written Word in like manner, in the earliest age of all, was shamefully handled by mankind. Not only was it confused through human infirmity and misapprehension, but it became also the object of restless malice and unsparing assaults.
33) What else does Dean Burgon have to say, especially regarding Hort and Westcott’s theory? (00:35:10)

The Revision Revised 334-335:
We oppose facts to their speculation. They exalt B and Aleph and D8 because in their own opinions those copies are the best. They weave ingenious webs and invent subtle theories, because their paradox of a few against the many requires ingenuity and subtlety for its support. Dr. Hort revealed in finespun theories and technical terms such as “Intrinsic Probability” internal evidence of documents which of course connote a certain amount of evidence but are weak pillars of a heavy structure...

Even conjectural emendation and inconsistent decrees are not rejected. They are infected with the theorizing.

34) According to the following references, what was Westcott and Hort’s attitude towards the Textus Receptus?

I had no idea until the last few weeks of the importance of texts, having read so little Greek Testament, and dragged on with the villainous Textus Receptus. Think of that Textus Receptus. Leaning entirely on late manuscripts, it is a blessing there are such early ones.

Brooke Foss Westcott, *Letter to Hort* (December 20, 1851):

As to our proposed recension of the New Testament text, our object should be, I supposed, to prepare a text for common and general use...With such an end in view, would it not be best to introduce only certain emendations, into the Revised Text, and to take note in the margin such as seem likely or noticeable—after Griesbach’s manner?

...I feel most keenly the disgrace of circulating what I feel to be falsified copies of Holy Scripture. And I’m most anxious to provide something to replace them. This cannot be any text resting solely on our own judgment, even if we were not too inexperienced to make one. But it must be supported by a clear and obvious preponderance of evidence. The Margin will give ample scope for our own ingenuity or principles. My wish would be to leave the popular Received Text except where it is clearly wrong.
35) What other interest did Westcott and Hort have? What did they call their club? (01:03:00)

36) What society developed out of this group? (01:03:34)

37) Hort also belonged to which secret society, according to the quote below? (01:05:35)

*The Life and Letters of Fenton John Anthony Hort Volume 1: 170-171:*

Yet he found time to attend the meetings of various societies, and in June joined the mysterious company of the “Apostles.” He remained always a grateful and loyal member of the secret Club, which has now become famous for the number of distinguished men who have belonged to it.

38) Although Hort claimed to be a Protestant, which teachings did he really believe and live by?

*Fenton John Anthony Hort, Letter to John Ellerton:*

I agree with you in thinking it a pity that Maurice verbally repudiates purgatory, but I fully and unwaveringly agree with him in the three cardinal points of the controversy: 1) that eternity is independent of duration; 2) that the power of repentance is not limited to this life; 3) that it is not revealed whether or not all will ultimately repent.
The Life and Letters of Fenton John Anthony Hort Volume 2: 336-337:

The idea of purgation, of cleansing as if by fire, seems to me inseparable from what the Bible teaches us of the Divine chastisements; and, though little is directly said respecting the future state, it seems to me incredible that the Divine chastisements should in this respect change their character when this visible life is ended.

The Life and Letters of Fenton John Anthony Hort Volume 2: 49-51:

I have been persuaded for many years that Mary-Worship and Jesus-Worship have very much in common in their causes and in their results. Perhaps the whole question may be said to be involved in the true idea of mediation, which is almost universally corrupted in one or both of two opposite directions. On the one hand we speak and think as if there were no real bringing near, such as the New Testament tells of, but only an interposition between two permanently distant objects. On the other we condemn all secondary human mediators as injurious to the one, and shut our eyes to the indestructible fact of existing human mediation which is to be found everywhere. But this last error can hardly be expelled till Protestants unlearn the crazy horror of the idea of the Priesthood.

39) Did Brooke Westcott, Anglican bishop, share Hort’s ideas? (01:13:59)

Brooke Westcott, Letter to Reverend Benson:

As far as I could judge, the idea of La Salette (a shrine to Mary) was that of God revealing Himself now, and not in one form but many.

40) What does Hort say that proves he was not a Protestant at heart? (01:18:40)
The Life and Letters of Fenton John Anthony Hort Volume 1: 322:

I think I mentioned to you before Campbell’s book on the Atonement, which is invaluable as far as it goes, but unluckily he knows nothing except Protestant theology.

41) What is Hort’s view on Gnosticism according to his letters to Westcott?

Fenton John Anthony Hort, Letter to Brooke Westcott (August 14, 1860):

Is it of course true that we can only know God through human forms, but then I think the whole Bible echoes the language of Genesis 1:27 and so assures us that human forms are divine forms.

Fenton John Anthony Hort, Letter to Brooke Westcott (October 15, 1860):

I entirely agree--correcting one word--with what you there say on the Atonement, having for many years believed that “the absolute union of the Christian (or rather, of man) with Christ Himself” is the spiritual truth of which the popular doctrine of substitution is an immoral and material counterfeit....Certainly nothing can be more unscriptural than the modern limiting of Christ’s bearing our sins and sufferings to His death; but indeed that is only one aspect of an almost universal heresy.

My DECISION For Jesus

I have seen the danger in accepting modern translations without researching their history. Still, I know that God has inspired the Scriptures and is speaking to us through them.