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978-0-521-10293-3 - The Text of the Septuagint: Its Corruptions and their Emendation

Peter Walters

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THE TEXT OF THE SEPTUAGINT

ITS CORRUPTIONS AND THEIR EMENDATION

By the late

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(formerly Katz)

Edited by

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Reader in Classics at the Queen's University of Belfast

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Frontmatter

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PIAE MEMORIAE
MAGISTRORUM CARISSIMORUM
PAULI W. SCHMIEDEL (1851–1935)
PROFESSORIS TURICENSIS
JACOBI WACKERNAGEL (1853–1938)
PROFESSORIS BASILEENSIS

CONTENTS

Abbreviations	<i>page</i> xiii
Editor's Preface	xvii
Introduction	i
PART I. GRAMMATICAL CORRUPTIONS	
1 INTRODUCTORY REMARKS	17
2 VOWELS	29
1. Itacistic confusions of εἰ – ι	29
1.1. Verbal stems: correct spelling -εἰ-	29
1.2. Verbal stems: correct spelling -ι-	32
1.3. Noun stems: correct spelling -εἰ-	32
1.4. Noun stems: correct spelling -ι-	33
1.5. Terminations: masculines in -ίᾱς	37
1.6. Terminations: feminines in -εἰᾱ	37
1.7. Terminations: feminines in ᾽εἰᾱ	44
1.8. Terminations: neuters in -ιῶν and -εἰῶν	46
1.8.1. Nouns in -ιῶν	47
1.8.2. Names of festivals in -ίᾱ (neuter plural)	48
1.8.3. Nouns in -εἰῶν	49
1.8.4. Temple-names	54
1.9. Terminations: adjectives	56
1.9.1. Adjectives in -ιῶς	56
1.9.2. Adjectives in -εἰῶς	57
2. Other itacistic spellings	58
2.1. Interchange of αἰ and εἰ	58
2.1.1. Nominal stems	59
2.1.2. Nominal suffixes	60
2.1.3. Verb-endings	61
2.2. η > ι	64
2.3. ι > η	66

CONTENTS

2.4. οἰ > η	<i>page</i> 67
2.5. υ > αἰ	68
3. Long ι-diphthongs	69
3.1. Mistaken omission of ι	69
3.1.1. Stems	69
3.1.2. Nominal suffixes	69
3.1.3. Case-endings	70
3.2. Mistaken insertion of ι	71
4. The O-vowels	72
4.1. Interchange of ο and ω	72
4.1.1. ο > ω	72
4.1.2. ω > ο	75
4.2. Interchange of ο and ε	76
5. Metathesis of ι and υ	77
6. Syncope (aphaeresis) and hyphaeresis	79
3 CONSONANTS	82
1. Single and double consonants	82
1.1. False simplification	82
1.2. Doubling of single consonant	83
1.3. False forms of the type ἐξεκκλησιάζειν	85
2. Irrational nasal before consonants	86
3. Insertion of explosive consonants between two other consonants	88
4. On the pronunciation of ζ	89
4.1. ζ = σδ	89
4.2. σδ = ζ	89
4.3. δ > ζ	89
4.4. ζ as a mis-spelling of δ	90
4.5. ζ = zd	90
4 DEVICES FOR A CORRECT UNDERSTANDING AND PRONUNCIATION	92
1. Diaeresis	92
1.1. Avoidance of diphthongal pronunciation	92
1.2. Emphasis on beginning of fresh syllable	93

CONTENTS

2. Accentuation	<i>page</i> 93
2.1. Traditional inadvertence	93
2.2. Neglected grammatical prescriptions	94
2.2.1. Place of accent	94
2.2.2. Differentiation of ω and \omicron	96
2.2.3. Neglected quality of vowels	96
2.2.4. Incorrect accents in verbal formations: traditional slips	98
2.2.5. Incorrect accents in verbal formations: imperatives	99
2.2.6. Enclitic personal pronouns	101
2.2.7. Supposed solecism	101
5 ACCIDENCE AND CONNECTED SYNTACTICAL MATTER	102
1. Nouns in - $\iota\varsigma$	102
2. Verbs	104
2.1. Corrupt future middle formations with passive meaning	104
2.2. Future of $\chi\alpha\acute{\iota}\rho\omega$ and its compounds	105
2.3. Impossible aorists in - $\sigma\alpha\sigma\theta\alpha\iota$, formed on the analogy of futures in - $\sigma\epsilon\sigma\theta\alpha\iota$	105
2.4. Competing aorist formations	106
2.5. Assimilation of verbal formations as to voice and tense	107
2.6. Optative aorists	110
3. Mechanical corruptions	111
3.1. No prohibitive subj. pres. after $\mu\eta$	111
3.2. No $\xi\nu\iota$ for $\xi\sigma\tau\iota\nu$	111
4. Post-Ptolemaic formations, which have to be emended	112
6 WORD-FORMATION	115
1. Nouns	115
2. Verbs	117
3. Compounds	121
3.1. Compounds with $\pi\tilde{\upsilon}\rho$, $\pi\tilde{\upsilon}\rho\acute{o}\varsigma$	124
3.2. Accentuation of compounds	126

CONTENTS

7	IDIOM AND LEXICON	<i>page</i> 127
	1. Peculiarities of the system of tense formations	127
	2. Transitive and intransitive use of verbs	128
	3. Confusion of similar words	128
	Addendum	132
	1. Distortions of proper names	133
	2. Misunderstood abbreviations and contractions	133
PART II. SEMITISMS		
8	HEBRAISMS	141
	1. Syntactical Hebraisms	141
	2. Lexical Hebraisms	143
	2.1. Greek words extend their range of meaning in an un-Greek way after the Hebrew word which they render	143
	2.2. Greek words assume un-Greek meanings from a confusion of Hebrew homonyms	148
9	HELLENIZED SEMITIC WORDS	155
	1. Transliterations	155
	2. Groups to be eliminated	158
	2.1. Corrupted transliterations	158
	2.2. Unique formations of doubtful or transitory nature	162
	2.3. Borrowed words of old standing	163
	3. Groups for special treatment	163
	3.1. Words received into Greek more than once	163
	3.1.1. Clear examples	164
	3.1.2. Less clear examples	165
	3.2. Words borrowed from Aramaic and not from Hebrew	166
	3.2.1. The names of the Greek letters and the question of their origin	166
	3.2.2. Crude transplants from Aramaic	169

CONTENTS

3.2.3. Debatable borrowings	<i>page</i> 171
3.2.4. Definite borrowings	173
3.3. Borrowed words which took the form of already existing Greek words of different meaning (homonyms)	175
3.3.1. Introductory	175
3.3.2. Three special aspects to be excepted	176
3.3.3. Homonyms proper	182
3.3.4. Homonyms proper: measures and coins	183
3.3.5. Homonyms proper: verbs	184
3.3.6. Homonyms proper: selected nouns	186
3.3.7. Conclusion: the proportions	196
Excursus I	Confusion of ἰδεῖν and εἰδέναι 197
Excursus II	ἀκριβής etc. in the LXX 205
Excursus III	κυλικεῖον 211
Excursus IV	The nature of the text displayed by Δ ₃ 213
Excursus V	Confusion of ἕτερος and ἑταῖρος 214
Excursus VI	Confusion of κτησ- and κτισ- 219
Excursus VII	τρυγητος, αμητος etc. in the LXX 226
Excursus VIII	ὦ and ὦ in the LXX and NT 228
Excursus IX	Jussive opt. aor. a syntactic Hebraism 237
Excursus X	Confusion of βούλεσθαι and βουλεύεσθαι 242
Excursus XI	(שׁוֹרֵר) מְקַרְר in the Greek and Latin Bibles 244
Excursus XII	<i>Gehenna, sicera, pascha</i> in the Latin Bible 247
Excursus XIII	מְלִיחָה (Exod. 22: 9 (8); 1 Sam. 2: 25) in the Greek and Latin Bibles 250
Excursus XIV	ἠττάσθαι and ἠττᾶν in the LXX and the Three 256
Excursus XV	Confusion of מעל and עלם in the LXX 262
<i>Miscellaneous Notes</i>	265
1. On problems related to the Chester Beatty Papyri	265
2. Further comments on Sir Frederic Kenyon's edition of the Chester Beatty Papyri	267
3. On Wutz's theory	269

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-10293-3 - The Text of the Septuagint: Its Corruptions and their Emendation

Peter Walters

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

4. An analysis of the textual problems of 2 Samuel 3: 39 to illustrate the contention that behind the seeming variety of text-forms there is but one old genuine text	<i>page</i> 270
5. On mistaken method in attempting emendation	274
6. On BM's treatment of the late correctors in the leading MSS	275
<i>Notes</i>	279
<i>Bibliography</i>	347
<i>Indexes</i>	
Index of Greek words	357
Index of Hebrew words	384
Index of Latin words	399
Index of Biblical references	402
Index of ancient authors and works	413
Index of papyri	419

ABBREVIATIONS

[For abbreviations of classical authors and works and of papyri, see the appropriate index.]

Canonical and extra-canonical books*Old Testament*

Gen. = Genesis	Prov. = Proverbs
Exod. = Exodus	Eccles. = Ecclesiastes
Lev. = Leviticus	Song of Sol. = Song of Solomon
Num. = Numbers	Isa. = Isaiah
Deut. = Deuteronomy	Jer. = Jeremiah
Josh. = Joshua	Lam. = Lamentations
Judg. = Judges	Ezek. = Ezekiel
Ruth	Dan. = Daniel
1 Sam. = 1 Samuel	Hos. = Hosea
2 Sam. = 2 Samuel	Joel
1 Kings	Amos
2 Kings	Obad. = Obadiah
1 Chron. = 1 Chronicles	Jonah
2 Chron. = 2 Chronicles	Mic. = Micah
Ezra	Nahum
Neh. = Nehemiah	Hab. = Habakkuk
2 Esdras (chs. 1–10 = MT Ezra, chs. 11–23 = MT Neh.)	Zeph. = Zephaniah
Esther	Hag. = Haggai
Job	Zech. = Zechariah
Ps. = Psalms	Mal. = Malachi

Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha

1 Esdras	Sir. = Sirach
Tobit	Ps. Sol. = Psalms of Solomon
Judith	Odes
1 Macc. = 1 Maccabees	Baruch
2 Macc. = 2 Maccabees	Letter of Jer. = Letter of Jeremiah
3 Macc. = 3 Maccabees	Susanna
4 Macc. = 4 Maccabees	Bel and Dragon
Wisd. of Sol. = Wisdom of Solomon	

ABBREVIATIONS

New Testament

Matt. = Matthew

Mark

Luke

John

Acts = Acts of the Apostles

Rom. = Romans

1 Cor. = 1 Corinthians

2 Cor. = 2 Corinthians

Gal. = Galatians

Eph. = Ephesians

Phil. = Philippians

Col. = Colossians

1 Thess. = 1 Thessalonians

2 Thess. = 2 Thessalonians

1 Tim. = 1 Timothy

2 Tim. = 2 Timothy

Titus

Philem. = Philemon

Heb. = Hebrews

Jas. = James

1 Pet. = 1 Peter

2 Pet. = 2 Peter

1 John

2 John

3 John

Jude

Rev. = Revelation

General abbreviations

It has not been thought necessary to list the common abbreviations, but only those which might cause the reader some difficulty.

The symbols and signs used to denote the Greek MSS and the Versions vary according to the edition from which the evidence, in any given instance, is being cited. It has not been thought necessary to reproduce here the systems used by Swete, Brooke–McLean, Rahlfs and the Göttingen editions; but the reader is reminded that even within one and the same edition, symbols can vary in significance in different books.

I^a, II^a etc. = first, second century
B.C., etc.

I^p, II^p etc. = first, second century
A.D. etc.

300^a etc. = 300 B.C. etc.

300^p etc. = A.D. 300 etc.

Θ' = Theodotion (to be distinguished from Θ, which denotes a Greek manuscript, the Washington Codex)

O' = Origen's LXX column

C' = Symmachus

A = the MS Alexandrinus (to be distinguished from A')

A' = Aquila

Ε' = Quinta

Θ = The Washington Codex (to be distinguished from Θ', which denotes Theodotion)

Aq. = Aquila

Arm. = The Armenian Version

AV = The English Authorized Version

BH = *Biblia Hebraica*

BM = Brooke–McLean

Bo. = The Bohairic Version

Cambridge University Press

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Peter Walters

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

ABBREVIATIONS

<i>C</i> = The catenae-group of manuscripts	ptc. = participle
ChB = Chester Beatty	Ra. = Rahlfs' edition
cj. = conjectured reading	RV = The English Revised Version
cod. = codex	Sah. = The Sahidic Version
codd. = codices	s.v. = sub voce
Eth. = The Ethiopic Version	Sw. = Swete's edition
f.l. = falsa lectio	Symm. = Symmachus
fragm. = fragment	Syr. = The Syriac Version
Ga. = The Gallican Psalter	Targ. ^o = Targum Onqelos
Hi. = Hieronymus	Tdf = Tischendorf
<i>L</i> = The Lucianic textual tradition	Th. = Theodotion
La. or Lat. = Vetus Latina	Thdt. = Theodoret
l.c. = loco citato	The Three = Aquila, Symmachus and Theodotion
mg. = margin	txt = text
min(n). = minuscule(s)	Vat. = The manuscript Vaticanus B
p(p). = page(s)	Vet. Lat. = Vetus Latina
part. = participle	<i>v.l.</i> = varia lectio
p.p.p. = past participle passive	

Accents

Transliterations, false forms, and variant readings cited after the lemma are deliberately left unaccented.

Cambridge University Press

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

EDITOR'S PREFACE

Since this book is, unhappily, being published posthumously some ten years after the death of its author, it is necessary that I, as its editor, should give some account of its history and indicate clearly what my relationship to it has been. Let it be said at once that in all matters of substance it is entirely the work of Dr Walters. For the facts assembled, for the views expressed and for the supporting arguments both credit and responsibility are altogether his.

The work began as a thesis which was presented in 1945 to the University of Cambridge, England, for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. It was entitled 'The Text of the Septuagint. Its Corruptions and their Emendation. Part One: i. Grammatical Corruptions. ii. Semitisms, by Rev. Peter Katz (Fitzwilliam House)'. In the years that followed the author spent a great deal of time collecting further material, reworking the thesis and preparing it for publication. He hoped, moreover, that when it was published, he could proceed to write a Part Two dealing with emendations. Unfortunately he did not live to see the publication of Part One, and when he died Part Two had not reached the stage of first draft. This is a great pity; but when one considers the difficult and trying circumstances under which Dr Walters had to work both before and after his flight from Hitler's Germany, the amazing thing is that he accomplished so much. The detailed knowledge and painstaking labour involved in a work of this kind are immense. Only the most devoted concentration, supported by the understanding encouragement of his wife (now also unfortunately deceased) and family, could have enabled him to produce such a monumental work of scholarship in such difficult conditions.

In 1962, then, I was entrusted by Mrs Walters with the task of preparing for publication the original thesis, together with all the additions and corrections that had been added since 1945. What I received was two typescript copies of the thesis, both of which had innumerable corrections, re-phrasings, and additions, entered on the reverse side of each page of typescript, mostly, but not always, with some indication as to where they should be entered in the text. The text itself had also been corrected and added to, sometimes more than once. In addition there was a large sheaf of papers containing additions to the main text, additional footnotes, additional excursuses, and additional footnotes

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Peter Walters

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

EDITOR'S PREFACE

to the excursuses. And finally there were numerous small slips of paper tucked into the thesis here and there, carrying additional information.

To prepare this varied array of material for publication was a formidable task which I could not have accomplished without the help of others. The Syndics of the Cambridge University Press, who are to be applauded for their willingness to undertake the publication of a work of this nature and magnitude, promised to publish it if I could produce a fair copy to the satisfaction of Professor G. D. Kilpatrick of Oxford and (the late) Professor D. Winton Thomas of Cambridge. The Syndics asked that the presentation of the material be made as short and concise as possible. Professor Kilpatrick, who was already acquainted with the contents of the thesis, immediately announced that he would be satisfied with the thesis if it were prepared, much as it stood, without any shortening. Professor Winton Thomas eventually read through my final typescript, and not only expressed his general satisfaction but also made a number of helpful comments and corrections.

My method of procedure was as follows. I first xeroxed the whole of the thesis (the expense of which process was borne by the Queen's University, Belfast, as was also the expense of typing all 620 pages of the final typescript). I then worked through the xerograph, adding in the appropriate places all the additional material prepared by Dr Walters. In my student days I had at his request read through parts of the thesis, and made suggestions for the improvement of the English or for better ways of presenting the arguments. Dr Walters had himself gone through these suggestions, adopting some and adapting or rejecting others, often with additional corrections of his own, and sometimes leaving two or three alternative suggestions without indicating which one he would have finally chosen. In view of this I felt at liberty to continue this work of touching up the English and streamlining the presentation of the arguments where necessary. But in no instance have I made any substantive change either in the evidence presented by Dr Walters, or in the deductions made by him from that evidence. In fact I have, if anything, erred on the side of leaving the English and the presentation of the arguments as I found them.

To help shorten the book and also to make it easier for people to find the information they are looking for in the minimum of time, I have also, where appropriate (as for instance in ch. 2) re-arranged the material to stand as lists, the items in which are given as far as possible in alphabetical order. Conjunctions and other connecting phrases, more appropriate to narrative style, have been removed.

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Peter Walters

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

EDITOR'S PREFACE

The only part of the thesis which I have drastically shortened is the Introduction. In 1945 when it was written, the state of Septuagint studies in Great Britain was somewhat different from what it is now. Then the theory of Septuagintal origins associated with the name of the late Professor Paul Kahle was in the ascendancy, and the methods of the Göttingen school of Lagarde and Rahlfs, which Dr Walters followed, were under some suspicion. Moreover, Dr Walters felt strongly about certain defects, as he saw them, in the Cambridge edition of the Greek Old Testament by Brooke and McLean. Therefore, in a thesis presented to Cambridge University, by means of which he hoped to establish himself in academic circles in England, he understandably felt obliged to justify his own approach and to explain the inadequacies of other theories and methods, tactfully and at great length. But now Kahle's theory is no longer widely held, while Barthélemy's theories, published (in his book *Les Devanciers d'Aquila*, Leiden, 1963) in the year after Dr Walters' death, have given us a new perspective on the textual history of the Septuagint. Much of what Dr Walters wrote in his Introduction in 1945 is therefore unnecessary, or irrelevant, or obsolete; and I have cut it out. What was of permanent value, however, I have re-retained, either leaving it in the Introduction, or fitting it in to appropriate places in the main text.

After the final typescript was prepared, I checked all the references, except for an odd ten or so which were to works inaccessible to me. It cannot but be that in a work involving so many hundreds of references some errors will still remain. For this I must crave the reader's mercy. The reader should also keep in mind that chapter and verse numbering differ not only as between the Masoretic Text and the Septuagint but also as between the different editions of the Septuagint. Alternative verse numberings have therefore frequently been given to cover most of the editions of the Septuagint which readers are likely to be using; and special directions for use have been given at the head of the indexes, where appropriate. But I cannot hope that all obscurities and lapses have been removed, and I shall be grateful if readers will communicate to me any they may find.

Now it is evident that the value of this vast mass of detailed information depends to a large extent on the ready accessibility of the details through efficient indexes. These have been compiled partly by Miss Margot Johnson and partly by Mrs Margaret Davies. To them both I gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness for their performance of this difficult and exacting task.

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-10293-3 - The Text of the Septuagint: Its Corruptions and their Emendation

Peter Walters

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

EDITOR'S PREFACE

I must also acknowledge the editorial assistance given by the officers of the Cambridge University Press who have taken great pains with the detailed presentation of the material and whose printers have reproduced some difficult material with very great accuracy and expertise.

The typing of the manuscript was done with great patience and skill by a number of secretaries in the Typing Centre in the Queen's University of Belfast. Among them Miss Pauline Lisney and Miss Pat Watton deserve special and honourable mention.

Colleagues and friends, notably Dr E. M. Smallwood, Mr D. F. Payne and Mr Hugh Williamson, have nobly and unselfishly given up time to check the proofs. To them and all who have in any way helped I offer my sincere thanks.

The work of editing has been onerous; but it has been pleasant to have an opportunity of discharging my debt to one who introduced me to the Septuagint and taught me so much about it, and of showing how much I have appreciated the personal friendship shown me by his wife and family. The dedication at the beginning of the book was, of course, written by Dr Walters himself.

D. W. GOODING

*The Queen's University
Belfast
August 1971*