

Can we Trust the Text of the Bible?

Exhibition and presentations by Dr Trevor R Allin

Session 3: Codex Vaticanus

“Codex Vaticanus Graecus 1209 B” Photographic Facsimile, Rome: Vatican, 1999

“Prolegomena” Rome: Vatican, 1999 The companion volume supplied with the 1999 photographic facsimile of Codex Vaticanus. This contains an index showing the page location of each Biblical passage, and essays in French and English on the manuscript.

Major manuscripts

Codex Sinaiticus “The World’s Oldest Bible” – c. 320-340 AD (most pages in London)

Codex Vaticanus – c. 360 AD (in Rome)

Codex Alexandrinus – c. 420 AD (in London)

Codex Ephraemi – c. 450 AD – a **palimpsest** (in Paris)

Codex Bezae – c. 450 – 550 AD (?) (in Cambridge).

Greek & Latin on facing pages – most of the four Gospels and Acts + part of 3 John

A Suggested Reading List on ancient Biblical Manuscripts

Hurtado, Larry W.: “The Earliest Christian Artifacts, Manuscripts and Christian Origins”, Grand Rapids, Michigan and Cambridge, U.K.: William B Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2006
Includes a good introduction to *Nomina Sacra* and the Staurogram.

Hixson, Elijah & Gurry, Peter J., “Myths and Mistakes in New Testament Textual Criticism”, Downers Grove, Illinois: IVP Academic 2019

In this multi-author volume, young academics present an objective and thorough review of competing claims. A great introduction to the topic and very readable for those who seek this degree of detail. 323 pages of text plus the usual extras (comprehensive bibliography, indexes, etc).

Jobes, Karen H. & Silva, Moisés, “Invitation to the Septuagint”, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic, 2000

Kruger, Michael J., “The Question of Canon”, Nottingham: Apollos, an imprint of Inter-Varsity Press, 2013 Academic but accessible.

Köstenberger, Andreas J. & Kruger, Michael J., “The Heresy of Orthodoxy”, Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway, 2010 Academic but accessible.

Metzger, Bruce M., “A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament”, Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 2nd edition 1994, 9th printing 2012 The definitive guide to textual decisions in producing the Nestle-Aland/UBS Greek text.

Robinson, James M., “The Story of the Bodmer Papyri”, Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2011
An introduction to the intrigue and plots of the cloak and dagger world of buying and selling ancient manuscripts.

White, James R., “The King James Only Controversy”, Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1995, 2009

Some articles relevant to the theme of this lecture are available on my website,

<https://livingwater-spain.com/>

In particular, the article https://livingwater-spain.com/1Tim3_16.pdf makes detailed reference to various Biblical manuscripts.

Many other articles on the website refer to the Greek text in order to clarify the meaning of the text.

Most of the articles on the website are also available in Spanish.

Trevor R Allin 2026