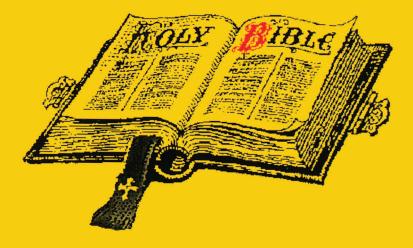
# A Guide to the Textual Criticism of the New Testament



## Edward Miller, M. A. Associate of Dean John William Burgon

### A GUIDE

TO THE

## **TEXTUAL CRITICISM**

OF THE

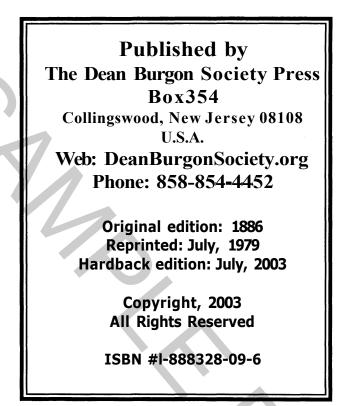
## NEW TESTAMENT.

## BY EDWARD MILLER, MA.

RECTOR OF BUCKNELL, OXON.

Oi >..6yot lov ob µ. ,rapE>..9wa,.-ST. MATT. xxiv. 35. "Truth crushed to earth shall rise again."-BRYANT.

DEAN BURGON SOCIETY PRESS Box 354 Collingswood, New Jersey 08108 Website: www.DeanBurgonSociety.org ISBN 1-888328-09-6





## Foreword

## **Introduction to the1979 Reprint**

THE DEAN BURGON SOCIETY, INCORPORATED [Box 354, Collingswood, New Jersey 08108] gives great praise to God for His blessings upon our organization which began November, 1978, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Object #9 of the DEAN BURGON SOCIETY is "To acquire, print, sell, and distribute other sound books by the scholars who lived around the time of Dean John William Burgon who defended the Traditional Masoretic Hebrew Text, the Traditional Received Greek Text, and the King James Version, ... " [DEAN BURGON NEWS, January, 1979, p. 4 (subscription available for a GIFT to DBS of \$3.50 per year; \$7.00 per year for Foreign and Canadian subscribers)].

This present REPRINT of *A* GUIDE TO THE **TEXTUAL CRITICISM OF THE NEW TESTAMENT** by Edward Miller is the Society's FIRST in a series, hopefully, of books which further its purposes "IN DEFENSE OF **TRADITIONAL BIBLE TEXTS,**" as the Lord raises up the funds and supplies our needs.

The significance of this present volume by Miller lies in the fact that Edward Miller was Dean John William Burgon's understudy and co-worker. He published at least two of Burgon's works posthumously {*The Traditional Text of the Holy Gospels--#1159,* and *Causes of Corruptions of the Traditional Text--#1160*) and coupled his own personal talents and ability for this textual work with the close personal training from Burgon, the master, himself. This book is brief and yet profoundly needed to offset the unfounded and unscriptural books on textual criticism which have been based upon the faulty and false Westcott and Hort Greek textual theories in whole or in part. We hope and pray that a copy of it might find its way into every library of every college, university, Bible Institute, seminary, and other school of higher learning; into every library of every Pastor in the country; into every library of every church in the country; and into the hands of every scholar and layman alike whose sincere and genuine desire is to ascertain, amidst the false beacon-lights which have been especially shining since 1881, the solid and proper principles on which to determine the exact words of the New Testament Scriptures.

For other books in this REPRINT SERIES as they come out, see the ORDER PAGES in the back of this book or write THE DEAN BURGON SOCIETY, Box 354, Collingswood, New Jersey 08108. Pastor D. A. Waite (Th.D., Ph.D.) President, THE DEAN BURGON SOCIETY

Sincerely for God's Written Words,

DAW/w

Pastor D. A. Waite, Th.D., Ph.D. President, THE DEAN BURGON SOCIETY



The Dean Burgon Society In Defense of Traditional Bible Texts Box 354

Collingswood, NJ 08108, U.S.A.

TO THOSE

WHO,

WHETHER AT THE OUTSET OF THE WORK, OR AT THE CLOSF.,

HAVE KINDLY GIVEN HELP OR ENCOURAGEMENT,

€1)ts little '1:teatise

IS GRATEFULLY INSCRIBED,

WITH THE PRAYER,

THAT IT MAY MINISTER. IN SOME DEGREE, HOWEVER HUMBLE,

TO THE ASCERTAINMENT AND ACCEPTANCE

OF

THE GENUINE WORDS OF HOLY SCRIPTURE.

#### ERRATA.

Page 2, line 20, nad xxiv. 51 far xxiv. I5. Page 3, line 9, *lead* the for its. Page 7, line 2, read affected fal. effected. Page 9, line 20, read manuscript for manuscripb. Page 13, line 21, *ead* appeared/or apeared. Page 17, line 17, read 5fin. 4. Page 21, line 14, 1-cad manuscripts.fin- manuscript. Page 27, line 4, *lead* Arian far Asian. Page 54, note 3, rcad ix. 14 fol- ii. 14. Page 56, note 2, nad collating/or collecting. Page 73, line 23, nad Thefar That. Page 93, note, read contravened/or contravened. Page 95, line 6, *n*<*ld* Lucar.for Lucas. Page 112, note 3, 1-ead 3/or 4. Page 121, line 20, read Itacism.for Italicism. Page 128, line 23, read authenticity for authencity.

## PREFACE.

THE ensuing treatise is intended to be a brief Manual on the Textual Criticism of the New Testament for ordinary students of the Bible, and to induce those who may be disposed to enter more deeply into the important subject of it to prosecute further research in "The Plain Introduction " of Dr. Scrivener, the learned works of Dean Burgan, and in other well-known sources of information upon Textual Criticism.

The foot-notes will ordinarily indicate how much I have been indebted to the labours of other men in a work which pretends to be little more than a faithful representation of stores accumulated by the learned, and an independent estimate of the conclusions drawn by them.

To the Dean of Chichester I am indebted for many previous hints which I have found invaluable during my prosecution of a task both laborious and difficult. The undertaking of it was originally pressed upon me from without<sub>t</sub> and I am myself convinced that some such assistance as is here offered to the general Reader is greatly needed at this time. But I lay down my pen with the conviction derived from the accomplishment of my work, that every Reader who would really understand, and form an opinion for himself upon the great questions at stake, must bestow on the problem which has suddenly emerged into prominence a consid rable amount of individual, unprejudiced attention. He will be able to see with which of the contending parties the Truth must lie : but he must approach the problem in a .calm, judicial spirit, must require Proof (as far as Proof is .attainable) instead of putting up with Hypothesis, and above all must never cease to exercise a large amount of vigilant .sagacity,-in fact, of Common Sense.

My thanks are also due to the Rev. R. Hutchison, M.A., Rector of Woodeaton, and late Scholar of Exeter College, Oxford, who has kindly helped me in correcting the proof sheets.

E. M.

BUCKNELL RECTORY, Ember Week, Sept., 1885.

## CONTENTS.

#### CHAPTER I.

#### INTRODUCTION, IMPORTANCE OF THE SUBJECT,

The question stated-seven instances of serious change-others also advocated-the number introduced into the Revised Version-more into other editions-the subject not generally known-importance of it -plan of the work , pp. 1-5.

#### CHAPTER II.

HISTORY OF TEXTUAL CRITICISM.

#### FIRST PART. EARLIER STAGES.

#### CHAPTER III.

HISTORY OF TEXTUAL CRITICISM (continued).

SECOND PART, CONTEMPORARY GROWTH , p. 20. III. Youth :-Impatience under an overwhelming mass of materialsExtreme Textualism. 1 Lachmann-rejects all but a few witnesses. 2 Tregelles-follows Lachmann-great services in collating and editing. 3. Tischendorf-amazing labours-discovers the Sinaitic-zigzag course. 4. Drs. Westcott and Hort-develop Lachmann's principles -extreme deference to B-surprising results-followed mainly by Two Members of the Revisers' Company-must we follow them? pp. 20-30.

### CHAPTER IV.

#### SCHOOL OF EXTREME TEXTUALISM.

The origin attributed by the leading masters to Lachmann p. 38 A. Theory of Drs. Westcott and Hort. I, Knowledge of Documents derived from date and character a prior requisite : B and N are the best MSS. 2 Importance of Genealogy, under which these two MSS. are brought back nearly to the Apostolic autographs. 3. Four families, sc (a) Syrian, made in a recension at Antioch, (b) Western, (c) Alexandrian, and (d) Neutral, which is the best. 4. Of these, two are c01Tupt (b and c); the Neutral alone reaches back to earliest times; Syrian shewn to be worthless by analysis, want of antiquity, and internal evidence. 5. Hence It B together nearly always right, and B alone seldom wrong **P** 38-44.

B. Refutation. 1. Too easy to be true, grounded on only part of the evidence, and destitute of real proof. 2 Sound sense is violated, and opinion unsupported by facts is balanced by opinions of other nasters. 3 Genealogy affords an unsafe analogy, and in fact points the opposite way. Band It are also condemned for wlint of descendants. 4. The theory about Families is disallowed by other Doctors, and lacks evidence. 5 The "Syrian," or Traditional Text, is not proved to be posterior, whether by an imaginary recension, or by a fanciful theory of conflation, or by ignoring proof of eorly existence, or by supposed internal evidence. 6. The characters of B and It not superfine;