

**STUDY QUESTIONS FOR BRUCE M. METZGER,
*THE TEXT OF THE NEW TESTAMENT***

1. Describe how papyrus and parchment were prepared for writing. (2)
2. Describe the uncial and the miniscule script. During approximately which centuries was the uncial script used in extant NT manuscripts? (4)
3. What are the three classes of witnesses for ascertaining the text of the NT? (3)
4. What are the three main kinds of Greek manuscripts of the NT? (3)
5. Identify by name the following, also indicate which manuscript family or families each one is usually assigned to (Alexandrian, Western, Caesarean, Byzantine): (22)
 - a. \mathfrak{p}^{45} \mathfrak{p}^{46} \mathfrak{p}^{47}
 - b. \mathfrak{p}^{52}
 - c. \mathfrak{p}^{66} \mathfrak{p}^{72} \mathfrak{p}^{74} \mathfrak{p}^{75}
 - d. \aleph
 - e. A
 - f. B
 - g. D
 - h. W
 - i. Θ
 - j. 1, 118, 131, 209
 - k. 13, 69, 124, 346, et. al.
6. Name three languages into which the NT was translated which are the most important for textual criticism. (3)

7. What is the name of the standard translation of the NT into Syriac? What other two Syriac versions are closely related to each other? (3)
8. What is the name of the standard translation of the NT into Latin? Who was the translator? (2)
9. What are the two main dialects of the Coptic language? (2)
10. Which early Christian scholar combined the gospels into his *Diatessaron*? About when was this done? (2)
11. What major event occurred about 1450, which changed the transmission of the text of the NT? (1)
12. Whose was the first printed edition of the Greek NT in 1514? What was the name of the work of which it was a part? (2)
13. Who actually first published the Greek NT, in 1516? What is one remarkable thing about this edition, involving the book of Revelation? (2)
14. Explain how the famous *Comma Johanneum* (1 Jn. 5:7-8) ended up in the KJV. (3)
15. In what year was the term “Textus Receptus” first applied to an edition of the Greek NT? What was the last name of the brothers who published it? (2)
16. Which German scholar laid the groundwork for future textual criticism and printed a text of the NT, which he believed the available manuscripts supported? (1)
17. Who was the first recognized scholar to break totally from the Textus Receptus? When was his edition published? (2)
18. Which scholar was the greatest collector and publisher of NT manuscripts? Which is the most important of his discoveries? (2)
19. Name two English scholars of the nineteenth century who paved the way for the acceptance of a better NT text. (2)
20. What two scholars published the most noteworthy British edition of the NT? In what year was it published? (3)
21. Which manuscript did Westcott and Hort consider to be the most important? What did they call the family to which that manuscript belonged? (2)
22. Who was the most outspoken defender of the Textus Receptus in Britain? (1)

23. Name four prominent early Christians who engaged in the textual criticism of biblical manuscripts. (4)
24. Which scholar most thoroughly developed the idea of “local texts,” that the different families of manuscripts came from different areas? (1)
25. What is the name of the procedure used by some textual critics who pay less attention to external evidence of manuscripts or manuscript families and pay more attention to internal or contextual considerations of the individual variants themselves? (1)
26. List four types of unintentional changes that scribes have made in copying the text of the NT, which produced errors in their work. (4)
27. Define these words: parablepsis, homoeoteleuton, haplography, dittography, itacism. (5)
28. What are four types of errors of the mind that scribes experienced? (4)
29. List seven types of intentional alterations that scribes made when copying the text. (7)
30. What three considerations must be made when evaluating external evidence for a reading? (3)
31. List four general rules to follow when considering the transcriptional probability of a particular reading. (4)
32. Define what is meant by intrinsic probability. (1)
33. Normally the agreement of Alexandrian and Western witnesses gives the original reading. There is one notable exception; what three manuscripts, when they agree in the Pauline epistles, are not of great weight in that situation? (3)