

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD	11
I. INTRODUCTION	15
II. ECLECTICISM	21
What Is It?	23
What About It?	25
What Is Its Source?	26
III. THE WESTCOTT-HORT CRITICAL THEORY	31
The Basic Approach	32
Genealogy	33
Text-types and Recensions	33
Conflation	34
"Syrian" Readings Before Chrysostom	35
Internal Evidence of Readings	36
The "Lucianic Recension" and the Peshitta	37
Summary and Consequences	38
IV. AN EVALUATION OF THE W-H THEORY	41
The Basic Approach	41
Genealogy	44
Text-types and Recensions	48
Subsequent scholarship	48
The "text-types" themselves	50
A recent return	54
The classifying of MSS	56

CONTENTS

Conflation	58
"Syrian" Readings Before Chrysostom	62
Miller VS Kenyon	65
Pure "Syrian" readings	70
A biased expedient	72
The testimony of the early Fathers	75
The testimony of the early Papyri	76
Internal Evidence of Readings	77
The shorter reading	79
The harder reading	83
Harmonization	86
Inferiority	87
The "Lucianic Recension" and the Peshitta	88
Conclusion	91
 V. THE HISTORY OF THE TEXT	 93
Were the N. T. Writings Recognized?	93
The apostolic period	94
The second century	96
Were Early Christians Careful?	100
The apostles	100
The early Fathers	101
Irenaeus	102
Tertullian	103
Was the Transmission Normal?	104
The normal transmission	104
1) The possessors of the Autographs	105
2) The spread of good copies	105
3) The emerging majority text form	106
The abnormal transmission	107
1) Most damage done by 200 A.D.	108
2) The aberrant text forms	109
The Stream of Transmission	110
 VI. SOME POSSIBLE OBJECTIONS	 115
Are Not the Oldest MSS the Best?	115

CONTENTS

Their quality judged by themselves	117
Their quality judged between themselves	119
Conclusion	122
Why Are There No Early "Byzantine" MSS?	123
Should Not Witnesses Be Weighed, Rather Than Counted?	124
Weighing first	124
Counting next	127
 VII. DETERMINING THE IDENTITY OF THE TEXT	 129
Antiquity, or Primitiveness	129
Consent of Witnesses, or Number	130
Variety of Evidence, or Catholicity	132
Continuity, or Unbroken Tradition	134
Respectability of Witnesses, or Weight	134
Evidence of the Entire Passage, or Context	135
Internal Considerations, or Reasonableness	137
Conclusion	137
 VIII. CONCLUSION	 139
Appendix A. INSPIRATION AND PRESERVATION	143
Appendix B. 7Q5	145
Appendix C. THE IMPLICATIONS OF STATISTICAL PROBABILITY FOR THE HISTORY OF THE TEXT	149
 FOOTNOTES	 161
 REFERENCES	 181
 INDEX	 187