

Appendix F: Facsimiles of Early Greek Manuscripts

••252•• Many early Greek manuscripts are available for examination in facsimile form. (Facsimile copies are photographically reproduced plates of the actual manuscripts themselves. Generally, the manuscripts are in page format.) One of the earliest Greek Scripture manuscripts available today is known as the Chester Beatty Papyri and is cataloged as P⁴⁶. This manuscript has been dated as a copy made about 200 C.E. Therefore, these copies were made not more than 150 years after the Apostle Paul wrote between 50 and 61 C.E.

The material in this appendix comes from the book entitled, *The Chester Beatty Biblical Papyri, Descriptions and Texts of Twelve Manuscripts on Papyrus of the Greek Bible*. The editor is Frederic G. Kenyon; the book was published by Emery Walker Ltd. of London in 1937.

Our best description comes from the **Preface** of the volume itself:

This [volume] contains a complete photographic reproduction of the papyrus of the Pauline Epistles, the ownership of which is divided between Mr. Chester Beatty and the University of Michigan... Since the complete codex [book] appears to have consisted of 104 leaves (of which the last five may have been blank), the student now has a reproduction of a nearly complete copy of the Epistles of St. Paul (apart from the Pastorals [1-2 Timothy and Titus]), at least a century older than any MS. [manuscript] previously known. It seems certain that the papyrus is not later than the first half of the third century; and Prof. Ulrich Wilcken, the first living authority on papyrology, would date it 'round about A.D. 200.' It thus has a strong claim to be considered the earliest extant MS. of the New Testament [Christian Greek Scriptures] of any substantial size, and to have been written not more than a century and a half after the death of St. Paul.

The Watch Tower Society recognizes P⁴⁶ from "circa 200 C.E."¹ Thus, from the following reproductions of this copy of the Greek Scriptures, we can see that the use of the Greek word *Kyrios* (rather than יהוה) can be established not later than this very early date.

The following summary of P⁴⁶ lists 28 instances in which the *New World Translation* uses *Jehovah* as its translation of *Kyrios* (or *Theos*). **Plate No.** : the papyrus leaf identification number (marked as "r" for *recto* [front] and "v" for *verso* [back]). **Plate Contents**: the verses found on the papyrus leaf. **Verse Cited**: *Jehovah* reference from the *New World Translation*. **Entry**: the surrogate (abbreviation) found in P⁴⁶. **KIT** : the word entry in the *Kingdom Interlinear Translation*.

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Plate No.	Plate Contents	Verse Cited	Entry	KIT
f.16.r.	Rom 12:11-13:1	Rom 12:11	κω	κυρίω
f.19.v.	Rom 15:11-19	Rom 15:11	κπ	κύριον
f.23.v.	Heb 2:2-3:3	Heb 2:13	θς ²	θεός
f.28.r.	Heb 7:28-8:8	Heb 8:2	κς	κύριος
f.31.r.	Heb 10:8-20	Heb 10:16	κς	Κύριος
f.37.v.	Heb 13:3-11	Heb 13:6	κς	Κύριος
f.40.r.	1 Cor 2:11-3:5	1 Cor 2:16	κγ	Κυρίον
f.41.r.	1 Cor 3:16-4:3	1 Cor 3:20	κς	Κύριος
f.42.v.	1 Cor 4:4-10	1 Cor 4:4	κς	κύριος
f.45.r.	I Cor 7:12-19	1 Cor 7:17	κς	κύριος
f.50.r.	I Cor 10:21-30	1 Cor 10:21	κγ	Κυρίου
	Same citation as above	1 Cor 10:21	κγ	Κυρίου
		1 Cor 10:22	κπ	κύριον
f.56.r.	I Cor 14:16-23	I Cor 14:21	κς	Κύριος

¹ "All Scripture Is Inspired of God and Beneficial," Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society, p. 313.

² The final sigma (s) in manuscript entries is formed like the English lower-case c.

Plate No.	Plate Contents	Verse Cited	Entry	KIT
f.60.r.	I Cor 16:2-12	I Cor 16:7	κς	κύριος
Same citation as above		I Cor 16:10	κ̄γ̄	Κυρίου
f.64.r.	2 Cor 3:14-4:3	I Cor 3:16	κ̄η̄	Κύριον
Same citation as above		I Cor 3:17	?	κύριος
		I Cor 3:17	κ̄γ̄	Κυρίου
		I Cor 3:18	κ̄γ̄	Κυρίου
		I Cor 3:18	κ̄γ̄	κυρίου
f.67.r.	2 Cor 6:14-7:4	2 Cor 6:17	κς	Κύριος
Same citation as above		2 Cor 6:18	κς	Κύριος
f.71.r.	2 Cor 10:11-11:2	2 Cor 10:17	κ̄ω̄	Κυρίω
Same citation as above		2 Cor 10:18	κς	κύριος
f.77.r.	Eph 2:21-3:10	Eph 2:21	κ̄ω̄	κυρίω
f.80.v.	Eph 6:8-18	Eph 6:8	κ̄γ̄	κυρίου
f.83.r.	Gal 3:2-15	Gal 3:6	θ̄ω̄	θεῶ

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Catalog identification: P⁴⁶: plate f.40.r.

Greek manuscript date: circa 200 C.E.

Plate contains: 1 Corinthians 2:11 through 3:5.

Reference cited: 1 Corinthians 2:16.

Significance of this example: 1) Use of the Greek word *Kyrios* (Κυρίου) in place of the divine name within a direct quotation from the Hebrew Scriptures. 2) Use of a surrogate (abbreviation) form of both the word Κυρίου (Lord) and Χριστοῦ (Christ). Κυρίου is abbreviated $\overline{\text{ΚΥ}}$ and Χριστοῦ is abbreviated $\overline{\text{ΧΡΥ}}$.

Hebrew Scripture location: Isaiah 40:13.

Translation used in *New World Translation*: "Jehovah."

Translation used in *Kingdom Interlinear Translation*: "Lord."

Earliest date reference for the translation choice:

New World Translation—"Jehovah": A Hebrew version; 1838.

Kingdom Interlinear Translation—"Lord": This manuscript; circa 200 C.E.

Textual form. Manuscripts from this period did not use spacing between words, and broke words at the end of a line. No accent or punctuation marks were used. Various additional surrogates are evident throughout the page. The script is uncial.

1 Corinthians 2:16 from the *Kingdom Interlinear Translation* showing both the Greek text and the English translation reads:

... τις	γὰρ	ἔγνω	νοῦν	Κυρίου,	ὅς	συνβιβάσει
Who	for	knew	mind	of Lord,	who	will make go together
αὐτόν;	ἡμεῖς	δὲ	νοῦν	Χριστοῦ	ἔχομεν.	
him?	We	but	mind	of Christ	are having.	

1 Corinthians 2:16 from the Chester Beatty Papyri.

Note: We have reproduced the text below with the Greek wording, spelling, and script from the Westcott and Hort Greek text; this may vary from the actual P⁴⁶ text. In the case of the surrogates $\overline{\text{ΚΥ}}$ (Lord) and $\overline{\text{ΧΡΥ}}$ (Christ), we have added spacing to facilitate identification.

Location: This phrase is found in lines 14 and 15 of the facing page and is identified by a bracket () in the right margin. The surrogates $\overline{\text{KY}}$ and $\overline{\text{XPY}}$ are circled.

...ΤΙΣ ΓΑΡ ΕΓΝΩΝΟΥΝ $\overline{\text{KY}}$ ΟΥ ΟΥΝ ΗΜΕΙΣ
 ΟΙΣ ΔΕΥΤΕΡΟΝ ΕΧΟΜΕΝ $\overline{\text{XPY}}$ ΕΧΟΜΕΝ

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Plate f.40.r.



Plate 1. A facsimile copy of P⁴⁶ which contains 1 Corinthians 2:11 through 3:5. The manuscript was copied about 200 C.E.

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Catalog identification: P⁴⁶: plate f.83.r.

Greek manuscript date: *circa* 200 C.E.

Plate contains: Galatians 3:2 to 15.

Reference cited: Galatians 3:6.

Significance of this example: Use of a surrogate (abbreviation) form of the word *Theos* (God). The word Θεῶ is abbreviated as Θ̄ω̄.

Translation used in *New World Translation*: "Jehovah."

Translation used in *Kingdom Interlinear Translation*: "God."

Earliest date reference for the translation choice:

New World Translation—"Jehovah": A Hebrew version; 1599.

Kingdom Interlinear Translation—"God": This manuscript; *circa* 200 C.E.

Textual form. Manuscripts from this period did not use spacing between words, and broke words at the end of a line. No accent or punctuation marks were used. Surrogate examples are evident.

Galatians 3: 6 from the *Kingdom Interlinear Translation* showing both the Greek text and the English translation reads:

... καθὼς Ἰβραὰμ ἐπίστευσεν τῷ Θεῶ, καὶ
According as Abraham believed to the God, and

ἐλογίσθη αὐτῷ εἰς δικαιοσύνην...
it was reckoned to him into righteousness.

Galatians 3:6 from the Chester Beatty Papyri.

Note: We have reproduced the text below with the Greek wording, spelling, and script from the Westcott and Hort Greek text; this may vary from the actual P⁴⁶ text. In the case of the surrogate Θ̄ω̄, we have added spacing to facilitate identification.

Location: This phrase is found in lines six and seven of the facing page and is identified by a bracket (]) in the right margin. The surrogate Θ̄ω̄ is circled.

...ΚΑΘΩΣΑΒΡΑΔΜΕΠΙΣΤΕΥΣΕΝΤΩ Θ̄ω̄ ΚΑΙ
ΕΛΟΓΙΣΘΗΑΥΤΩΕΙΣΔΙΚΑΙΟCΥΝΗΝ...

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Plate f.83.r.



Plate 2. A facsimile copy of P⁴⁶ which contains Galatians 3:2 to 15. The manuscript was copied about 200 C.E.