

--Codex Aleppo...from the middle of the tenth century and pointed by Aaron ben Asher, himself. This text has had a fabled history and in spite of fires and bombings has, in the last five years, been available for scholarly comparison and notation. It has been consulted for the publication of BHS.

--Codex Leningradensis, from 1008 AD. This is the text that was reprinted in the BH of Kittle. Kittle accepted it as it was and augmented the readings with copious footnotes, many of which are of little or no value. The mss is currently in the British Museum, London.

Further texts in this line are listed in Wurthwein: THE TEXT OF THE OLD TESTAMENT.

(2) The Ben Naphtali texts. Not much is known of ben Naphtali save that this family was a rival to that of ben Asher. A number of fragments are now known to be from this family in that they correspond with differences that earlier critical notes had told us were in existence. But the best known text is Codex Reuchlianus, about 1105 AD. The differences in the families, in particulars of pointing and accent are of interest on a limited basis and if one cares to go into them further, the good starting point is Ginsburg: INTRODUCTION.

(3) Rabbinic Texts Although there is an impressive list of these, we can mention only the following:

--The Bomberg Text of 1516-1517 as edited by Pratensis. The MT is presented with the Targumim and the Rabbinic commentary is in the margin.

--The Ben Chayyim Text, also from the printing work at Bomberg, this is the text of Jacob Ben Chayyim...a convert to Christianity but the founder of what would become the masoretic textus receptus. Chayyim sought to establish an authoritative text about 1521 and it became the Hebrew Bible of the Reformation. The standard work was the second edition of 1524 and later Rabbinic bibles took from it both scope and form. Its compiler-author lost a lot of acceptance in the Hebraic community after becoming a Christian.