

The internal witness must be kept in mind as well. Harmony of context and similar matters must be regarded as helping to authenticate the better reading. Establishing a reading may have no external help if the context demands it. But this sort of corrective must be kept to a minimum and suppositions must not be allowed to replace the facts as they occur in the text. In particular, the translation suggestions must not arise from an inability to conceive or believe that what the writer is presenting is the actual facts of the case.

In general, we conclude by concurring with Robertson's principles on the evaluation of a text...the shorter, more complicated, etc., being likely closer to the basic thought than the facile and lengthened reading.

We think the MT is a mighty good text and you will remember that it is not a single text but a text tradition. It seems to me that a lot of evidence is required for the change of an uniform reading. But when necessary we must remember that we are working with the copies, not the autographs.

G. Oral Excursus on the Critical Apparatus of BHS

And at this point our text notes stop and will be followed with a vigorous test...after which we will proceed to the next section...wounded, perhaps, but not to the point of death.

H. Textual examples