

BIBLICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Old Testament Introduction
Test on Text of the Old Testament

Student Name _____
Score _____
Grade _____

A Note of Instruction:

This is a take-home, do-it-with-reference test somewhat like the problems in math you used to take home and forget to do until you were on the school bus the next day. Please do not forget this one. It must be returned to my mailbox no later than 5:00 PM, Friday, October 22, 1989. You may use as much time on it as you think necessary. It is a problem solving test and will require more time for one student than for another. There are five problems and two short essays. Please write plainly and as complete as possible. You only need to actually translate if instructed to do so. Otherwise you may use your Hebrew/English Bibles as may be needed.

Problem 1 Studies in texts where the chief variant is in the Septuagint.

Explain the Septuagint variants in Jeremiah 1:1-9. You do not need to translate the entire passage but should, of course, show the difference in the translated phrase (s). Please indicate whether you think the LXX reading is preferable to the MT or not.

Problem 2 Studies in texts where the chief variant is the the Sam Pent.

These are Hebrew variants, consonantal. Explain the Sam Pent variations in Genesis 2:11-19. Indicate how the reading is changed and tell what you think the better reading is.

Problem 3 Studies in texts where the chief variant is Qere/Kethib.

Explain the Qere/Kethib variants in Joshua 6:9 and 13. Indicate how the reading is altered and which reading you believe to be preferable.

Problem 4 Studies where the variant is suggestive, implicit, maybe but not explicit.

Explain the suggested text correction in Genesis 1:11 (footnote "c"). Give an opinion as to its importance and the reason for the suggestion.

Problem 5 Study in a text where the variants are multiple:

Explain the text variations in 1 Samuel 15:32. You may overlook the Targumic readings (they are seen in transliteration). But do what you can with the rest of it.

And Two essay questions...in your own words:

1. What evidence is there to indicate that the Masoretes were precise in their work?
2. What evidence is there that they had a good text to copy?

Be sure to use the Stuttgart Bible for your work and allow this material to be reference material in the chain of your learning. Please do not fold your papers, write on one side only and bind them with a paper clip. Thanks. Return this sheet with the examination.