

Authenticity, Integrity & Preservation of the Scriptures in Greek and Hebrew

Bible	Roman Catholic Church
<p>Matthew 5:18 "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled."</p> <p>Isaiah 8:20 "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."</p> <p>John 5:39, 46 "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me...For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me."</p> <p>John 15:15 "And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written..."</p> <p>Psalm 12:6-7 "The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever."</p>	<p>"Moreover, the same sacred and holy Synod, — considering that no small utility may accrue to the Church of God, if it be made known which out of all the Latin editions, now in circulation, of the sacred books, is to be held as authentic, — ordains and declares, that the said old and vulgate edition, which, by the lengthened usage of so many ages, has been approved of in the Church, be, in public lectures, disputations, sermons and expositions, held as authentic; and that no one is to dare, or presume to reject it under any pretext whatever."</p> <p>Decree of the Council of Trent, <i>De Canonici Scripturis, Fourth Session</i>, 1546.</p> <p>Pope Pius XII speaking ex cathedra declared the Vulgate as "free from error whatsoever in matters of faith and morals so that, as the Church herself testifies and affirms, it may be quoted safely and without fear of error in disputations, in lectures and in preaching; and so its authenticity is not specified primarily as critical, but rather as juridical." in 1943.</p>

1) The Truth:

- (1) Providence of God:
- (2) Purpose of Scripture: Salvation of the Elect, faith cometh by hearing, requires preservation. Psalm 12:6-7
- (3) Preservation: explicit, Matt. 5:18
- (4) Prophets, Apostles, and Jesus referred to the authentic Scriptures: Isaiah 8:20, John 5:39, 15:15.
- (5) Official Vulgate Editions: Sixtine (1590), Clementine (1592), and Nova Vulgata (1979, made the standard by John Paul II declaring ex cathedra). Pre-Jerome: Vetus Latina; Post Jerome: Redacted Vetus Latina by Jerome or other correctors.
- (6) "If we are not bound to the present reading of the Hebrew text [and Greek for NT] and the true reading is to be derived partly from collation of ancient versions, partly from our own judgment and conjectural faculty (so that there shall be no other canon of authoritative reading than that which seems to us to be the fitter sense), the establishment of the authoritative reading will be the work of the human will and reason, not of the Holy Spirit. Human reason will be placed in the citadel and be held as the rule and principle of faith with the Socinians." -Francis Turretin, Volume 1, Second Topic, Question 12, para. X, pg. 120.

2) Advantage for the Roman Catholic Church to hold this position against the Bible: First, many doctrines, such as Mariology, among many others, are given support in the Vulgate which cannot be found in the Greek and Hebrew Text of the authentic Bible. Secondly, the Bible is then weakened into a corruption so that the Roman Magisterium is needed to be the arbiter of truth to restore an authoritative text.

<u>Sampling of Errors in the Latin Vulgate</u>			
Reference	Vulgate Error	Vulgate Error Supports:	Authentic Bible Says:
Genesis 3:15	Ipsa (she) shall bruise	Mary as Victress and Mediatrix	"It (the seed) shall bruise"
Genesis 48:16	"let my name be invoked (invocatur) over them"	Sacerdotalism	"and let my name be named on them"
Psalms 99 (98):5	"Worship (adore) his footstool"	Adoration of religious objects, such as icons. Thus, Will-worship.	"Worship at his footstool"
Ecc. 9:2	"All things in the future are kept uncertain"	At worst Open Theism, but at least middle knowledge, and species of Semi-Pelagianism.	"All things come alike to all..."
John 14:26	"Suggest to you all that I shall say (dixero) to you"	Supports future unwritten (agraphous) apostolic traditions.	"and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."
Heb. 11:21	"Worshipped (adoravit) the top of his staff"	Adoration of religious objects, such as icons. Thus, Will-worship.	"and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff."
Heb. 13:16	"With such sacrifices God's favor is merited (promeretur)"	The idea that grace is able to be merited through sacraments ex opera operato, Condign merit, indulgences, etc.	"for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."

Further Notes:

- 1) For a more exhaustive listing of errors, consult William Whitaker.

3) Quick Examples of the consent of the Church Fathers with the Bible:

Church Father	Source	Quote	Year of our Lord
Gratian	From Corpus Iuris Canonici. 1.17	"As the faith of the old books must be tested by the Hebrew volumes, so the truth of the new needs the Greek writing for its rule."	367
Jerome	From Letter 27. Ad Marcellam , c.f. Latin of Letter 26, curiously not translated.	"I am not, I repeat, so ignorant as to suppose that any of the Lord's words is either in need of correction or is not divinely inspired; but the Latin manuscripts of the Scriptures are proved to be faulty by the variations which all of them exhibit, and my object has been to restore them to the form of the Greek original, from which my detractors do not deny that they have been translated."	384
Jerome	From Letter 106. Ad Suniam et Fretellam	"If at any time a question arises from the Latin [manuscripts] where there are variants among the exemplars, we return to the original language of the Greek manuscripts, in which the New Testament was written: so in the Old Testament, if there are diverse readings between the Greek and Latin manuscripts, we return to the Hebrew [to determine] the truth; because whatever we find in the rivers, these things must have proceeded first from the source [of the river]."	403

FURTHER NOTES:

- 1) Roman Catholic scholars readily admit the errors in the old Vulgate, such as Isidorus Clarius, who counted eighty thousand errors in the Vulgate.