

In my previous post I began to explain that virtually all translators of the New Testament - except fundamentalists who continue to appeal to the Textus Receptus (the inferior form of the Greek text based on the original publication of Erasmus back in 1516, which does not take into account, obviously, discoveries of newer manuscripts) - rely on the form of the Greek text established by an international group of scholars from 1955-1965. This edition has been revised since then, but not significantly. The text is pretty much the same now as then, with a few changes here and there.

Two points I would like to stress about this United Bible Societies text of the New Testament. The first point is in response to a question I received, by someone who asked with understandable incredulity: do you mean every translator simply takes the committee's word for it? Do they simply translate what others have decided was the original text? The answer to that question is both yes and no. It's actually not quite that simple.

Translators do almost always use that text as the base text they start with. But at every point ...

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