

The Final Authority
Study #22 3/31/19

History of how they put the MSS together

I. Greek uncial manuscripts

Codex – book

Written in block capital Greek letters (no lower case)

Majuscules – A large letter, either capital or uncial, used in writing or printing

There are a little over 200 of these available today

Of those there are 3 main ones

1. Vaticanus (B)

Found in 1481

Written in the 4th century

Written on very fine vellum (tanned animal skin)

759 leaves (pages)

10X10.5 inch pages

3 narrow columns per page

The contents of the Vaticanus

It contains the Apocrypha scattered through the OT

It contains the epistle of Barnabus in the NT

It lacks the end of Hebrews (9:14...), the pastoral epistles, and Revelation

The theory of Tischendorf say that the Vaticanus and Sinaiticus were written by the same hand

2. Sinaiticus (Aleph)



Found in St. Catherine's Monastery on Mt Sinai in mid 1800s by Tischendorf

Written in the 4th century

It was found in the midst of manuscripts that were to be discarded

It contains the epistle of Barnabus and the Shepherd of Hermas

3. Alexandrinus (A)

Written in the 5th Century

These represent the oldest and to be in the best kept condition so thus must be the "best"

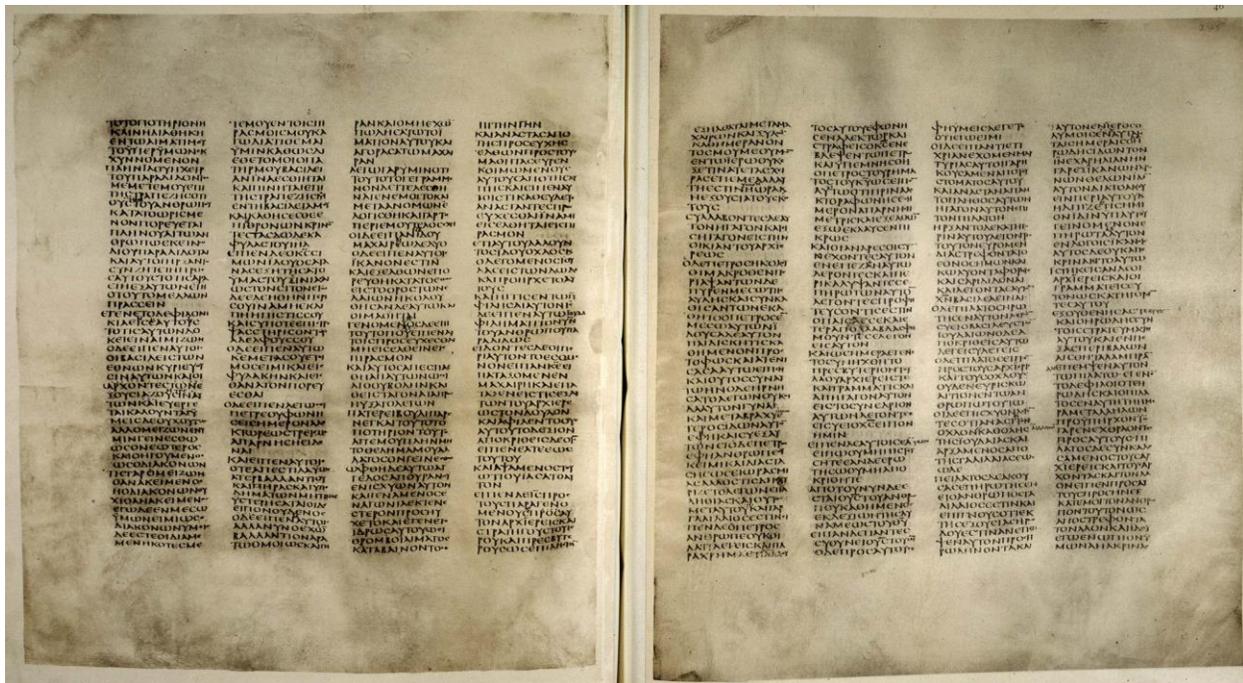
Other Codex manuscripts

Ephraemi Rescriptus (C)

Bezae Cantabrigensis (D) - 5th Century

Washingtoniensis (W) – In the Smithsonian

Listed from A-Z (Aleph)



Allen is a professor in Germany designated by textual critics who says there are 267

II. Minuscule – lower case, cursives

There are over 2700 of these

Allen says that there are 2764

They are dated between the 9th – 16th century

5 things they wrote on in history

Stone

Clay

Paper (papyrus plant) 3500BC

Wood

Leather (vellum – Latin)

Two types of Greek Languages

Classical – Attic (pronounced with a long A)

Common – Koine

Koine was the spoke language of the people

The uncial's was written in the Classical while the minuscule was written in the common but the Nestles Greek text is transferred only into Common