

Sunday, May 1, 2022— Grace Life School of Theology—*From This Generation For Ever*
 Lesson 176 The Pre-1611 Evidence for The Text: Bod 1602 Impact on King James New Testament Readings, Part 2

Introduction/Review

- Three weeks ago, in [Lesson 175](#), we began looking at the New Testament portion of the primary work-in-progress document known as Bod 1602. In doing so, we utilized *The Coming of the King James Gospels: A Collation of the Translators Work-in-Progress* by Ward S. Allen and Edward C. Jacobs to frame our discussion.
- In summation we observed the following points:
 - The New Testament portion of Bod 1602 is not as heavily annotated throughout as is the Old Testament.
 - “The New Testament annotations fill margins and text in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John 17-21. Except for five annotations scattered in the Epistles, there are no other annotations.” (Allen & Jacobs, 5)
 - “Three principal scribes, each using a different method, recorded these annotations.” (Allen & Jacobs, 5)
 - MT—Matthew Scribe
 - ML—Mark/Luke 1-18
 - LJ—Luke 19-24/John 18-21 (There are no annotations found in John 1-17)
- According to Allen and Jacobs, three stages of revision are visible in these annotations to the Gospel in Bod 1602.
 - “The evidence which follows—handwriting, methods of annotation, and textual collation—argues that three scribes were responsible for recording the New Testament annotations. The evidence reveals, moreover, the presence of three causally related stages of translation which occurred sometime between late 1607 and 1610. For convenience, these stages are here identified simply as Stage 1 (S-1), Stage 2 (S-2), and Stage 3 (S-3) revisions.” (Allen & Jacobs, 5)
 - S-1—revisions of Oxford New Testament Company were completed by late 1607 or early 1608.
 - S-2—“Stage 2 revisions make up a second stage of annotations. These, representing the results of the review work of 1608, have been recorded in the New Testament after the Stage 1 work. The process probably went thus: during or after the review of 1608, the Oxford New Testament Company met in 1608/09 to discuss the suggested changes to their completed Gospel revisions—those in the S-1 category.” (Allen & Jacobs, 6)

- S-3—occurred at different times depending on which scribes’ section was being revised Allen and Jacobs theorize that some of the S-3 revisions recorded in Bod 1602 may have occurred as late as 1610 at the General Meeting. (Allen & Jacobs, 6-7)
- Three different types of emendations to the 1602 Bishops text are recorded in Bod 1602.
 - Substitutions
 - Deletions
 - Additions
- Since Allen and Jacobs believe that a consideration of the methodology of the ML scribe unlocks the practice and methodology of the other two, we will focus our gaze on the ML scribe as a case study. In Lesson 175 we ran out of time right in the middle of a discussion of the Substitution sequence of the ML scribe. It is here that we will resume our discussion in this Lesson.

The ML Scribe Continued

- There are other interlinear alterations to ML’s Substitution sequence that bespeak S-2 revisions as a result of the review process.
 - “Besides these two deviations from ML’s Substitution sequence that indicate the presence of S-2 revision consequent to the review process, there are also other sorts of deviations from the sequence that indicate S-2 revision. A third one involves the recording of manuscript annotations interlinearly in the 1602 text, rather than in the margin opposite the text. Luke 2:38 is typical (see Fig.2).

ML has underlined once the phrase ‘at the same’ and has also struck through it with a single line. He has written above the cancelled phrase the words ‘in at that’. Not only does the interlinear position of the phrase ‘in at that’ suggest that it is an S-2 revision, but also the recording method of the phrase does not use Greek letters as signs to locate revisions in the text.

Other evidence in Luke 2:38 argues the interlinear revision ‘in at that’ to be an S-2 revision. That evidence is the presence of yet another (a fourth) deviation that indicates S-2 revision: in this instance both the proposed Substitution written in the margin and the 1602 text to be replaced by the Substitution are struck through, thus creating a shortened verse. In Luke 2:38, the phrase ‘upon them’ has first been revised to read ‘upon them’. The underlining of the 1602 pronoun, the use of the letter rho written before the underlined pronoun, the writing of a second rho in the margin, followed by the insertion of the pronoun ‘them’ in a careful print hand, and the abbreviation ‘Rom’ within square brackets following the pronoun—these constitute the first three steps of the Substitution revision. ML has indicated clearly that the AV is to print the pronoun ‘them’ in roman type. But at the fourth step of the Substitution sequence, when it comes time to approve the Substitution in the margin by striking through the underlined 1602 text, a further

(S-2) revision occurs. At this stage the whole prepositional phrase appears to have been rejected, for the proposed Substitution in the margin is crossed through together with the two words in the 1602 text. Deles, one in the text over the phrase, and the other in the margin, confirm this decision. Revision has proceeded as follows:

1602	upon them
S-1 Sub. Rev.	upon <u>them</u>
S-2 Rev.	upon <u>them</u> [See the image below]

Turning again to the interlinear revision ‘in at that’ in Luke 2:38, it is likely that at the same time that the S-2 revision cancelled the Substitution ‘upon them’, the interlinear S-2 revision ‘in at that’ was also added. Upon further review, only one of these S-2 revisions was approved, that being cancellation of the prepositional phrase ‘upon them’. S-3 revision rejected, in part, the addition of the interlinear revision ‘in at that’, preferring instead to read ‘in that’. Here, the stages of the work proceeded:

1602	at the same
S-1 Rev.	[unrevised]
S-2 Rev.	in at that
S-3 Rev.	in that.

A fifth sort of deviation that indicates the presence of S-2 revision occurs whenever Greek letters used for recording annotations appear out of their normal alphabetical sequence. Luke 2:15 is an example (see Fig. 1). In the verse, pairs of alphas and betas occur between pis, used in the Luke 2:14, and rhos, used in Luke 2:16. Following the alphas in the margin, ML has written ‘now goe’, and following the betas, he has written ‘made known’.

The question arises, do we view annotations here as evidence of S-2 revision or of S-1 Substitution revision, albeit out of order as the interruption of the Greek alphabet sequence reveals? One could argue that such a break in sequence is the result of oversight. Perhaps, while recording S-1 revision in this column of the text, ML rechecked his work before going on to the second column and discovered that he had left out several Substitution revisions. He then quickly corrected the error in his normal manner, but using, of course, other Greek letters that interrupted the normal sequence in this chapter. Having made these corrections, ML went on with his work.

Such reasoning is plausible, but there are counter-arguments for viewing in these instances as S-2 revision. First: Luke 2:15 does contain other S-1 revisions, those involving proposed Deletions—a second category of S-1 revision to be examined shortly. There are three such Deletions proposed: ‘assoone’, ‘the men’, and ‘euen’. Two of these proposed Deletions were accepted, as the presence of strike-through lines indicates, and one—the adverb ‘euen’—rejected, as the absence of a strike-through line indicates. Hence the question arises: would ML be careless enough, after having recorded three proposed Deletions, to overlook two needed Substitutions? One of these Substitutions precedes one of the proposed Deletions—the adverb ‘even’—which was later cancelled, probably at the same time that the S-2 revisions denoted by the use of alphas and betas

were added. Secondly, such inserted pairs of Greek letters interrupting the normal sequence occur with enough frequency in ML's work—for example, a little farther on at 3:16—to argue against the 'oversight' hypothesis and for the presence of S-2 revision." (Allen & Jacobs, 9-12)

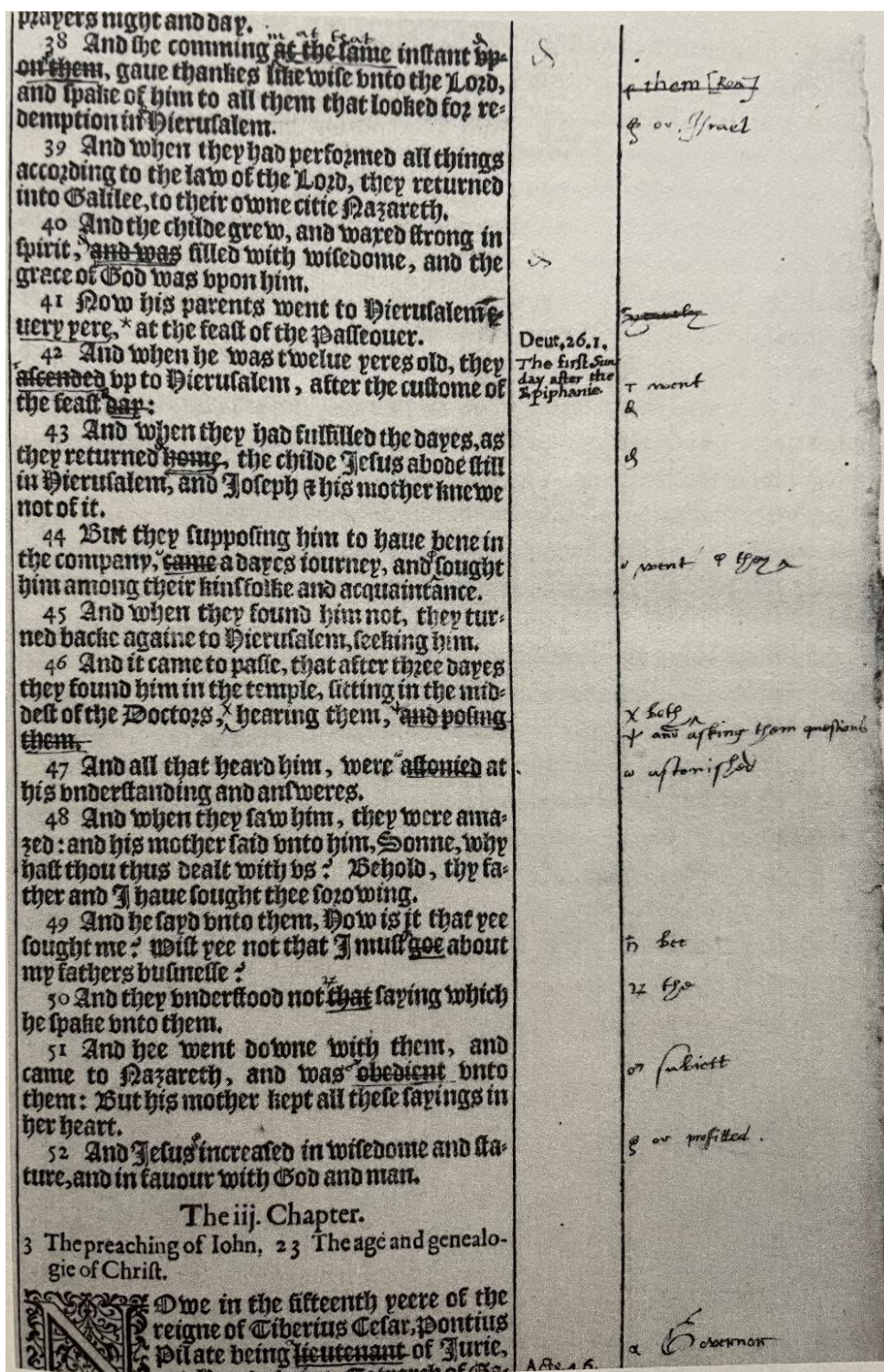


Figure 2

- Substitutions were not the only type of S-1 revisions made by ML. There were also Deletions and Additions.
 - “A Deletion requires ML to strike only through phrasing in a portion of verse. ML accomplishes a Deletion in the following manner: first he twice underlines the phrasing to be deleted and writes a superscript dele in the text before the proposed Deletion; second, he writes another dele in the margin opposite the proposed Deletion: third, he draws a single strike-through line across the twice underlined passage. Note in Luke 2:40 (see Fig. 2) the deletion of the phrase ‘and was’.

As in Substitutions, here too in Deletions, ML uses the strike-through line as the final step in the revision sequence. Again, Luke 2:19 reveals this fact (compare Figs. 1 and 2). Here the conjunction ‘and’ has been underlined twice; a superscript dele has been written before the conjunction, and, opposite, a second dele has been written in the margin. Steps one and two of the Deletion process are complete. But step three is lacking: the conjunction ‘and’ has no strike-through line crossing it out. Instead, each dele has been cancelled with a short diagonal stroke. It is clear, then, that were the strike-through line any other than the third and final step of the Deletion process, it would be present in 2:19, just as it is present in the Deletion in Luke 2:40 and in other Deletions where the deles have not themselves been cancelled.

Other conclusions follow from the presence or absence of the strike-through line in Deletions, agreeing with those made for Substitutions that possess or lack the strike-through line. First, the presence of the strike-through line confirms that the Deletion is final—as far as the translators are concerned at this stage of the process. Before the strike-through line is drawn, it is possible to cancel the proposed Deletion. The conjunction ‘and’ in Luke 2:19 proves this point. Second, where there exist both a missing strike-through line and deles that have been cancelled, there is evidence of S-2 revision. Third, the decision to use, or not, the strike-through line in Deletions is one that the Oxford New Testament Company has made at a time after ML has recorded all his assigned work, and after that work has undergone the prescribed review. Such is also the case regarding ML’s use of the strike-through line in Substitutions. With Substitutions, this deduction rests on ML’s careful use of the Greek alphabet in structuring the Substitution sequence. In recording Deletions, ML does not use the Greek alphabet. But it is logical to view the use, or non-use, of the strike-through line in Deletions as occurring at the same time as its use in Substitutions. There is no evidence to the contrary.” (Allen & Jacobs, 13-14)

- Additions constitute a third subclass of S-1 revisions discussed by Allen and Jacobs.
 - “Additions, the third subclass of S-1 revisions, require ML to insert only additional phrasing into a portion of verse. Luke 2:44 and 2:46 are typical examples (see Fig. 2). In Luke 2:44, ML inserts the pronoun ‘they’ before the verb ‘sought’. He first writes a superscript phi before this verb and inserts a caret beneath the phi, at the base of the printed line. Second, he writes a matching phi in the margin opposite the text. After this phi, he writes the pronoun ‘they’ and follows it with a second caret. The proposed

revision is clear: ‘sought’ is to be revised to ‘they sought’. In the same way in Luke 2:46, the pair of chis signals the revision of the 1602 text from ‘hearing’ to ‘both hearing’.

ML varies his recording sequence for one sort of Addition: marginal supplements, those proposed readings to be printed in the margin of the AV to elucidate the printed text. Luke 2:38 is illustrative (see Fig. 2). First, ML draws a small superscript flower (†) before the word in the text which the supplement is to elucidate. In Luke 2:38, the flower is before the noun ‘Hierusalem’. Second, ML draws another flower in the margin opposite the text. After it, he writes the proposed supplement. At Luke 2:38, we read ‘or, Israel’. Note that the conjunction ‘or’ precedes the supplement. This conjunction is important because sometimes its presence alone, without the flower sign, is all that indicates the occurrence of a marginal supplement. Then, logic determines the specific portion of text for which the marginal supplement is meant.

S-2 revision occurs, at times, in these supplements. Luke 2:19 (see Fig. 1) also demonstrates this. The example involves S-2 revision of both a marginal supplement and a Substitution in the phrase ‘those sayings’. Stages of the revision move thus:

1602	those sayings
S-1 Sub. Rev.	theise † sayings
S-1 Marg. Suppl.	† or things
S-2 Rev.	these things.

The flower sign is inserted in the text before the noun ‘sayings’. A second flower appears in the margin, after which is written ‘or things’. It is clear that the generic term ‘things’ is to be the proposed alternative reading for the 1602 noun ‘sayings’. Later, an S-2 revision has crossed out this supplement—‘things’. But the noun ‘things’ has not been lost. Instead, a decision has been made to put this noun into the revised text. Thus, the 1602 noun ‘sayings’ has also been struck through at the same time that the supplement ‘things’ has been crossed out. After completing these actions, ML has written the noun ‘things’ just after the adjective ‘theise’ that he had recorded in the margin as his Substitution for the 1602 reading ‘those’.

Being aware of ML’s recording method, we can infer that ML recorded the supplement ‘or things’ and the Substitution ‘theise’ at the same time, and not that he made an error by proposing that the noun ‘things’ be used as a supplement directly after he had recorded ‘things’ as a part of the Substitution revision for ‘those sayings’. He first recorded S-1 revisions—the Substitution and the marginal supplement—then later performed the S-2 revisions—cancellation of the supplement and the 1602 noun ‘sayings’, and the addition of the word ‘things’ after the already recorded adjective ‘theise’.

One other aspect of ML’s habits argues that we are observing an S-2 revision and not a mistake on ML’s part at the S-1 stage. Here in Luke 2:19, ML draws a single line under each word in the phrase ‘those sayings’. In S-1 Substitutions, ML’s habit is to underline the entire phrase to be revised with one continuous line, not two discreet lines. It is evident, then, that at the S-1 phase only the pronoun ‘those’ was to be revised to ‘theise’. Later, when the Oxford New Testament Company gathered to discuss the results of the review of its work, a decision was made, based on that review, to revise the noun

‘sayings’ to ‘things’. At this point, ‘sayings’ was underlined separately; the use of the noun ‘things’ as a supplement was crossed out and rewritten after ‘theise’, thus creating an S-2 revision; and last, a single strike-through line was drawn across the 1602 phrasing ‘those sayings’.” (Allen & Jacobs, 14-15)

- Thus concludes the discussion by Allen and Jacobs of the scribal practices of the ML scribe. Recall from above that ML’s scribal practice was deemed the “clearest” by Allen and Jacobs. (7) They go on to say that, once understood, it is not difficult to ascertain the methodology of the LJ and MT scribes. Specifically, they state:
 - “The method of ML is the clearest. (Once understood, the method of LJ is relatively easy to follow, after which the method of MT, with its uncertainties, also becomes apparent.” (Allen & Jacobs, 7)
- Having given due consideration to the scribal practices of ML we will forgo doing likewise for LJ and MT. Parties interested in the details of the methodologies utilized by LJ and MT are encouraged to consult *The Coming of the King James Gospels* by Allen & Jacobs. We are taking Allen & Jacobs at face value and using the work of ML as representative of the work of the other two scribes. This is being done in the interest of time. There is no reason to doubt the veracity of Allen & Jacobs’ work on the other two scribes.
- In the next Lesson we will consider the impact of Bod 1602 upon a select number of New Testament readings from the Gospels.

Works Cited

Allen, Ward S. & Edward C. Jacobs. *The Coming of the King James Gospels: A Collation of the Translators’ Work-in-Progress*. Fayetteville, AK: The University of Arkansas Press, 1995.

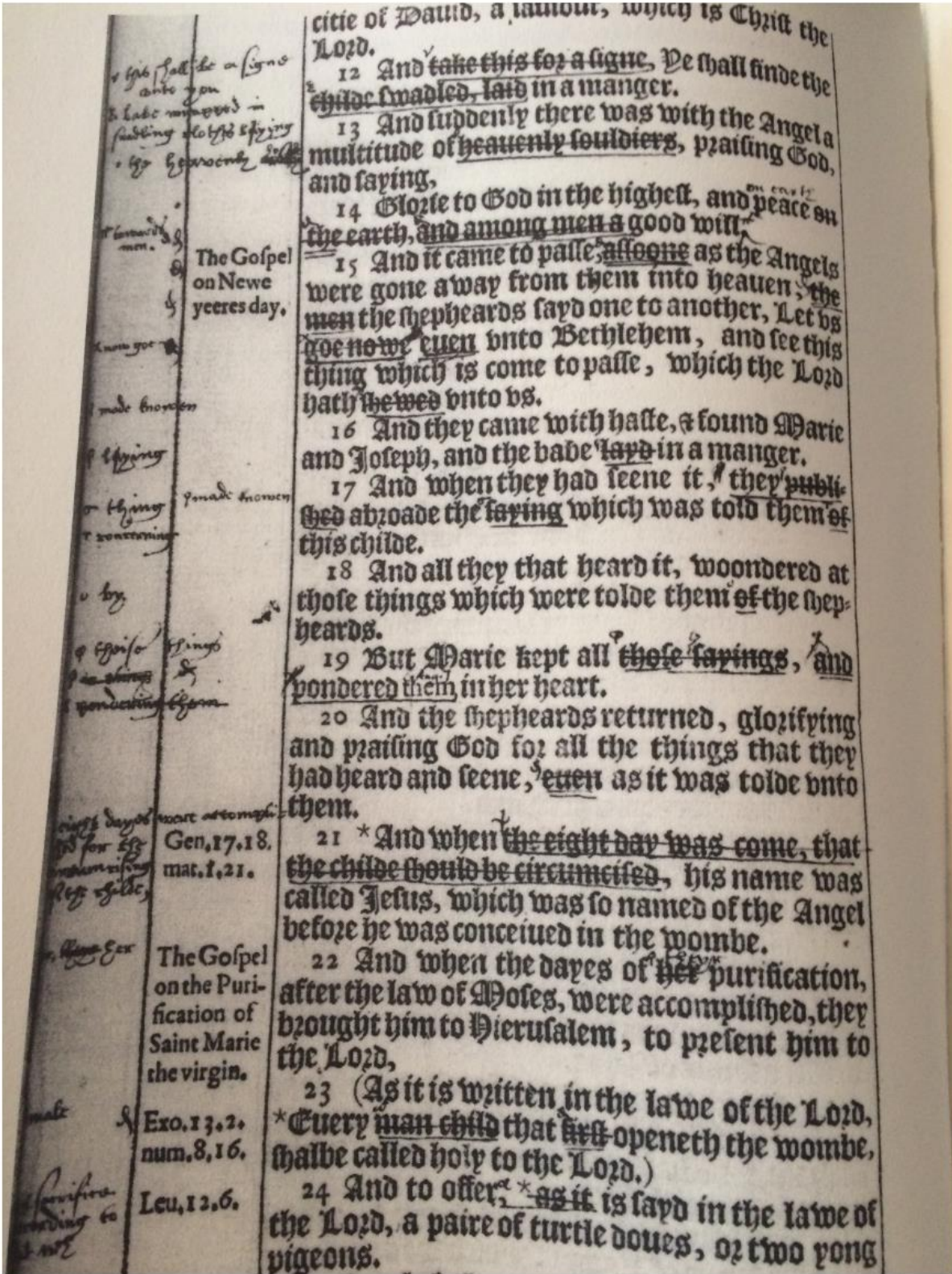


Figure 1

[From Lesson 175](#)

