

TAKING A CRITICAL LOOK AT THE CRITICAL TEXT Part Seven: May 25, 2022

1 John 5:7b-8a

- **“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the _____, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the _____: and these three agree in one.”**
 - Included in _____
 - Included but footnoted in NKJV
 - Bracketed in YLT
 - Moved to footnote in CSB, HCSB, NASB, NLT, NRSV, NCV, ISV, GW, etc.
 - _____ in LEB, ASV, BBE, ESV, GNB, TLB, NAB, RSV, MSG, CEV, etc.

The Controversy

- **Vs. 7b-8a are often referred to as the “Johannine _____.”**
 - A beautiful and very clear statement of the _____!
- **Old Scofield Reference Bible:**
 - *“It is generally agreed that v. 7 has no real _____, and has been inserted.”*

The History

- **This passage is found in only a few _____ manuscripts that we have available to us today.**
- **But it has very strong support in the _____ text.**
- **Although it was left out of Jerome’s _____ (A.D. 400), it was included in later editions by popular demand.**
- **_____ originally did not include this passage in the Textus Receptus although it was in the Vulgate and widely _____ as Scripture.**
- **In response to a groundswell of protest, he agreed to include it if it could be found in a _____ Greek manuscript.**
- **When one was found, he included it in his third edition.**

Historical/Textual Evidence

- **Found in writings of _____ (early 200’s).**
- **Quoted by several _____ church fathers including Priscillian and Idacius Clarus (300’s)**
- **Found in many Old Latin _____.**
- **Found in a few _____ manuscripts although not in the Greek church fathers**

Two Theories

- **It arose as a Trinitarian _____ of verse 8 and somehow got inserted into the text.**
 - Significant problem: why the _____ and not the Son (vs. 7)?
- **It was _____ from many Greek manuscripts due to the influence of Sabellianism in the A.D. 200's (especially in the Greek-speaking east).**

Internal Evidence

- **If the Johannine comma is omitted:**
 - A grammatical _____ is introduced into the Greek.
 - _____ “three” does not agree with the neuter nouns in the list.

 - A pronoun _____ problem results.
 - “The One” or “that One” has no corresponding “One” to refer to in verse 7.

 - The _____ of a numbered list is lost.
 - Usually when a numbered list is introduced, there is some sort of parallelism or repetition employed.

 - Important _____ content is lost.
 - The _____ witness of God

Verdict

- **Although the historical/textual evidence for the authenticity of the Johannine comma is inconclusive, the internal evidence reveals that it is _____.**