

**THE VARIATIONS BETWEEN  
THE HEBREW AND  
GREEK TEXTS OF  
JOSHUA: CHAPTERS 1-12**

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The variations between the Hebrew and Greek texts of Joshua: chapters 1-12 by Charles Dow Benjamin

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**CHARLES DOW BENJAMIN**

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OF JOSHUA: CHAPTERS 1-12

BY  
CHARLES DOW BENJAMIN

A THESIS

PRESENTED TO THE FACULTY OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL IN  
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## INTRODUCTION

The attempt is here made to explain the variations between the Hebrew and Greek texts of Joshua 1-12. Both have suffered largely from similar causes, and the recognition and elimination of faults will enable us to recover the Hebrew text as it existed at the time the Greek translation was made. The section treated is complete in itself. Jos. 1:1 serves essentially as an introduction to this section. The historical content is a unit. Chapter 12 is the summary. The Hebrew and the Greek texts vary widely. Aside from the changes which may be attributed to the usual corruption of a text and to the weakness of any translation, there are words and phrases in the Greek which do not appear in the Hebrew; there is a curious juggling of grammatical person and number, sometimes without apparent consistency; and there are many words and phrases, even verses which appear in the Hebrew and are absent from the Greek.

HOLLENBERG in *Der Charakter der Alex. Übersetzung des B. Josua*, 1876, treats exhaustively the Hebrew and the Greek texts of the book of Joshua, and sets the pace for successive commentators. At times he accepts the Greek, but on the whole upholds the Hebrew. DILLMANN in his *Commentary*, 1886, is even less favorable to the Greek. BENNETT in *S.B.O.T.*, 1895; translation and notes, 1899, follows DILLMANN in alleging deliberate alteration on the part of the Greek scribe. STEUER-NAGEL in his *Commentary*, 1899, favors the Greek. CARPENTER and BATTERSBY, *The Hexateuch*, 1900, again reject the Greek and favor the Hebrew, as does HOLZINGER, *Commentary*, 1901.

HOLMES in his *Joshua, the Hebrew and Greek Texts*, 1914, alleges the superiority of the Greek. In this investigation, I have endeavored to set aside in categories both those changes and variations which throw light upon the intelligence and reliability of the Greek, and those additions and corrections which may be called glosses, as an aid in the recovery of the Hebrew text as it existed at the time the Greek translation was made.



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