

I. The Problem.

Many quotes. P quotes OT 93x. Total in NT about 270. From all parts of OT and singly and in combination. Certain formulae introduce them. All indicate high regard attached to OT by NT. Yet quotes made freely, not in agreement with OT texts, paraphrases, LXX, which may tend to discredit OT and NT. Argument to discredit like this: (1) NT writers bec they do not quote accurately could not have held verbal inspiration of OT; and (2) HS could not have directed NT writers to quote inaccurately; thus NT not inspired. Thus attack is on both testaments.

e.g. introductory formulas. as it stands written, and refers to unalterable Word of God. Yet may be altered. cf Rom 15:9. Psa 17:50 LXX. cf 1 Cor 1:31, Jer 9:24.

II. Purpose of answer

- A. Not to prove inspiration. It comes from the Bible and if Bible claims variations inspired then they are.
- B. Is nec to show quotes do not constitute an irrefutable invalidation of what has been adduced as verbal inspiration.
- C. Therefore nec to give some suggestions about nature of quotes.
- D. Must remember every suggestion does not work in every case. But together they provide satisfactory explanations of apparent discrepancies.

III. Suggestions toward the answer

A. NT writers had to translate their quotations.

1. Sources.

- a. Aramaic or Hebrew. Had to use existing tr or make own. No trans can give an adequate and coextensive rendering of original text. To quote in tr even under inspiration demands some change.
- b. LXX. Good tr. Older than Massoretic text. Like AV before RV out. When quoting may not be best tr of every word but used anyway to make point. If point gotten across by LXX then used unchanged; if not, then NT felt free to emend LXX.

2. Concl.

- a. Use of LXX does not attribute inspiration to it. Like Jude's of P's quoting Grk poets.
- b. Need to correlate interpretation with inspiration. Insp says record is accurate; thus given case is an accurate quote of LXX. Inter needs to decide what interpretive point of quote is and to give importance to right words and not to others.
- c. In gospels, quotes of Lord's words mostly involve trans. Have to bel HS guided various records so that ours is a completely supplemented account of what He wants to convey of the meaning of what the Lord said.

Note: Diff bet NT using this principle and Wycliffe trans is that the product which resulted in Grk NT is exact in every word. Product is inspired. Wycliffe tran deals with inspired source. Doesn't produce inspired product. When NT writer uses this method his product diff from Wycliffe using it. Wycliffe or any translator always needs to keep educating and refining both his translation and the understanding of his people. e.g. I had never seen a vineyard till went to Westmont. But don't trans Jn 15 tomatoes bec I don't know a vinyard. Teach me what it is.

B. NT writers did not have available rules of a form book.

- 1. No quote marks. Sometimes writer may only have had in mind very short quote but he continues on in train of tho~~t~~ which appears to us unmarked and thus as part of the quote. The extent of the intended citation not always known to us.

2. No ellipsis marks.
 3. No brackets. To indicate editorial comments. They may have added intentionally that which critics say is mistrans of source. Cf. Eph 6:2 for clear addition.
 4. No footnote ref. Thus we find mixture of passages without any differentiation. Some prob solved is we had modern rules of form used in NT.
- C. NT writers sometimes paraphrased their quotes.
1. Free trans. Nothing illegitimate in this.
 2. Slight modifications such as change of pronouns. Legit. Bible says we should not lie.
 3. Somplete paraphrase in order to emphasize a particular point.
 4. Summary of general teaching, Matt 2:23; John 1:45.
 5. Quote only a bit and not word for word to remind readers of entire thot.
- D. NT writers often only intended to allude to OT without quoting. Can't criticize them for not doing what they didn't intend to do anyway.
1. Formula kai palin always introduces exact quote. Rom 15:19; 1 Cor 3:20; Heb 1:5; 2:13; 10:30. Kai or de alone do not nec. Sometimes introduce additional material not a quote, Matt 5:43; Lk 22:37; 1 Pet 1:17; 2 Pet 2:22.
 2. Lego and eipon may introduce an informal ref which is part of the narrative and not a direct quote. Quote marks would help. Acts 7:26 not found in those words in OT. but not intended to be a direct quote. 2 Cor 4:6-lit. the one saying, eipon, light out of darkness.
- E. In Paul there may be an added factor of exegesis. Grammatical-historical plus (Ellis, P's Use of the OT, 147f). Meaning of the text not merely what the text says. His use always lies within the possible meanings of inferences of the text tho may not tally with the statistical probabilities of the grammar.
- F. Ancient texts were not altogether certain. Use this one sparingly. We know that they are highly accurate but still possibility we may be able to determine a better text in years to come.
1. Our texts of Grk NT have 150,000 variations.
 2. Massoretic text may include innacuracies. Scrolls helping.
 3. LXX corrupt in places tho scrolls are showing.
- Be careful of this bec no limit to which it could not be used if not balanced by suggestions A-E. Some conservatives say this one doesn't need to be used in a single instance.
- G. In quotes as everywhere else human element in inspir operates. Go easy on this too bec no end to it and can lead to unscientific excuses. Don't call it lapses of memory on part of NT writers, yet recognize mysterious element of truth that HS uses men with their peculiarities of expression.
- H. HS is free to modify as He sees fit.

Observations:

1. We are not bound to harmonize everything in the Bible. We are bound to bel there is a harmony but not to find it. We are bound to search and not stick head in sand.
2. All of OT quotes in NT that have problems can be explained by 1 or more of above suggestions and without resorting usually to the last 3.
3. Use of OT in NT shows writers' regard for it and as inspired and authoritative. Note when X answered Jews from Scrip no argument back.