

to hurt the Reformation after having published much earlier things that helped in laying a foundation for the Reformation. But when he found that he might lose part of some of his pension if he gave support to the Reformation he began to write against it. This edition of Erasmus is a basis on which the edition of Stephanus was based and also the so-called textus receptus, the edition of Elziver which came out 22 yrs. after the KJV. In order to form this edition Erasmus had to find some copies of the Greek NT in a great hurry. The reason he had to do this was that a Spanish archbishop in Spain, a Cardinal had secured some text of the NT, and had prepared an edition, and he had this edition ready printed, ready to distribute but he did not get the pope's approval for it. He waited to distribute this, and the publisher in Basel two years before the Reformation began decided to try to get ahead of the archbishop. So he sent to Erasmus, the great scholar, and asked him to come Basel and prepare an edition of the Greek NT. Erasmus said, Fine, give me five years to hunt for some good manuscripts and I will study them, compare the texts, prepare the texts and get out one. And Froman (?) said, No, the man in Spain has got his already printed and I want to get out one ahead of him. He said, Get some manuscripts in a hurry. So they went to a convent there in Basel and there they found 6 or 7 manuscripts, no one of them containing the whole of the NT, and Erasmus set to work comparing them and made a conflate text from them. In some places no one of these mss has it, and so Erasmus took his Latin Bible and translated into the Greek. Thus he got out an edition in a tremendous hurry and Froman (?) printed it in a great hurry and dedicated it to Pope Leo X, the pope who later condemned Luther and he sent a copy to the Pope and asked the Pope for permission, exclusive right to publish the Greek NT for a few years.