

When later publications to the Greek New Testament were made they were generally copied from Erasmus' book though sometimes with a comparison of two or three additional manuscripts. About fifty years after Erasmus' book came out a volume was issued in which the statement was made in the front that this is the text which is received by every one. Actually this was simply a printers advertisement. The text which it contained was the summary of a - resulted from <sup>the</sup> a comparison of a comparatively few manuscripts and was almost identical with the text that Erasmus had originally issued. Hundreds of other manuscripts were available in monestaries and libraries scattered in different parts of Europe. Comparatively ~~many~~ few manuscripts were even ~~n~~ compared for this book. While these manuscripts differ among each other - one from the other in small points so that probably no two are exactly alike yet the differences are comparatively small and actually the great bulk of the material is almost exactly identical in most of the manuscripts.

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The text that was published under the title of the received text which came thus to be known as the received text represents the reading of a few manuscripts and is not a particularly good presentation as far as minor points of differences are concerned. As we will see later however examination of the great bulk of manuscripts shows clearly that the differences are comparatively slight and insignificant. The statement has often been made that no variation has been found in the manuscripts of the New Testament which requires any change in any important points of Christian doctrine.

When the King James version was made the received text was in the hands of the translators. Most of the study of extensive comparison of other manuscripts has come subsequent to that time. This results often in ~~him~~ noticing interesting variations in minor points and occasionally even in raising serious question as to whether a particular verse actually was in the original - in the Bible as ~~origin~~ originally written yet there is no variation that <sup>would</sup> affects any point of Christian doctrine. We'll look into this matter somewhat more in detail a little further on.

A word should be said here about the types of New Testament manuscripts which were available when printing first began. The reason we are so particularly interested in the beginning of printing is that ~~once~~ you have printing you ~~have~~ can make hundreds or even thousands of copies of a book and know that they will all be exactly alike.