

of the LXX into Greek. The Christians would prove that Jesus was the Christ and would quote from the LXX but the Jews would claim that it was the true Word; but they would say this was translation made by their own people and soon they got a very bad dislike for the LXX. Every copy that has come down to us has been preserved for us through Christians. When the Christians quoted it that turned their dislike for the LXX and they stopped using it.

(b) The early copies were preserved for us by Christians and not by Jews. Note the MSS we have are bound--the Old and New Testaments which would prove that they are not a Jewish product.

(c) No copy of the LXX contains just those books which the R.C. claims should be put in the O.T. If we had 100 copies preserved from early days of the LXX and they contain 22 books which Josephus names and then have the books which the R.C. claims and contained exactly that with no additional books, then we would say that there is some evidence that early Christians in Alex. at least felt that these books were important but that is not the case. Most of MSS of the LXX have books which the R. C. doesn't even claim and many of them have one, or two or three and there is not one which has the exact books which the R.C. These MSS vary so tremendously.

38 The MSS have all then been kept for us by Christian people and moreover that arrangement and the selection of the books differ in every MSS we have. We don't have any means of judging whether the Christians added the books of the Apocrypha or whether they found the Jewish copies with those books already in. That is a statement of opinion. There are very few copies which we have ~~any~~ of the whole LXX and many of them don't even make a point of being trying to be complete. Some have the Pentateuch; some of Historical books, and some have of the Poetical books. We do know that when the Christians made up copies of the LXX, the Jews didn't have any copies to make them up from since they still had the rolls. so when they got these rolls whether they had just the group of rolls containing the O.T. or had that plus the Apocry. books doesn't affect the situation in the binding of these into one book. There is a letter of Aristius, so called, which used to be thought by all to be simply a mythical story which happened around 200 B.C. when one of the Ptolemys one the Jewish sacred books for his library and consequently he wrote up to Jerusalem and asked for some wise men to do the translation work for him, but they hesitated to let these men go for fear that Ptolemy would keep them in Egypt so they made him promise to return them--they sent down six men from each tribe