

has nothing to do with them, they're Aramean, but we call Syriac the dialect which was used in that whole region in the time of Christ, and for three or four centuries afterward. A lot of early church history in Syriac. How's that? Yes, the MarToma church were people whose Bible was in Syriac, who came down there and had a tremendous influence. (stu) No the language used in Palestine in the time of Christ was--oh at the time of the exile the Hebrew gave up Hebrew and took on Aramaic, and they continued to use Hebrew just as a dead language for sacred purposes, and some people wrote in Hebrew still, but the talking was all Aramaic from about the time of the exile, and the result is that most of the ~~the~~ Talmud is in Aramaic, and Aramaic came to be, when the New Testament says the Hebrew language, it means Aramaic, because that was the language of the Hebrew, but of course they had the Bible in the Hebrew, but they had the Targums in Aramaic, which were the translation of the Bible into the Aramaic. Yes? ~~Yes?~~ (student: I was wondering, when they came to the exile, then, and they spoke Hebrew till the exile, did they come in contact with the Syrian dialect and then take their Hebrew characters and make Aramaic, I mean, did they invent sort of a ~~Hebrew~~ new dialect?) No....

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...was probably the common Aramaic of the day, which was probably spoken by the people at Nebuchadnezzar's court, because in Nebuchadnezzar's court the contracts are all in Babylonian, and Accadian, but the contracts are in the cuneiform writing, and they have a little cover on, and very often on the cover, there is a scratch, an Aramaic summary of what's in it, so that it's altogether possible Nebuchadnezzar and his family talked Aramaic, and in Daniel you start off in Hebrew, and you have a chapter and three verses in Hebrew, and then it says, "and they answered the king in Aramaic," the King James says it was in Syriac, but it isn't Syriac, it is Aramaic. Answered him in Aramaic, and then said what they said in Aramaic, and then keeps on giving it all in Aramaic till you get to the end of chapter 7, then they switch back to Hebrew. So that