

4. Borderline texts between biblical and non-biblical have posed questions for scholars, as mentioned on page 1.

Most Important Manuscripts Discovered:

1. Listed on pages 104-106 in People.
2. The liberal bias of the author is noted on page 106: "4QDan-b is very interesting because it comes from the close of the 2nd century BCE, but not more than fifty years after the composition of the book." This is in reference to the book of Daniel.

Biblical Texts Before Christ:

1. Babylonian Text: short and conservative. The basis of our OT. *Masorah*
2. *Samaritan Pent* *SP* Palestinian Text: expanded *LXX*
3. Egyptian Text: An intermediate text written by translators who had a poor understanding of Hebrew.
4. Variations of interest:
Deut 32:43 DSS and LXX change the verse to read, "Acclaim, heavens, his people and be prostrate before him all gods." The last 7 words are quoted in Heb 1:6.
5. The Essenes evidently had in their possession works from Babylon, Egypt, as well as Judah, probably for scholarship purposes.

Interpretation and Exegesis:

1. Interpretation appears not to have been evenly applied. Some texts (I.e. Isaiah) were perfectly copied while others appear to have imperfections, possibly from theological overtones.
2. The Essenes evidently had the same discussions between liberals and conservatives as we do today.

Literary Forms of Interpretation

1. Rewritten stories or paraphrase.