CHAPTER ELEVEN

THE TEXT AND LANGUAGE OF THE ENDINGS TO MARK'S GOSPEL

Professor Kurt Aland has indicated that there are several major errors in the citation of the manuscript evidence for the longer and shorter endings to Mark's Gospel in the *apparatus criticus* of currently available printed editions of the Greek New Testament.

1.

As the text for these verses is so often the subject for discussion and as textual variants in these verses are to be taken into account below in analysing the distinctiveness of the language and style, the full citation of the evidence for the verses occurring after Mark xvi 8 is presented here. Much of the information in the *apparatus* has been kindly provided for me by the Institut für neustamentliche Textforschung in Münster. The evidence is as follows.

1) The longer ending (Mark xvi 9-20) is included in the following MSS.:

A C D E H K M S U W X Y Γ Δ Θ Π Σ φ Ω 047 055 0211 1528 33 274 (text) 565 700 892 1009 1010 1071 1079 1195 1230 1241 1253 1344 1365 1546 1646 2148 2174 etc.

Lect. 60 69 70 185 547 883.

Lat. (vt. aur c drupp. ff2 l n o q) (vg). Syr.(c p h pal) Cop.(boh fay) Gothic Arm. MSS Geo.8 Diat. (Arabic, Italian, Codex Fuldensis and Old Dutch).

Justin?, Irenaeus, Tertullian, Aphraates, Apostolic Constitutions, Didymus, Hippolytus, Marinus (as quoted by Eusebius), Epiphanius.

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2) The *longer* ending is included in the following MSS. marked with asterisks, or obeli, or with a critical note added:
f1 22 137 138 205 1110 1210 1215 1216 1217 1221 1241 (vid) 1582.

3) The following MSS. add the *shorter* ending *before* the *longer* ending:

L \(\Psi\) 083 099 (incomplete up to \(\pi\)\(\nu\)\(\tau\)\(\varphi\)\(\omicron\)\(\varsigma\)) 0112 (omits \(\pi\)\(\alpha\)\(\nu\)\(\tau\)\(\alpha\) ... \(\mu\)\(\epsilon\)\(\tau\)\(\acute{\epsilon}\)) 274 (mg) 579.

Lect. 1602.

Syr. (h\(\beta\)g.) Copt. (sah MSS. boh MSS.) Eth. MSS.

4) Lat. (vt. \(k\)) reads only the *shorter* ending after Mark xvi 8:

Lat. [vt. \(a\)] may also have originally contained the shorter ending only.

5) The following MSS. of Mark *end* at xvi 8:

K B (a large space follows xvi 8) 304 (2386 and 1420 have a page missing at this point).

Syr. sin Cop. sa\(\text{ms}\) Arm. 8 MSS. Eth. 3 MSS. Geo. 1, A.

Eusebius, MSS. according to Eusebius, MSS. according to Jerome.

2.

The other main problem concerning these endings which is often the subject of discussion is their language and style.

A discussion is found in an article by Eta Linnemann in which it is claimed that Mark xvi 15-20 is original to Mark and forms part of the actual ending to the gospel. Linnemann maintains a) that the theology of these verses is consistent with the theology of canonical Mark, and b) that both Matt. xxviii 18-20 and Luke xxiv 44-53 knew of Mark xvi 15-20. One section of the article devoted to the linguistic and stylistic characteristics of Mark xvi 15-20 concludes: "Aus dem sprachlich-stilistischen Befund läßt sich kein Einwand erheben gegen die These, daß Mk. xvi 15-20 den ursprünglichen Schluß des Evangeliums enthält."