CHAPTER 6

Epiphanius as a Source

Having devoted two chapters to the numerous verses attested for Marcion's Gospel in Tertullian, this chapter turns to the second major source, Epiphanius. Before considering the specific attestation of Marcion's text offered by Epiphanius, however, a variety of introductory issues need to be discussed at the outset.

6.1 Advances in Understanding Epiphanius and His Works

In the works of Epiphanius, the vast majority of his biblical quotations are found in the Ancoratus (Ἀγκυρωτός) and the Panarion haereses (Πανάριον).¹ The critical text of these two works remains the edition by Karl Holl,² though the second and third volumes have been corrected and supplemented in second editions by Jürgen Dummer.³ An index volume to the Holl and Holl/Dummer volumes has also now been published,⁴ which, together with the Biblia Patristica index,⁵ greatly facilitates the study of Epiphanius's references to biblical texts. In addition, Frank Williams has provided an English translation, with helpful notes, of the Panarion.⁶ Other, including incompletely

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works of Epiphanius are only occasionally relevant for the present study, though the continued work on *De mensuris et ponderibus* (Περὶ μέτρων καὶ σταθμῶν) due to the discovery of new fragments of the text should be noted.7

Concerning Epiphanius’s own biblical text, Carroll D. Osburn has offered a new and expanded study of the topic of his Ph.D. dissertation, namely, the Apostolos in Epiphanius, which also offers helpful discussion of both Epiphanius’s citation habits and methodological issues involved in using the church fathers for textual criticism of the NT.8 For the Gospels’ text used by Epiphanius, the study by Lawrence Allen Eldridge9 is unfortunately rather significantly flawed in both data and methodology,10 and therefore of limited value for evaluating Epiphanius’s text in this section of the NT canon.

6.2 Epiphanius’s Testimony Concerning Marcion’s Gospel

6.2.1 Statistical Analysis of Epiphanius’s Testimony

After Tertullian, Epiphanius is the second most important source for Marcion’s Gospel. As already noted at the outset of this study, Epiphanius provides data

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8 Reference to this work was made in chapter 3, n. 85. Osburn’s Ph.D. dissertation is “The Text of the Pauline Epistles in Epiphanius of Salamis” (Ph.D. diss., University of St. Andrews, 1974).
