

Luke 12:8-9 - What was the original reading?

Codex 01

NA²⁷ Luke 12:8 Λέγω δὲ ὑμῖν, πᾶς ὃς ἂν ὁμολογήσῃ ἐν ἐμοὶ ἔμπροσθεν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, καὶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ὁμολογήσει ἐν αὐτῷ ἔμπροσθεν τῶν ἀγγέλων τοῦ θεοῦ.

NA²⁷ Luke 12:9 ὁ δὲ ἀρνησάμενός με ἐνώπιον τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἀπαρνηθήσεται ἐνώπιον τῶν ἀγγέλων τοῦ θεοῦ.

omit: 01*^{vid}, Marcion^{T, (E)}

01* has an unclear correction in verse 8 for τῶν ἀγγέλων τοῦ θεοῦ. According to Tischendorf, Swanson and NA 01* omits τῶν ἀγγέλων. According to IGNTP 01* omits τοῦ θεοῦ.

Tischendorf writes: "τῶν ἀγγέλων τοῦ θεοῦ: haec omnia videtur A scripsisse, prioribus litteris τῶν ἄγ in litura positis. Scripserat prima manus, ni fallor, nil nisi τοῦ θεοῦ."

Dirk Jongkind studied the passage and concluded "that Tischendorf was right but that the replacement of τοῦ θεοῦ with τῶν ἀγγέλων τοῦ θεοῦ was made by scribe D and not by scribe A who wrote the main text."

Timothy A. Brown from the Sinaiticus transcription project wrote: In verse 8 the letters τ ω ν ἀ γ γ έ λ ω ν are written by the first hand over an erasure. What the first hand originally wrote and then erased is not clear. The τ ο υ θ ε ο υ at the end of the line appears to have been written by a first hand and then reinforced by a later corrector since the article is certainly a first hand and traces of the associated nomen sacrum appear beneath the corrector's ink.

Amy Myshrall is the other transcriber in the Codex Sinaiticus Project. She has independently concluded the same correction scenario I've outlined above.

According to the apparatus of NA, 01* omits both times, verse 8 and 9. This is not correct. Timothy A. Brown confirmed this. The omission in verse 9 is also not in Tischendorf, Swanson and IGNTP.

ΤΟΥΑΝΘΡΩΠΟΥ
ΜΟΛΟΓΗΣΕΙΕΝ
ΤΩΕΜΠΡΟΣΘΕΝ
ΤΩΝΑΓΓΕΛΩΝΤΟΥ
ΟΔΕΑΡΝΗΣΑΜΕΝ
ΜΕΕΝΩΠΙΟΝΤΩ
ΑΝΘΡΩΠΩΝΑΠΑΡ
ΝΗΣΕΤΑΙΕΝΩΠΙ
ΟΝΤΩΝΑΓΓΕΛΩ
ΤΟΥΘΥΚΑΙΠΑΣΟ
ΡΕΙΛΟΓΟΝΕΙΣΤΟΝ
ΥΙΟΝΤΟΥΑΝΘΡΩ

Crops: (raking light one at the bottom)

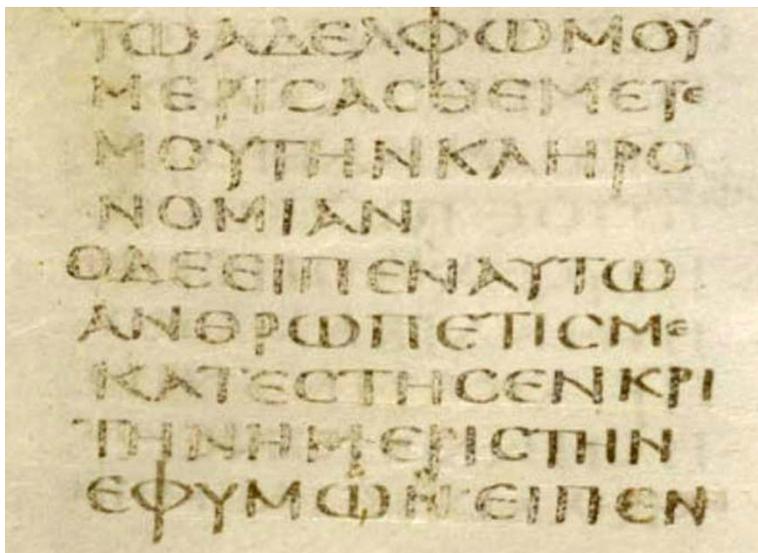
ΤΩΕΜΠΡΟΣΘΕΝ
ΤΩΝΑΓΓΕΛΩΝΤΟΥ
ΟΔΕΑΡΝΗΣΑΜΕΝ
ΤΩΕΜΠΡΟΣΘΕΝ
ΤΩΝΑΓΓΕΛΩΝΤΟΥ
ΟΔΕΑΡΝΗΣΑΜΕΝ

First, the ἀγγέλων in verse 9 is clearly there by the original hand and nothing unusual can be seen. NA is in error here. Probably the "bis" was meant for Marcion only.

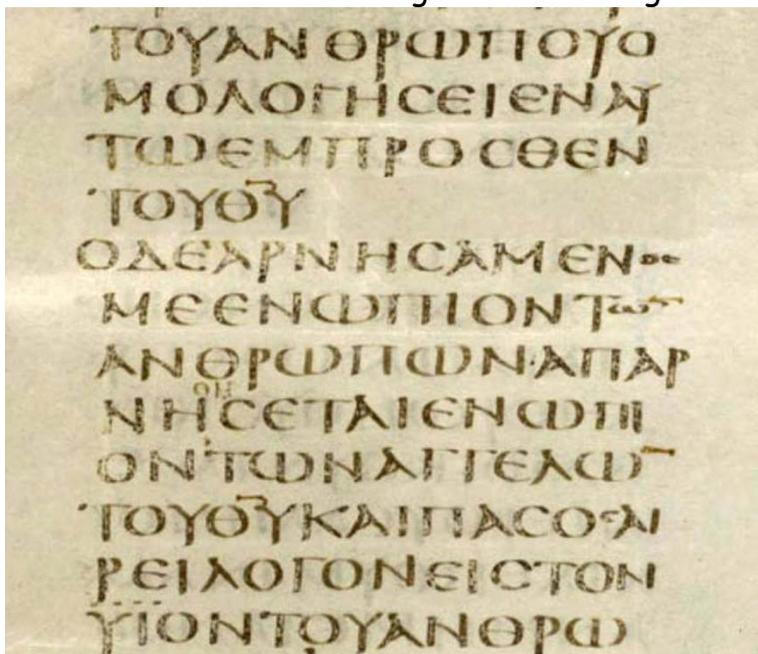
Verse 8: The complete line looks like written by someone else. Jongkind says scribe D.

The raking light image shows clearly that there is an erasure at the letters των αγ. It is possible that here originally stood τοῦ θεοῦ only and that the line ended there.

On the next line the first letter Ο is extending slightly into the left margin, indicating a paragraph. Further down the column, verse 14 a similar paragraph appears:



We can reconstruct the original 01* reading like this:



(manipulated line 4)

Conclusion:

The evidence fits an original τὸ ἰεὸν reading: the space of the erasure and the paragraph indication. But nothing of the original letters can be seen.

Since nothing else makes any sense, I think a "vid" for 01* τὸ ἰεὸν is justified.