

## **MS5 Charles Collection**

### **About the collection:**

Small collection of papers and photographic material presented to the University Library by the Biblical Scholar, R.H. Charles, Archdeacon of Westminster (1855-1931) consisting mainly of photographs (positive and negative) of original Aramaic, Greek and Ethiopic biblical manuscripts dating from the 10th to the 15th centuries. These items were largely used by Charles in the preparation of his scholarly texts on 'The Ethiopic Version of the Book of Enoch' (1906) and 'The Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs' (1908). Annotated editions of these publications are included in the collection as is his 'Lectures on the Apocalypse' from 1922.

The listing consists of an inventory of papers and photographs presented by R. H. Charles in December 1922, copied from his letter, dated 5th Dec. 1922.



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## MS5 Outline

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**MS5/1                      Photographs – Greek – of Revelation.**

**Eight bundles of photographs of various Greek Manuscripts of Revelation.** A note on the inventory adds “These eight manuscripts are also valuable from the standpoint of palaeography, as they furnish excellent specimens of the Greek MSS of six centuries”.

**MS5/1/1**                      Greek MSS of Revelation No. 456 (Gregory) X Cent. Florence, Laurentian Library (Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana). 29 negative photographs.

**MS5/1/2**                      Greek MSS of Revelation No. 920 (Gregory) X Cent. Escorial, Madrid. 56 negative photographs.

**MS5/1/3**                      Greek MSS of Revelation No. 617 (Gregory) XI Cent. Venice (St. Mark’s Library). 32 black and white photographs.

**MS5/1/4**                      Greek MSS of Revelation No. 325 (Gregory) XI Cent. Bodley Library. 28 negative photographs.

**MS5/1/5**                      Greek MSS of Revelation No. 337 (Gregory) XII Cent. Paris. 44 negative photographs.

**MS5/1/6**                      Greek MSS of Revelation No. 468 (Gregory) XIII Cent. Paris 20 negative photographs.

**MS5/1/7**                      Greek MSS of Revelation No. 386 (Gregory) XIV Cent. Rome (Vatican). 23 negative photographs.

**MS5/1/8**                      Greek MSS of Revelation No. 2020 (Gregory) XV Cent. Rome (Vatican). 25 negative photographs.

**MS5/2                      Photograph (negative) of the Greek MS (i) of *The Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs***

**Soft-bound notebook containing inserted photographs (negative) of the Greek MS (i) of The Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs.** Manuscript note on cover reads “This MS. was photographed for me (R.H.C.) on Mount Sinai by Mrs. Gibson of Cambridge. See Charles’ *Greek Versions of the Testaments of the XII Patriarchs* pp. xii, xix-xx.” 66 negative photographs.

**MS5/3 Photographs of Aramaic MSS (fragments)**

**Photographs of Aramaic MSS fragments.** A note on the copies reads "Aramaic fragments of a work dealing with sacrifices in the Temple at Jerusalem, written before 150 B.C. The original was written in Hebrew, which is lost. The books itself was used by the author of the Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs, which was written about 109 B.C. Since these fragments are unique, I have deciphered and printed them on pp. 245, 253-257 of my edition of the text of the *Testaments*." 2pp.

**MS5/4 Photographs (negatives) of six MSS of I Enoch**

**Photographs (negatives) of six MSS of I Enoch: i.e. F, I, K, L, N, H.** These are fully described in Charles, *Ethiopic Version of the Book of Enoch*, 1906.

**MS5/4/1** Photograph album labelled "Ethiopic MSS of I Enoch. MS F & MS I". 99 negative photographs.

**MS5/4/2** Photograph album labelled "Ethiopic MSS of I Enoch. MS K, L, N & H". 99 negative photographs.

**MS5/5 Books**

**Three books on Biblical Scholarship authored by R. H. Charles.**

**MS5/5/1** R. H. Charles. *Lectures on the Apocalypse*. (The Schweich Lectures 1919). London: British Academy. 1922.

Note in inventory reads: "This book is already out of print, but the next edition will be an exact reprint of this. See p. 56 for a table of my results. I am sorry I haven't a copy of my large Commentary on Revelation, 2 vols, which gives a full list and critical account of the MSS. of Revelation."

**MS5/5/2** R. H. Charles. *The Greek Versions of the Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs*. Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1908.

Note in inventory reads: "Unfortunately I haven't an absolutely new copy of this work. The copy I enclose has MS. notes of my own on some pages." This work contains a text based on nine Greek MSS., with the variants of the Armenian and Slavonic Versions and some Hebrew fragments.

**MS5/5/3** R. H. Charles. *Ethiopic Version of the Book of Enoch from twenty-three MSS together with the fragmentary Greek and Latin Versions*. Anecdota Oxoniensia Texts Documents, and Extracts chiefly from Manuscripts in the Bodleian and other Oxford Libraries. Semitic Series Part XI. Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1906.

Note in inventory reads: "This work contains also the Greek and Latin Fragments.

**MS5/6 Correspondence from R. H. Charles to Professor Gregory Smith**

**Two letters from R. H. Charles to Professor Gregory Smith relating to the materials in MS5/1 – MS5/5.**

**MS5/6/1** 30 November 1922. Letter from R. H. Charles to Professor Gregory Smith re. manuscript photographs. Autograph, 2pp.

**MS5/6/2** 5 December 1922. Letter from R. H. Charles to Professor Gregory Smith re. manuscript photographs. Autograph, 3pp.

**MS5/7 Inventory**

**Inventory of Papers and Photographs presented by the Venerable R. H. Charles, Archdeacon of Westminster, December 1922. Copied from his letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> December 1922. Typescript, 2pp.**



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