

he left us in a situation whereby , if you quote one verse in the scripture and you say here is God's Word on this subject I can say maybe there's an error of transmission in that verse, and you can't say there isn't. But when you quote two verses, I will say to you, maybe there's an error of transmission in one of those verses but that there's an error of transmission in both of them with no evidence on it, in our textual criticisms, evidence that has come to us, a tremendous amount of which we have, that is extremely unlikely. See what I mean? And therefore that He wants us to compare scripture with scripture and get the teaching of scripture as a whole, rather than to take one little verse and say, upon this verse I build (9 1/2)

That's a tremendous statement and we're so apt to take that attitude. And we say, here's this word, Luther said (9 3/4)

The Lord wants us to compare scripture and get the teaching and that teaching is true and reliable and accurately authoritative, but when you come to give one verse there's a possibility of an error (10)

To me that is reasonable and I think rather important, and it is to me a satisfactory explanation of what is a certain fact, that we do have errors of transmission. Though it's ~~not~~ must be emphasized that we have the most remarkably accurate transmission of any book that ever has been transmitted.

Student: That's the greater number of documents transmitting it?

MacRae: Oh, number of documents. Many of our great classical writers, we have one document from 7 or 8 centuries after the time it was written--the original writing (10 1/2) as what the original writer used, and yet there are scholars who will take a statement from one such document and use it to discredit a statement from the N.T. of which we have hundreds of documents, many of them coming from far nearer

Student: Like (10 3/4)

the father of Jesus.