Endorsements

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

I welcome the plans of the Center for the Study of New Testament Manuscripts (CSNTM) to take digital photographs of all the surviving New Testament manuscripts in Greek and other ancient languages. This very ambitious undertaking will provide internet access to an enormous number of photographs. In due course an invaluable research tool will be available free of charge. Distinguished experts as well as students at all levels will benefit from this bold undertaking.

At present only a small percentage of manuscripts of the New Testament are available in photographs or on microfilms. Almost without exception the quality is inferior. Digital photographs taken with the highest quality cameras will be an enormous step forward, as will the ready availability of every page of every manuscript! So I welcome this initiative whole-heartedly.

Graham Stanton
Emeritus Lady Margaret’s Professor of Divinity
University of Cambridge
United Kingdom

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Professor Daniel Wallace has been well known and respected internationally for decades because of his meticulous scholarship in the field of Greek New Testament textual criticism. The Center for the Study of New Testament Manuscripts, of which he is its executive director, is a worthwhile and valuable institution that merits strong financial support and backing. The work already achieved by the Center is impressive and its future plans are viable and important. The aim to publicise the results of its work via the internet is a welcome move to enable a wider scholarly community to benefit from the often pioneering work Wallace and his team achieve. The photographic images obtained are to be made available gratis to bona fide scholars; that appropriately generous dissemination is welcome and to be encouraged, adding to the reputation and prestige of the Center.

Prof J K Elliott
University of Leeds,
United Kingdom

Ministere per i Beni e le Attività Culturali
Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana Firenze

The Center for the Study of New Testament Manuscripts (CSNTM) sent a team to digitally photograph several biblical Greek manuscripts housed at the Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana.

The manuscripts they photographed included papyri, majuscules, minuscules, and lectionaries. Their professionalism, the quality of their work, and their state-of-the-art equipment were excellent.

They handled the Biblioteca’s manuscripts as though they were their own children. Their first priority was to preserve the manuscripts at all costs; only after this was secured did they attempt to take aesthetically-pleasing photographs. Each manuscript was completely archived, with every centimeter imaged, including six covers. It was evident that CSNTM has been photographing ancient manuscripts for a long time and that they are experts in the task. I heartily endorse them with no reservations at all.

Dott.ssa Vera Valitutto
direttore della
Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana
Florence

Eberhard Karls
Universität Tübingen

The work of CSNTM is extremely important for preparing a new scholarly edition of the N.T. text because it provides the editors with coloured photos of excellent quality of important old manuscripts which are much more informing and expressive than the older microfilm copies. This work brings not only a better base for editing the New Testament but gives also the possibility of finding new, up-till-now unknown manuscripts.

Their discovery of an early majuscule palimpsest of Mark in Istanbul is a sensation because we have up to now only very few early manuscripts of Mark. Their pioneer-work deserves all support.

Martin Hengel
Emeritus Professor
of New Testament and Early Judaism
Universität Tübingen
Germany
Endorsements

Along with a few other centres with somewhat complementary aims in Claremont and New Orleans, CSNTM is to be commended for its commitment to producing high-quality images of NT manuscripts and making them as widely available as feasible. The Board of Directors includes established and respected NT scholars with demonstrated expertise in NT textual criticism and related matters. CSNTM has made strategically important contacts with holders of often-unpublished manuscripts, and the Centre brings to its projects a high level of professional expertise in the very technical tasks of photography involved. I am impressed with what I have seen and I offer my very best wishes for the future of this important endeavor.

L. W. Hurtado, Head of the School of Divinity
Professor of NT Language, Literature & Theology
New College
University of Edinburgh
Mound Place
United Kingdom

I support with enthusiasm the efforts of the Center for the Study of New Testament Manuscripts to produce digital photographs of Greek New Testament manuscripts in various collections worldwide and to make them available to scholars committed to the assessment of these ancient treasures. The Center’s use of recent and emerging technologies will provide the clarity and definition lacking in the vast majority of currently available images. In addition, unknown or previously uncataloged manuscripts will be discovered, thereby enriching our understanding of the nature and history of the New Testament text.

Eldon Jay Epp
Visiting Professor of New Testament,
Harvard Divinity School
Harkness Professor Biblical Literature and Dean of
Humanities and Social Sciences, emeritus,
Case Western Reserve University

Any manuscript transcription that has been based on microfilm images and not more recent high definition color images is going to contain mistakes. Therefore, it is vitally important that the future work of New Testament textual critics be based as much as possible upon more recent imaging standards and the resources they produce. In this light, the work of CSNTM in both creating new sets of high definition color images of biblical manuscripts as well as so generously providing these for all interested researchers is of the greatest importance to better understanding the transmission and history of the biblical text.

Kent Clarke, PhD
Brooke Foss Westcott Professor in New Testament Textual Criticism
Trinity Western University
Vancouver, British Columbia
I heartily endorse any attempt to photograph the vast number of Greek New Testament manuscripts that are scattered throughout the world, whether in library, monastery, or private holdings. As a matter of historical record, these documents desperately need to be preserved in electronic photographic form lest they disappear forever due to fire, theft, or natural destruction. Even apart from such a possibility, the need for such documents to be openly accessible worldwide to students of the humanities remains a pressing concern. The Center for the Study of New Testament Manuscripts therefore deserves all the financial support that can be mustered in relation to this most important task.

Maurice A. Robinson, PhD  
Senior Professor of NT and Greek  
Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary  
Wake Forest, North Carolina

“Armed with high-tech cameras and computers, Daniel B. Wallace travels around the world to photograph New Testament manuscripts that are centuries old... His work assures that the treasured contents will be preserved.”

Read the full *Dallas Morning News* article at:  

I enthusiastically support the center's mission to preserve the text of ancient manuscripts for analysis by scholars and others. This is a vitally important endeavor, which the center is undertaking with great integrity and extraordinary skill.

Lee Strobel  
Author  
*The Case for Christ*  
and *The Case for the Real Jesus*