

## Impressive Code Findings in the Aramaic New Testament

By R. Edwin Sherman

Rev. Glenn David Bauscher is a pioneer with a mission. For many years, he has been fascinated with the notion that the original New Testament was written in Aramaic (the Peshitta), not Greek, as is the customary belief of most Bible scholars. So widespread is the belief that the earliest New Testament was in Greek that Rev. Bauscher faces a tough battle.

Bauscher is a pastor and former high school teacher with a proficiency in Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic. To the "which came first" battleground, he has assembled a wide array of types of evidence to support his contention and has presented them in his new book, *Divine Contact: Discovery of the Original New Testament*. [Bauscher's website](#) provides a variety of samples from this book that can be previewed. His approaches to demonstrating that the Peshitta came first include: (1) a number of very lengthy Bible codes; (2) dramatic [mosaics](#) for key words; (3) direct inferences from the literal text of the New Testament; and (4) comparisons of primacy numbers.

For our purposes, it is not so important to demonstrate that the Peshitta preceded the Greek New Testament, but rather that extensive evidence of encoding has been found in the Peshitta. Nothing remotely similar has been discovered in the Greek New Testament. While it would be a stretch, it is possible that the Greek New Testament came first, but that God guided those who produced an encoded Aramaic New Testament that is available to researchers today.

Bauscher has done a tremendous amount of research to buttress his views, and his books are very interesting reading.

For those possibly unsure of Bauscher's knowledge of Aramaic, it should be appreciated that he has completed an [interlinear Aramaic-English translation of the New Testament](#), which is available on his website. A sample of his translation for John 3:16 follows:

(loved) אהב (for) ניר (In this way) הכנא  
 (the world) לעלמא (God) אלהא  
 (that His Son) דלברא (in what manner?) איכנא  
 (that everyone) דכל (He would give up) נתל (The Only Begotten) יחידיא  
 (not) לא (in Him) בה (trusts) דמוחימון (who) מן  
 (there shall be) נהוון\* (but) אלא (shall be lost) נאבר  
 (eternal) דלעלם (life) דיא (to him) לה\*

Most of Bauscher's codes are toroidal, meaning that once the original search text comes to an end, you continue with another copy of the same search text, and yet another copy, as long as you keep finding a longer code in good Aramaic. All of the codes Bauscher found have very large skips, and wrap around the original search text more than once. Because of this, it is true that if there were just one error in the search text, virtually the entire code would disappear.

Examples of the longest codes he found are described in the right column of [his website](#). They include a string of 98 letters found by searching for the term, **the end of the world**. This string of letters contains: (1) a 93-letter-long code in Hebrew, (2) a 77-letter-long code in Aramaic; and (3) a 23-letter-long code found by reading an Aramaic code backwards. The odds

of such lengthy codes nesting within one another are extremely small indeed. They are, in fact, much more remote than the 1 in 18.8 billion odds cited for the 61-letter-long code cited in the next article.

Bauscher is to be heartily commended for blazing a well-lit trail into the world of code research in the Aramaic New Testament. For those interested in learning Aramaic, there is probably no better way to pick it up than to plough through an interlinear Aramaic-English New Testament on a regular basis.