

**Scroll Down:
Classical Jewish Texts,
from Parchment to Internet**

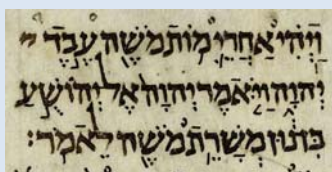
Gary A. Rendsburg
Rutgers University

Allen and Joan Bildner Center
for the Study of Jewish Life
Rutgers University
4 December 2017

**Aleppo Codex
c. 930
Tiberias**

<http://aleppocodex.org/>

Sample page
shows portions
of Ezekiel 2-3



Aleppo Codex / c. 930 / Tiberias
Sample verse: Joshua 1:1

וַיְהִי אַחֲרֵי מוֹת מֹשֶׁה עֶבֶד
יְהוָה וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־יְהוֹשֻׁעַ
בֶּן־נֹון מִשְׁרַת מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר:

**St. Petersburg
(Leningrad)
Codex**

1009 / Tiberias

(digital images not
available online)

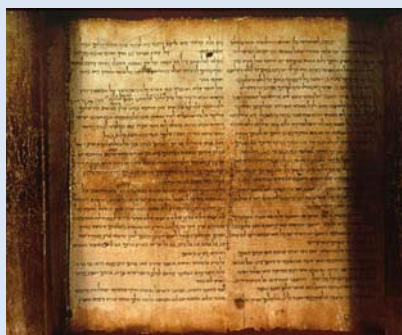
Sample page
Genesis 1



Digital Dead Sea Scrolls / Google / Israel Museum

1QIsa^a

The
Great
Isaiah
Scroll



<http://dss.collections.imj.org.il/>

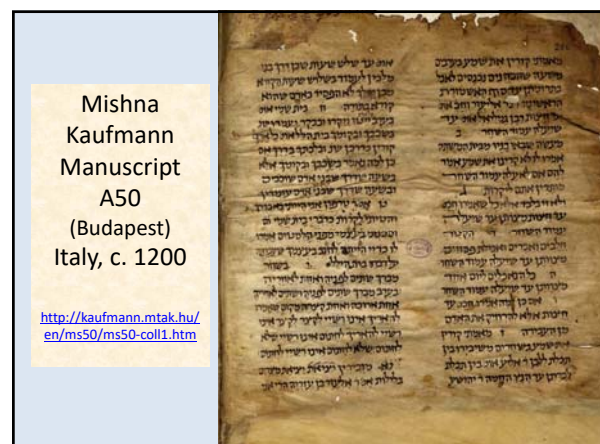
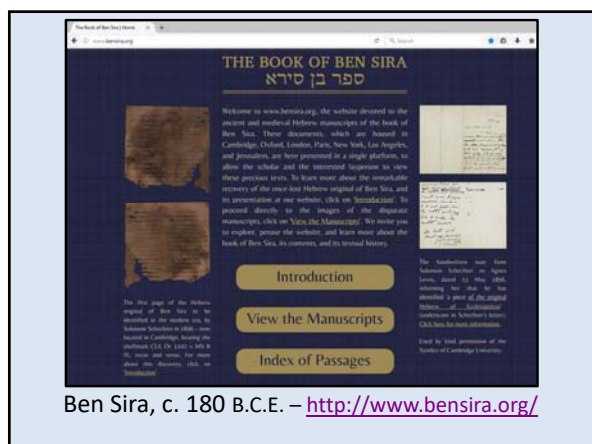
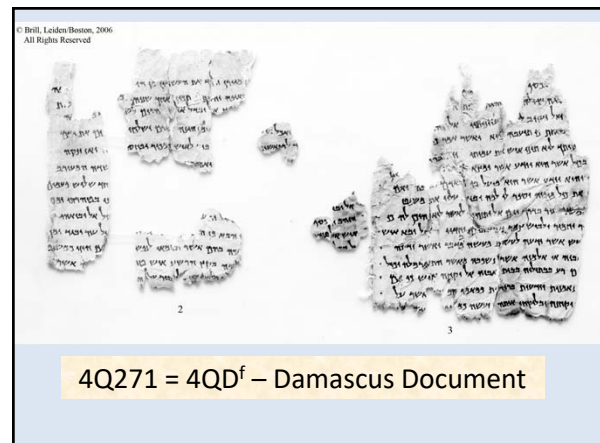
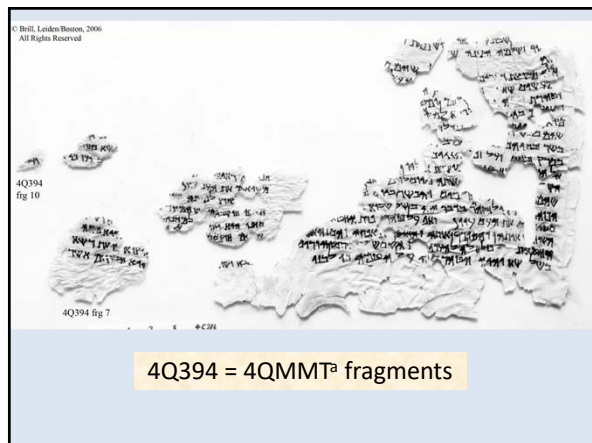
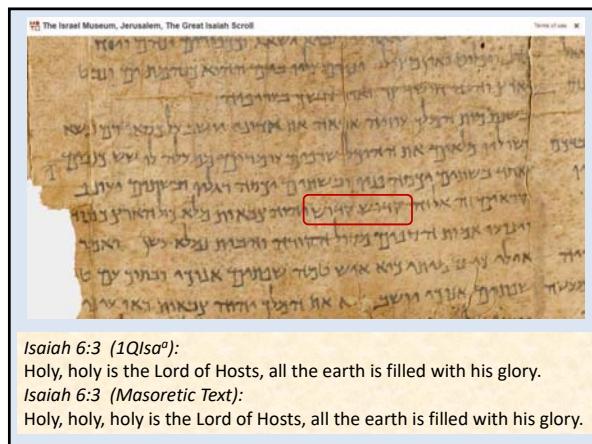


Isaiah 6:3 (1QIsa^a):

Holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts, all the earth is filled with his glory.

Isaiah 6:3 (Masoretic Text):

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts, all the earth is filled with his glory.



Mishna
Parma
Manuscript,
Biblioteca
Palatina 3173
(De Rossi 138)

Italy, 1073



JS TS MS R1622.1
מִשְׁנָה

Welcome to the website devoted to Mishna manuscript JS TS MS R1622.1, written during the 11th century in Italy and currently housed in the Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America (New York).

JS TS MS R1622.1, composed of 16 folios (each recto and verso), is recognized as one of the most important manuscript witnesses of the Mishna, though folio 16 has been missing since its acquisition through personal purchase at the JTS Library in the late nineteenth century and is now in the collection of the Department of Manuscripts and Archives of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

We are delighted to make this document available to all interested parties through this dedicated website, with kind permission granted by and with the full cooperation of the Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

For more on the manuscript, see the Introduction.

For details about the transcription, see the Introduction.

We hope the images and manuscript, and they proceed directly to the Manuscript and Introduction.

Mishna Manuscript / c. 1150 / Italy
Jewish Theological Seminary – <http://jts-ms-1622-1.org/>

Mishna text
from the
Cairo Geniza

(Berakhot 1:1
Zevahim 5:5)

Cambridge
University
Library,
T-S E2.82



Mishna Shabbat 7:2
(the 39 categories of labor)

Three Geniza fragments
in Cambridge

Mishna manuscripts:
שְׁקוּף (M. 'Ohalot 9:10, 10:7, 11:7, 12:8 [2x])
מִשְׁקוּף (M. Pesahim 9:5, clearly based on Exod 12:7)

Mishna printed editions:
מִשְׁקוּף – in all six places

Bar'am Synagogue – lintel inscription:

יהי שלום במקום הזה ובכל מקומות ישראל.
יוסי הלוי בן לוי עשה השְׁקוּף הזה.
תבא ברכה במע[ש]י של[ו]ם



Mishna Sanhedrin 4:5 –
a major theological point



Printed editions:

שכל המאבד נפש אחת מישראל מעלה עליו הכתוב כאילו איבד עולם מלא, וכל המקיים נפש אחת מישראל מעלה עליו הכתוב כאילו קיים עולם מלא

Manuscripts:

שכל המאבד נפש אחת מעלים עליו כאילו איבד עולם מלא, וכל המקיים נפש אחת מעלים עליו כאילו קיים עולם מלא

Mishna Sanhedrin 4:5 – a major theological point



Printed editions:

One who destroys a life **within Israel**, he brings upon himself the saying, "It is as if he has destroyed an entire world." And one who raises up a life **within Israel**, he brings upon himself the saying, "It is as if he raised up an entire world."

Manuscripts:

One who destroys a life, he brings upon himself the saying, "It is as if he has destroyed an entire world." And one who raises up a life, he brings upon himself the saying, "It is as if he raised up an entire world."

Talmud Yerushalmi (Talmud of the Land of Israel) Leiden Manuscript



Leiden Or. 4720

the only extant
complete manuscript of
the Talmud Yerushalmi

written in 1289 by
Rabeinu Yechiel ben
Yekutiel HaRofo
of Rome

today bound
in two volumes,
consisting of 682 folios

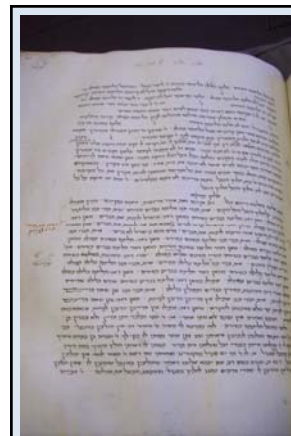
<http://www.yerushalmionline.org/manuscripts/>



Talmud Yerushalmi (Talmud of the Land of Israel)

Leiden Manuscript
(Rome, 1289)

Sample Page



Talmud Yerushalmi / Leiden Manuscript
End of Tractate Berakhot / Beginning of Tractate Pe'ah



Op de Bibliotheken van de Universiteit Leiden



Talmud Yerushalmi manuscript from the Cairo Geniza
Tractate Sanhedrin / Cambridge T-S G2.132

Talmud Bavli (Babylonian Talmud)

Munich
Manuscript
(France, 1342)
Bayerische
Staatsbibliothek
Cod.hebr.95

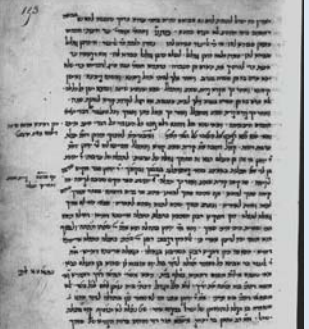


<http://daten.digitalte-sammlungen.de/~db/0000/bsb00003409/images/>

Babylonian Talmud

Paris
Manuscript
(1337)

(incomplete)



A comparison of Babylonian Talmud manuscripts

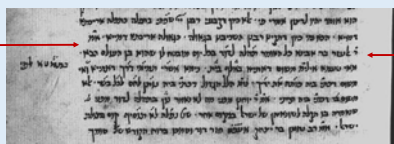
Bavli Berakhot 4b

How often to recite Psalm 145 each day,
in order to gain the world to come?

Paris (and other mss): 1x each day

Munich (and other mss): 3x each day

Bavli Berakhot 4b, Paris MS, folio 193r
Bibliothèque Nationale de France, no. 671



See also Oxford Ms. Opp. Add. fol. 23
(no images available)

Talmud Bavli
fragment from
the Cairo Geniza

Cambridge
T-S F1(1).65a

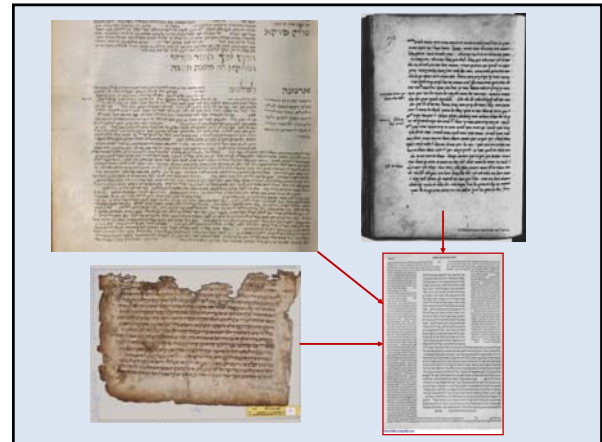
Berakhot 2b-3a



First Printed Edition of the Babylonian Talmud

Printed by
Daniel Bomberg
Venice, 1520-23

Sample page from
Tractate Yevamot



Targum Onqelos

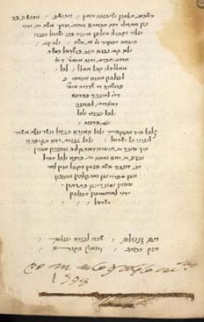
BL Ms. Or. 2363

fol. 173r

Deuteronomy 1

Persia / Babylonia
with Babylonian niqud
11th-12th century

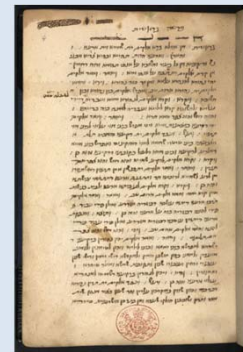
http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Or_2363



Targum Yerushalmi (Pseudo-Jonathan), c. 1500, Ashkenazi cursive script
http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Add_MS_27031

folio 231v – Deut 34 with colophon

folio 4r – Genesis 1



Targum Neofiti

Rome

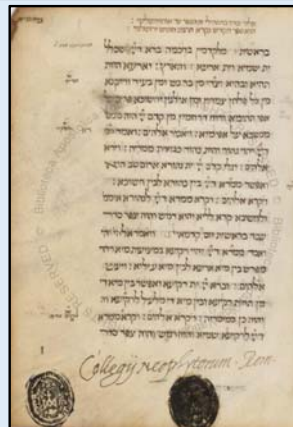
1499 / 1504

Correctly identified
in 1949

fol. 1r

Genesis 1

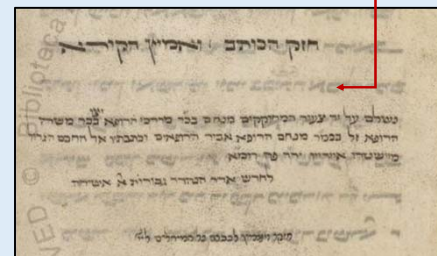
https://digi.vatlib.it/view/MSS_Neofiti_1



Targum Neofiti

Rome – 1499 / 1504

fol. 446v, end of Torah,
plus colophon





Maimonides
(1140 – 1205)

Guide for the
Perplexed

Copenhagen
Manuscript

Barcelona, 1348

A page from a medieval manuscript, identified as the Copenhagen Manuscript of Maimonides' 'Guide for the Perplexed' (Barcelona, 1348). The page features a miniature at the top depicting three figures in a room: a man in a blue robe seated on the right, and two men in red and blue robes standing on the left. The miniature is framed by a decorative border with floral and foliate motifs. Below the miniature, there is a large, ornate initial 'M' in blue and red, followed by several lines of text in a Gothic script. The text is written in two columns. The page is decorated with a wide, colorful border featuring floral and foliate motifs in blue, red, and gold.

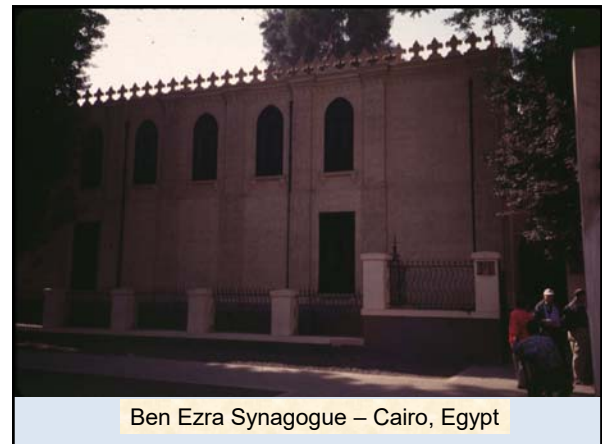
A photograph of a manuscript page from the Copenhagen Manuscript, Barcelona, 1348. The page features Hebrew text written in a medieval script. On the left side, there is a large, ornate initial letter 'א' (Aleph) in red ink, marking the beginning of a section. The text is arranged in two columns. The right column contains a list of names or titles, while the left column contains a list of numbers or quantities. The parchment appears aged and slightly discolored.

Maimonides
Guide for the Perplexed
Copenhagen Manuscript
Barcelona, 1348

Colophon:
Levi ben Isaac (scribe)
Menahem Bezael (patron)
Ferrer Bassa (artist) (?)



King Pedro IV of Aragon




<https://fjms.genizah.org/> | Friedberg Genizah Project

Tafsir of
Saadia Gaon
on Genesis 3-4

Cambridge
T-S Ar.1a.2



Just one of the 300,000 documents found in the Cairo Geniza during the 1890's.

The vast majority (193,000) are housed in Cambridge, the second largest collection (31,000) is at Jewish Theological Seminary – with Oxford, Manchester, St Petersburg, and Philadelphia also holding significant numbers of documents.



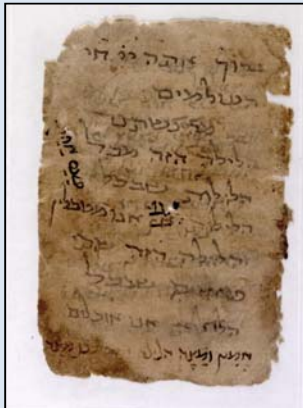
Dropsie Haggada
(Halper 211)
Cairo Geniza c. 900

http://sceti.library.upenn.edu/pages/index.cfm?so_id=2242

Qiddush
(sanctification over the wine)

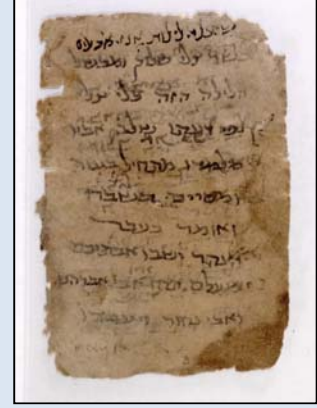
Dropsie
Haggada
(Halper 211)
Cairo Geniza
c. 900

מה נשתנה
Mah Nishtana
(start)



Dropsie
Haggada
(Halper 211)
Cairo Geniza
c. 900

מה נשתנה
Mah Nishtana
(continued)



מה נשתנה / The 'Four' Questions

Mishna manuscripts

Three questions (dipping, matzah, roasting)

Mishna printed editions

Four questions (dipping, matzah, bitter herbs, reclining)
(to conform to the Babylonian rite)

MS JTS (New York)

Two questions (dipping, roasting)

MS Dropsie/CAJS (Philadelphia)

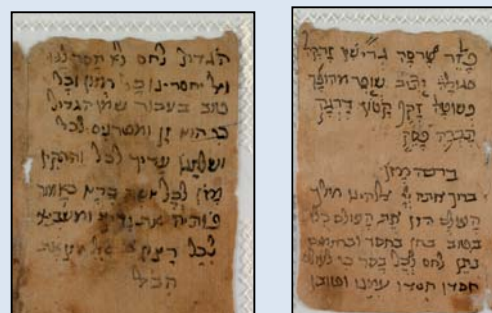
Three questions (dipping, matzah, roasting)



CUL T-S H2.152 verso
Passover Haggadah text with five questions!



CUL T-S H2.152 verso
Passover Haggadah text with five questions!



Birkat ha-Mazon
'Grace after Meals'

Johannes of Oppido = Obadiah the Proselyte
c. 1070 – c. 1130



1. Oppido
2. Constantinople
3. Baghdad
4. Aleppo
5. Banias
6. Fustat / Cairo

Johannes of Oppido = Obadiah the Proselyte

- c. 1070 – born in Oppido, southern Italy
- son of a Norman aristocrat named Dreux
- entered the Catholic priesthood
- as a youth Johannes was influenced by the conversion of Andreas, archbishop of Bari, who adopted Judaism in Constantinople
- c. 1102 – Johannes converted to Judaism

Johannes of Oppido = Obadiah the Proselyte

- Travels throughout the Near East:
 - o Iraq
 - o Syria
 - o Israel
- Settles in Egypt:
 - o Fustat / Cairo
- Numerous documents found in the Cairo Geniza, including his memoir and various compositions



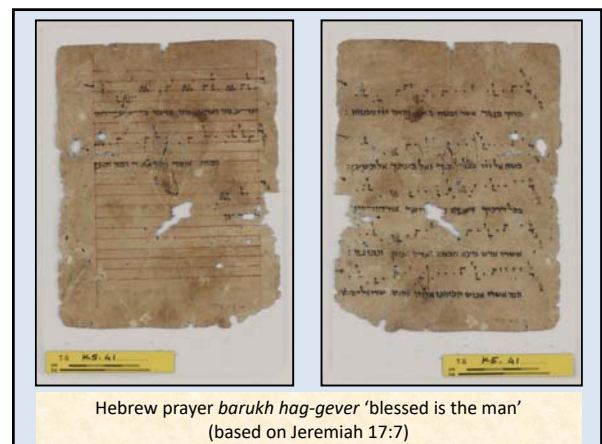
Obadiah Memoir

Obadiah Memoir

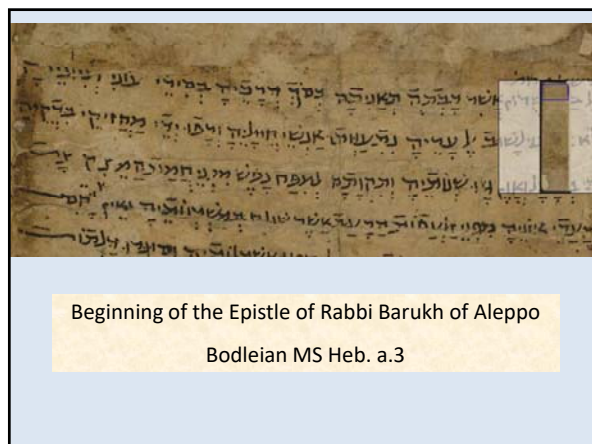
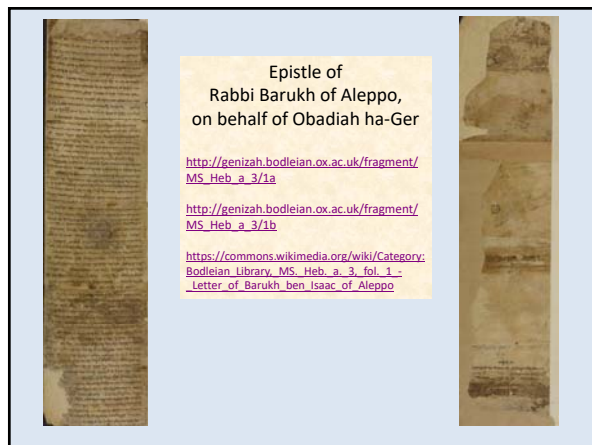
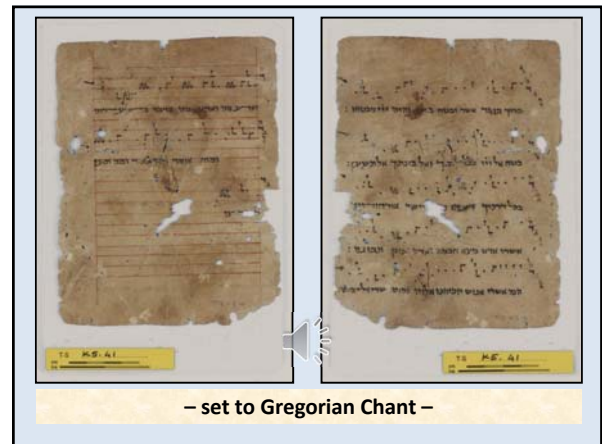
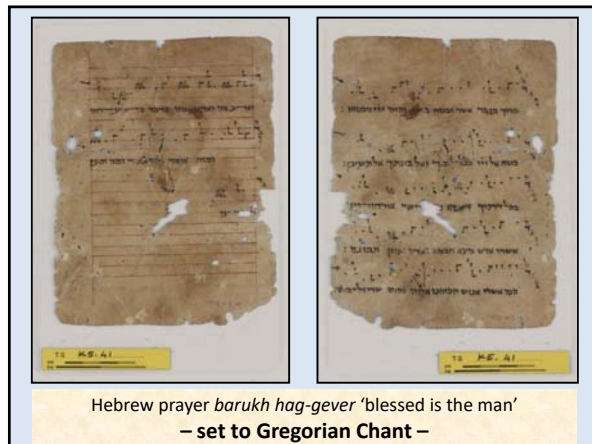
14 pages of text,
in the
Budapest,
Cambridge,
and New York
collections

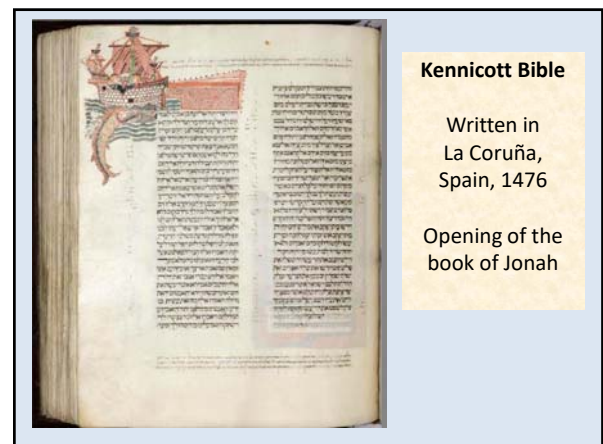
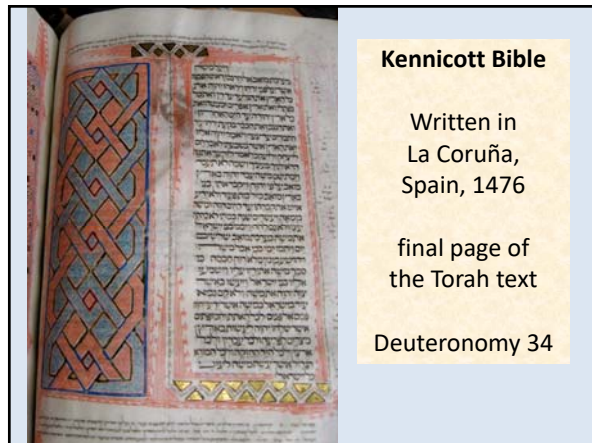
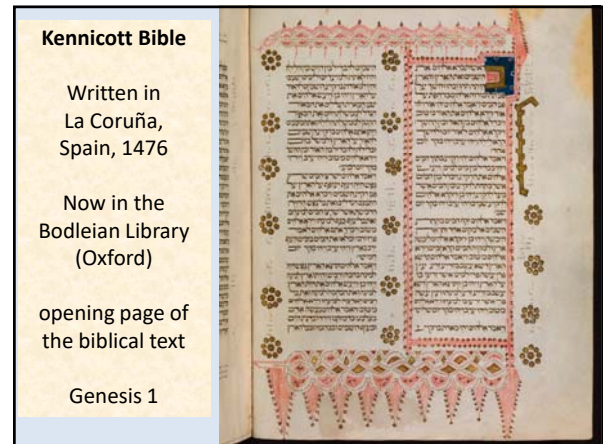
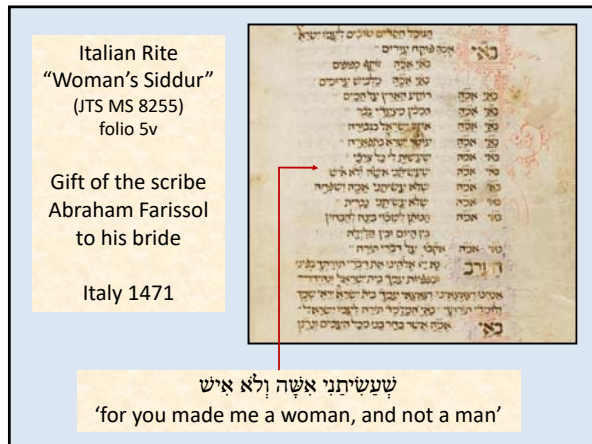


My next digital humanities project:
www.iohannes-ovadya.org



Hebrew prayer *barukh hag-gever* 'blessed is the man'
(based on Jeremiah 17:7)





Kennicott Bible colophon

with names,
place, date, etc.



Kennicott Bible colophon



Kennicott Bible colophon

I, Moshe son of Jacob ibn Zabara, the scribe . . . I wrote and I proofread and I added the Masora and I checked these twenty-four books, in one collection; and I concluded it on Wednesday, the 3rd day of the month of Av, in the year [5235] [=1476 C.E.], here in the place La Coruña . . . for the delightful young-man Isaac, dear firstborn-son of Don Shelomo de Braga . . .

Second colophon, with the name of the artist, Yosef ben Hayyim

Kennicott Bible online:

<https://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/inquire/Discover/Search/7/mcc01r-nr+0.csp>
+10-fax-oxonch&sort=5&asc-scribes.pdf
+8c-264b73-f5cc-4f18-98cf-9d75f7175b54.v1+b425f681-ba95-4d4cf-ba95-9a04c22702eb



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Allen and Joan Bildner Center
for the Study of Jewish Life
Rutgers University
4 December 2017