

Contents

Acknowledgements — v

1 Introduction — 1

- 1.1 The outline and aims of this study — 1
- 1.2 Methodological considerations — 2
 - 1.2.1 In the search for “documented evidence” — 2
 - 1.2.2 Where to find this “documented evidence,” and what is it good for in the case of 2 Kings 17? — 11
- 1.3 The sin(s) of Jeroboam? The quest for the Deuteronomistic Historian and the oldest text form of 2 Kings 17 — 30

2 The textual history of verses 1–23 in light of documented evidence — 39

- 2.1 The significance of verse 1 in the redactional history of 2 Kings 17 — 39
 - 2.1.1 Accidental omission of chapter 16 in the transmission process of La¹¹⁵? — 39
 - 2.1.2 Textual history of verse 1 — 41
- 2.2 The mystery of verse 2: was Hoshea better or worse than the previous kings of Israel? — 52
- 2.3 The textual history of the “historical” verses 3–6 — 61
 - 2.3.1 The history of scholarship and scholarship of history in verses 3–6 — 61
 - 2.3.2 Text-critical notes on the passage — 64
 - 2.3.3 Literary-critical considerations: OG vs. MT — 70
 - 2.3.4 Beyond the documented evidence – the most ancient stratum in verses 3–6 — 78
 - 2.3.5 Conclusions: the textual growth of 17:3–6 — 81
Excursus: Textual history of 2Kgs 18:9–12 — 83
- 2.4 Verse 7 – at the hinge of textual units — 86
 - 2.4.1 Why does La¹¹⁵ differ so much from the other witnesses? Accidentally or deliberately? — 87
 - 2.4.2 Conclusions to text-critical remarks — 92
 - 2.4.3 Literary-critical assessment of verse 7(*a) — 93
 - 2.4.4 Possible redactional ramifications of the textual evaluation — 102
- 2.5 Textual Criticism of the hinge-verses 8–9 — 104

2.5.1	Text of verse 8 in MT/LXX —	104
2.5.2	Verse 7*b and the mysterious lack of verse 8 in La ¹¹⁵ —	106
2.5.3	Verse 9 – The textual variants —	108
2.6	Textual criticism of verses 10–23 —	116
2.6.1	Verse 10 —	116
2.6.2	Verse 11 —	116
2.6.3	Verse 12 —	118
2.6.4	Verse 13 —	120
2.6.5	Verse 14 —	122
2.6.6	Verse 15 —	123
2.6.7	Verse 16 —	133
2.6.8	Verse 17 —	136
2.6.9	Verse 18 —	140
2.6.10	Verse 19 —	143
2.6.11	Verse 20 —	145
2.6.12	Verse 21 —	148
2.6.13	Verse 22 —	152
2.6.14	Verse 23 —	154
3	Literary and redactional analysis of verses 7–23 —	155
3.1	The OG edition: La ¹¹⁵ as the sole witness of OG? —	155
3.1.1	Was the transposition of verses 9–14 and 15–19 simply accidental? —	155
3.1.2	The role of hinge-verses 7*b/8 and 19 in the literary frame of the chapter in MT/LXX and La ¹¹⁵ —	156
3.1.3	The subject(s) of verses 8–23 in MT/LXX and La ¹¹⁵ – who is doing what? —	159
3.1.4	Comparing the two “text blocks” of La ¹¹⁵ —	163
3.1.5	The “third text block”: verses 21–23 in the context of La ¹¹⁵ —	171
3.1.6	Conclusion: La ¹¹⁵ as the sole witness of OG edition in verses 7–23 —	173
3.2	The MT edition: in search of the History writer —	174
3.2.1	Broader literary limitations in the MT edition of verses 6b–23 —	174
3.2.2	How unified is the “unit” of verses 7–18? —	182
3.2.3	Analysis of verses 7–12 —	184
3.2.4	Analysis of verses 13–18 —	192
3.2.5	Analysis of verses 19–20 – a late interpolation —	200
3.2.6	Analysis of verses 21–23 – a coherent unit from the History writer? —	201

- 3.2.7 The full redactional picture of the MT edition verses 6–23 — 209
- 3.3 Synthesis: comparing the OG and MT editions of verses 7–23 — 213

4 The textual history of verses 24–41 — 218

- 4.1 The distinction between two halves in 7–23 and 24–41 — 218
- 4.2 Textual history of verses 24–28 — 220
 - 4.2.1 Appraisal of the main witnesses — 220
 - 4.2.2 Literary critical assessment of the lion narrative — 224
- 4.3 The textual history of verses 29–32: the relationship of 17:29 and the LXX plus 17:31+ — 229
 - 4.3.1 Analysis of smaller-scale differences between the witnesses — 229
 - 4.3.2 The duplication of verse 29 in 31+ in OG — 232
- 4.4 Verse 33 – a gloss-like summary verse with multiple grammatical problems — 240
- 4.5 Verses 34–41 – the last uniform addition to 2 Kings 17? — 242
 - 4.5.1 Brief appraisal of the main witnesses — 242
 - 4.5.2 Literary-critical assessment — 246
- 4.6 The full redactional picture of verses 24–41 — 250

5 Conclusions: the textual history of 2Kgs 17 — 256

- 5.1 Text-historical conclusions — 256
- 5.2 Methodological conclusions: The repercussions for literary and redaction critical methodology — 259

Appendices — 263

- A The text of La¹¹⁵ in 2Kgs 17: English translation and Greek retroversion — 263
- B A short list of (proto-)Masoretic revisional characteristics in 1–2 Kings — 265
- C An update to McLay's list of known *kaige* equivalents — 271

Abbreviations — 273

Bibliographical abbreviations — 274

Bibliography — 275

Index of Ancient Sources — 289

xii — Contents

Index of Modern Authors — 305

Subject index — 309