

**A** mind renewed is a mind blown.

*“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is –his good, pleasing and perfect will.”*

Romans 12:2 NIV

“Thank You GOD that we do not have copy of a copy of a copy. We have the very word of GOD.”

Our pastor prayed this one Sunday morning. It caught my attention since we had just discussed this the day before. I

was trying to understand how we could say in our modern day that what we have is the very word of GOD and not a copy of a copy of a copy.

Depending on what version of the Bible you read, there's always a Preface that explains what you're reading. In every one it explains how they deal with all of the textual variants. I'm no Bible scholar, so the process they explained confused me a bit. I asked our pastor ...

“How can we say that the Bible is inerrant and infallible today when the Preface in every Bible admits textual variants exist?”

I learned that my question was flawed. The Preface's do not say that our Bible's are copies of manuscripts in which textual variants exist. That would imply that what we have today is a copy of a copy of a copy resulting in multiplied thousands of variants far greater in number than the copies themselves. Rather, they are based on the parts of the manuscripts that did not have variants. This was achieved through a process called textual criticism. Of the small percentage of variants left, they are all highlighted in the footnotes of our Bible's reflecting minor variations that have not impacted the foundation of truth that has been preserved from the original text.

So, with deep conviction I pray ...

“Thank You GOD that we do not have copy of a copy of a copy. We have the very word of GOD.”

That is why I am mind blown.

We have the very word of GOD.