

Textual Variants

1 John 5:18-21

5:18 One 9th century manuscript replaces “he who was born” with “was born, and the one born,” and one 13th century manuscript with “the birth.”

From the 4th century, three manuscripts read, “protects him” instead of “protects himself.”

5:20 From the 5th century, some manuscripts replace the conjunction *de* with *kai*. Both translate “And.” From the 6th century, a few manuscripts omit the conjunction.

From the 5th century, some manuscripts read, “gave” instead of “has given.”

From the 4th century, some manuscripts replace “we may know” with “we know.”

From the 5th century, some manuscripts replace “know him who is true” with “know the true God.”

From the 6th century, a few manuscripts insert “the” before “eternal life,” and one 9th century manuscript reads, “granting eternal live.”

5:21 From the 4th century some manuscripts alter “yourselves” from a neuter pronoun, which agrees with the neuter noun “children,” to a masculine pronoun. It is hard to know which the original form was, yet the meaning remains the same.

From the 6th century, a few manuscripts append “Amen” at the end of the epistle.