

# 1454: The Printing Press

Which NT to print?

How was one representative NT collated from  
5300 copies?



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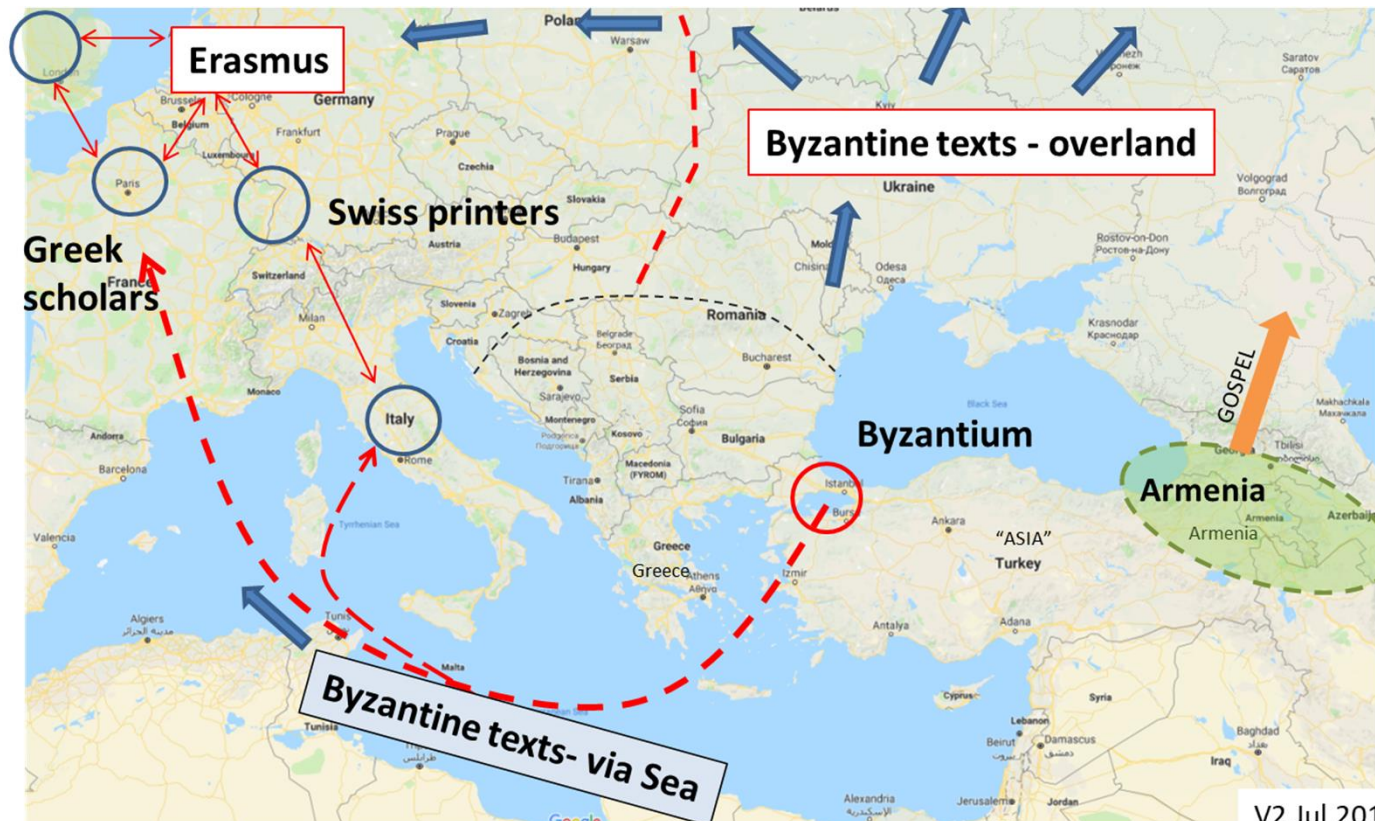
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# History: Situation 1510 AD - NT handwritten document distribution

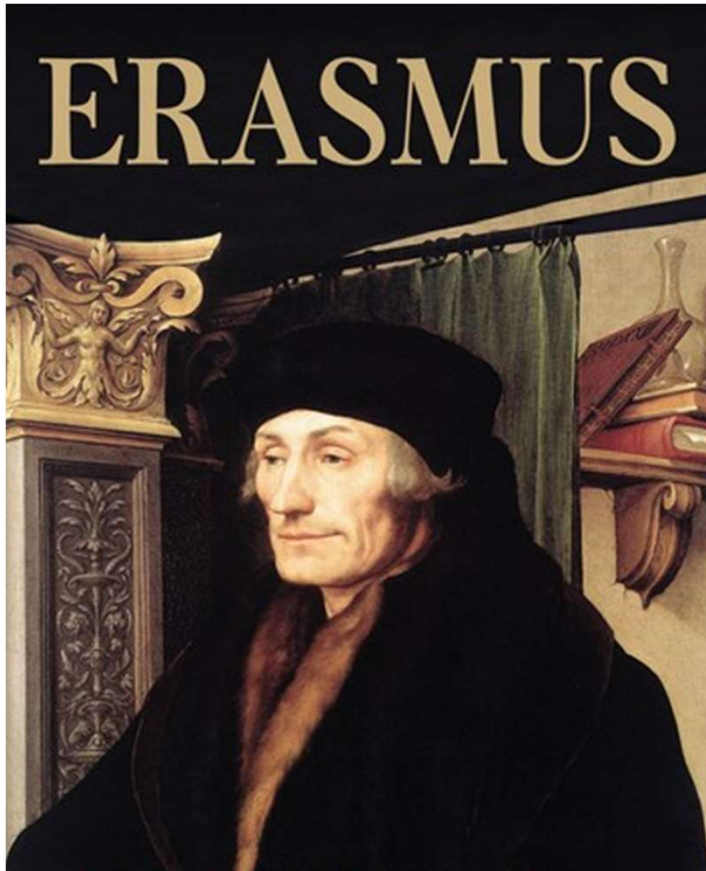


# History: 1453 AD - Byzantium falls - Printing press invented.

- Guthenberg invents the press.
- Printing houses seek a reliable Greek New Testament to print .
- Greek Scholars bring Greek Byzantine New Testament copies
- Greek Byzantine New Testament matches the ‘Overland text’ but not the Catholic Vaticanus text.
- **Printers hold off printing until Erasmus produces the ‘Textus Receptus’.**



# Erasmus collates Byzantine documents: into the Textus Receptus



All the Protestant Reformers  
of the 15th, 16th and 17th  
centuries choose  
**Textus Receptus**  
in preference to the Rome's  
**Vaticanus.**

**1516** Textus Receptus

Erasmus initially uses ~7 Byzantine documents to produce the **Textus Receptus**.  
As more copies become available, four later minor revisions follow up till 1535.