Modern Vatican Versions continue to Degrade the Lord Jesus Christ

Romans 14:10-12

In the King James Bible and in the Traditional Greek texts we read: "But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of CHRIST, For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to GOD. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to GOD." (Caps are mine)

These verses clearly teach that the Lord Jesus Christ is God Himself. We will stand before the judgement seat of Christ = shall give account of himself to God. We also read of the judgment seat of Christ in 2 Corinthians 5:10, and John 5:22-23 tell us "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father." Here in Romans 14:10-12 we have a clear testimony to the deity of Christ, who is both the Son of man and God.

The reading of "the judgment seat of CHRIST" is that of the Majority of all remaining Greek texts, including Sinaiticus correction, C correction, L, P, PSI, the Greek Lectionaries, the Old Latin dem, gue, r1, the Syriac Peshitta, Harkelian, the Gothic, Armenian and Ethiopic ancient versions and is so quoted by many early church witnesses as Marcion, Polycarp, Tertullian, Origen, Ambrosister, Didymus, Chrysostom, Theodore, Cyril, Theodoret, Gennadius and Antiochus.

However many modern critical text Vatican Versions like the ESV, NIV, NASB, ISV, NET, Holman, RSV, Common English Bible and most modern Catholic bible versions have a different reading here. They do not say judgment seat of CHRIST and then equate Christ with God, but they say "we will all stand before the judgment seat of GOD...so then each of us will give an account of himself to God." ESV 2001. Gone is any parallelism showing that Christ Himself IS God. This different reading comes from the usual suspects, namely the Vatican manuscript. Sinaiticus original also read "God" but another scribe corrected it to read Christ and the same with codex C. However Vaticanus almost alone also omits the words "of God" in verse 12 - "give account of himself TO GOD." The words "to God" ARE found in Sinaiticus, and the textual 'scholars' decided here not to follow the Vatican mss. and so they included the word God in verse 12. The "science" of textual criticism is a marvel to behold, isn't it?

What is also of interest are the various Catholic bible versions which, like today's ever changing Evangelical/Vatican versions, continue to change from one bible to the next. The older Catholic Douay-Rheims bible of 1582 read like the KJB and followed the traditional Greek texts. Is says: "For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of CHRIST. [11] For it is written: As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall

confess to God. [12] Therefore every one of us shall render account to God for himself." BUT then in the 1950 Douay, again in the 1968 Jerusalem bible, the 1970 St. Joseph New American bible and again in the 1985 New Jerusalem bible they all read like the RSV, ESV, NIV, NASB, ISV, NET and say "we must all stand before the judgment seat of GOD" (not Christ). Oh, but wait! Now the latest Catholic bible version to come down the pike is the 2009 The Sacred Bible Catholic Public Domain Version. It can be seen here -

http://www.sacredbible.org/catholic/NT-06_Romans.htm#14

And it has now gone back to using the Traditional Greek text and reads: {14:10}" So then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you despise your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of CHRIST. {14:11} For it is written: "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." {14:12} And so, each one of us shall offer an explanation of himself to God."

Agreeing with the reading whereby we can witness to the full deity of the Lord Jesus Christ as being the very GOD before whom we will stand in judgment are the following Bible translations: Wycliffe 1395 - "for alle we schulen stonde bifore the trone of Crist.", Tyndale 1525, Coverdale 1535, Cranmer Bible 1539, Bishops' Bible 1568, the Geneva Bible 1587, Mace N.T. 1729, Wesley's translation 1755, Youngs, J. B. Phillips 1962, Hebrew Names Version, World English Bible, Lamsa's translation of the Syriac Peshitta - "for we must all stand before the judgment seat of CHRIST.", the NKJV 1982, Third Millennium Bible of 1998 and Green's literal of 2000.

Among foreign language Bibles that have the correct reading of "judgment seat of CHRIST" are the Afrikaans Bible 1953, the Arabic Smith & Van Dyke Bible, the Albanian Bible, the Basque Navarro Labourdin N.T., the Romainian Cornilescu Bible, Dutch Staten Vertaling, the French Martin 1744, French Ostervald 1996 and the Frence Louis Segond 21 of 2007 "nous comparaîtrons tous devant le tribunal de Christ.", Luther's German bible 1545 and the 2000 Schlachter Bible - "Richterstuhl Christ", the Spanish Sagradas Escrituras of 1569, the Reina Valeras of 1909, 1960, 1995 and 2011 - "Porque todos estaremos delante del tribuna del Cristo.", the Russian Synodal Version and the Victor Zhuromsky N.T. - "Христов", the Czeck BKR bible, the Polish Biblia Gdanska, the Hungarian Karoli - "Krisztus", the Italian Diodati of 1649 and the Nuova Diodati of 1991 -"Poiché tutti dobbiamo comparire davanti al tribunale di Cristo.", the Portuguese A Biblia Sagrada em Portugues, and the Almeida Corrigida E Fiel - "Pois todos havemos de comparecer ante o tribunal de Cristo.", the Modern Greek New Testament and of course the Traditional Greek New Testament used by the Greek Orthodox churches all over the world today - "πάντες γὰρ παραστησόμεθα τῷ βήματι τοῦ Χριστοῦ"

Get yourself a copy of God's pure, inspired and 100% true words - the Authorized King James Holy Bible - and you can be sure that you have the true "book of the LORD". Accept no substitutes. God bless.

Will Kinney