

A Toledo Manuscript of Laodiceans.

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OF the apocryphal Letter of Paul to the Laodiceans, forty-three manuscripts have already been registered. Among these, standing sixth in Harnack's list,¹ is the Gothic Latin Bible formerly at Toledo, and now in the National Library at Madrid. There is still in the chapter library at Toledo, however, another manuscript of Laodiceans which has not to my knowledge been announced. It came to my attention last October while I was examining patristic manuscripts in the Toledo library.

The manuscript consists of 151 leaves of fine parchment, inscribed in single columns, with a table of contents on the first *recto*. The opening titles are :

In primis sermo beati Paulini Nolani episcopi ad Augustinum.

Item responsio eiusdem Augustini ad predictum Paulini.

Item epistola beati Pauli apostoli ad Laodicenses.

Item quidam liber seu volumen in quo multa pulcherrima exempla continentur et appellatur contentus sublimitatis et liber de animalibus.

Twenty-one other titles follow. The actual contents of the present codex do not altogether correspond with this table. They are, first, the sermo ; second, the responsio ; third, a selection entitled "Ex vita beati Gregorii pape" ; fourth, the table of chapters of the natural history ("contentus sublimitatis et liber de animalibus"), 122 or 123 in all ; fifth, the Epistle to the Laodiceans, filling out the latter half of *verso* 4 ; sixth, the natural history, profusely illustrated in colors ; seventh, liber Esopi, fol. 97 *recto* to 112 *verso*, with sixty-five fables ; etc. The leaves measure cm. 18 by 25. There seems to be no colophon, but the hand suggests the fifteenth century. The volume is labelled *Tractatus Varii* and is numbered (Cason) 10 (num.) 28. It seems to have belonged to Cardinal Zelada, and to have been secured by the chapter, together with other manuscripts, in the time of Cardinal Lorenzana.

¹ A. Harnack, *Geschichte der Altchristlichen Litteratur*, I. pp. 36, 37.

The copying of manuscripts is not permitted at Toledo, but notes and collations may be made, and from mine I have reconstructed the text of the letter as the manuscript preserves it, expanding the numerous abbreviations, and adding the usual chapter numbers.

Incipit epistola beati Pauli apostoli ad Laodicenses.

(I.) Paulus apostolus non ab hominibus neque per hominem sed per Iesum Christum fratribus qui sunt Laodicie gratia vobis et pax a deo patre nostro et domino Iesu Christo. Gratias ago Christo per omnem orationem nostram quod permanentes estis in eo et perseverantes in operibus bonis, promissum expectantes in die iudicii. Neque destituant vos quorundam vaniloquia insinuantium ut vos avertant a veritate evangelii quod a me predicatur. Et nunc faciet deus ut qui sunt ex me ad profectum veritatis evangelii deservientes sint et facientes benignitatem operum que sunt salutis vite eterne. (II.) Et nunc palam sunt vincula mea que patior in Christo quibus delector et gaudeo et hoc mihi est ad salutem perpetuam quod ipsum factum est orationibus vestris et administrante spiritu sancto sive per vitam sive per mortem. Est enim mihi vivere vita in Christo et mori lucrum Et ipse in vobis faciet misericordiam suam ut eandem dilectionem habeatis et sitis unanimes. (III.) Ergo dilectissimi ut audistis praesentiam domini ita retinete et facite in timore dei et erit vobis vita in eternum. Est enim deus qui operatur in vobis et facite sine retractu vel peccato quecumque facitis (IV.) et quod est optimum, dilectissimi, gaudete in domino Iesu Christo Et praecavete sordidos omnes in lucro. omnes sint petitiones vestre palam apud dominum. Estote firmi in sensu Christi Et que integra et vera et pudica et casta et iusta et amabilia sunt, facite. Et que audistis et cepistis in corde retinete et erit vobis pax. Salutate omnes fratres in osculo sancto. Salutant vos sancti omnes. Gratia domini nostri Iesu Christi cum spiritu vestro. Amen Et hanc facite legi epistolam Colosensibus et Colosensium vobis Explicit epistola.

The following hexameters are added, as if to fill out the page.

Est virtus vacua quam non patientia vincit.
Te sator alme precor fidei Ieronime Christi.
Me lue qui cecor scelerum caligine tristi.

In some copies, St. Jerome's preface to the Apocalypse follows Laodiceans, and the couplet addressed to him may have introduced that work in our scribe's exemplar, and so have been included here, without regard to its inappropriateness.

Of the four British Museum manuscripts from which Westcott published his text of Laodiceans, H (Harleianus, saec. XI.) shows most affinity with the Toledo manuscript.² With the Toledo Gothic Bible now at Madrid the Toledo manuscript has less in common than might have been expected. Its agreements with the readings of H, however, are close and frequent, and in nine cases H alone of Westcott's

² Westcott, *On the Canon of the New Testament* (seventh ed.) pp. 592-595.

four British Museum witnesses supports the new Toletanus. In twenty-five readings in Westcott's apparatus, T and H agree.

Shortly after examining the Toledo and Madrid manuscripts of Laodiceans, I had occasion to observe, in the catalogue of the University Library at Madrid, three other manuscripts of the same epistle, which do not appear in the lists of Harnack or Lightfoot, and may thus fairly be reckoned as unregistered. With the Toledo manuscript already described, the number of manuscripts of Laodiceans thus far announced is thus raised to forty-seven.