

personal letter to James David Bales

Don Meredith (HGSR Librarian)

on causal use of  
εἰς.

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DEPARTMENT OF NEW TESTAMENT  
JULIUS ROBERT MANTEY

April 1, 1950

"THE THINGS WHICH THOU HAST HEARD . . .  
THE SAME COMMIT THOU TO FAITHFUL MEN,  
WHO SHALL BE ABLE TO TEACH OTHERS ALSO."

Harding Graduate School

Dear Mr. Bales:

of Religion Library

I'm deeply grateful to you for sending  
me a copy of Willmarth's Baptism and Remission.  
It is the first time I became aware of  
the work.

Since Willmarth wrote his article,  
discovery of papyri records and a restudy  
of other koine Greek writings have given  
us new insight in interpreting the New  
Testament. εἰς by the 1st century had  
taken on nearly all the meanings of εἰς,  
one of which was causal. Here are  
a few references, where a causal  
translation of εἰς seems to best fit  
the context: Polybius Bk. V. 22.8; V. 30.2;  
V. 38.8; I. 87.4; X. 6.4 - "to be avenged on  
the Carthaginians because of (εἰς) their brutal  
conduct"; Josephus, Antiq. Bk. IX. 3.1 -  
"because of (εἰς) the lack of water . . . they were  
in desperate need," Mt. 14:31; Mk. 15:34;  
Mt. 3:11; 12:41; Lk. 11:32; Rom. 4:20; 11:32; Tit.  
3:14 and Heb. 12:7.

Since my paper on εἰς was read  
in Cincinnati, I received a letter from

Prof. Bruce Metzger of Princeton Univ.  
informing me that Prof. Zorell's  
Greek N.T. lexicon, the comments are in Latin,  
lists a causal usage for  $\epsilon\iota\varsigma$  among  
the others.

I agree with Willmorth, however,  
that in Acts 2:38  $\epsilon\iota\varsigma$  denotes purpose  
and not cause.

Gratefully yours,

J. P. Mantey

P.S. I have submitted my article to the  
Journal of Bib. Liter. for publication,  
but I have no word from the publishers  
as yet that they will print it.  
J. P. M.

Willmorth