



This CD contains the scanned images of a volume originating from, most likely, between 1555 and 1560. It is actually three different books bound together in one volume. Each book has its original title page with dates. These books are:

1. *Precationes aliquot Celebriores* (Some Well-Known Prayers), published in 1554.
2. תורת המשיח (The Torah of Messiah), which is the Münster Hebrew text of the Gospel of Matthew, published in 1551, to which is appended a number of Psalms in Hebrew, Daniel 9 and the Ten Words.
3. בְּשׂוֹרֵת מַטַּי (B'sorot Mattai), which is the Hebrew Matthew published by Bishop Du Tillet in 1555, to which is attached 23 rabbinic-type questions directed to Christians to prove that Yeshua (Jesus) could not be the Messiah.

The printing for each of the books which are bound together in this single volume was done by Martin the Younger (apud Martinum Iuvenem) in Paris.

The Volume itself measures 4 inches in width, 6 inches in length, and is approximately 1.75 inches thick at the spine. The covers are full calf, and the pages have gilded edging. The spine is stamped with the title in gold with decorative boarder (see photos).

Why would such a volume as this have been published in the 1550's? There may be two reasons: a) Jewish evangelism, or an attempt to put the Gospel in Hebrew in order to attract Jewish people to investigate its claims, and b) in order to give Hebrew materials to students who were studying the language. The increased interest in the Hebrew language among Christians of this period created the need for Hebrew materials.

Opening the volume in a typical English manner, one is first met with *Precationes aliquot Celebriores*, printed in four columns (left-to-right): Greek, Vulgate, Latin back-translation of the Hebrew, Hebrew. The page galleys are read left-to-right. The next book in the volume is the Münster Hebrew Matthew, but it is set in right-to-left galleys, so the reader must move to the title page and then read right-to-left. The final book in the volume is the Du Tillet Hebrew Matthew, in which the Hebrew text is set in right-to-left galleys, but the Latin back-translation is set in left-to-right galleys as the final part of the volume.

The pdf files on this CD correspond to the three books as follows:

1. 1554Prec.pdf = *Precationes aliquot Celebriores*
2. Quinquarboreus1551.pdf = Münster Matthew
Telim.pdf = Psalms appended to the Münster Matthew, along with Daniel 9 & Ten Words
3. DuTillet1555.pdf = Du Tillet Matthew including the 23 Jewish Objections
LatinMatthew.pdf = the back-translation of the Du Tillet into Latin

The other two files contained on the CD are this informational document, and a file containing digital pictures of the volume itself, Matt1555Pictures.pdf

The following charts give a general "Table of Contents" of the volume:

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2Samuel 1:18–27	Song of the Bow	1554Prec.pdf	42–44
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