Especially the Parchments

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Abstract

It was August of 1974. We had just moved to Miami Springs, Florida, where on July 1 I took up my duties as president of Miami Christian College, having left a most enviable position at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and a bewildered band of faculty friends. The man I hired to build shelving around the room that would become my study had finished his work and I was in the process of sorting and shelving some 4,000 books. In the midst of the effort, my wife came into the room, watched for a while silently, and finally asked the question, "You really love your books, don't you?"

That total is now down to about 3,000, but the sentiment has not changed. We of the dinosaur age admit that computers have taken over the world but too many of us know a shining piece of hardware stuffed with miraculous software can never take the place of a library. When some people move to a new town, they search out the best restaurants, perhaps a health club, parks, pools, churches and malls. Not I. First, show me the library.

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The cloak that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments. Holman Bible. When you come, bring the cloak I left in Troas with Carpus, as well as the scrolls, especially the parchments. International Standard Version. When you come, bring the coat I left with Carpus in Troas, as well as the scrolls and especially the parchments. A Conservative Version. Bring the cloak that I left behind at Troas with Carpus when thou come, and the books, especially the parchments. Parchment is a writing material made from specially prepared untanned skins of animals—primarily sheep, calves, and goats. It has been used as a writing medium for over two millennia. Vellum is a finer quality parchment made from the skins of young animals such as lambs and young calves. It may be called animal membrane by libraries and museums that wish to avoid distinguishing between "parchment" and the more-restricted term "vellum" (see below). What is Parchments? Definition and meaning:PARCHMENTS parch'-ments (membranai, 'membranes,' 'parchments,' 'vellum'): The skins, chiefly of sheep, lambs, goats and calves, prepared so. The parchments were different from these, and were perhaps notebooks, in which the apostle had, from time to time, written what he had observed and wished to preserve as specially worthy of remembrance, facts which he had gathered in his study of the Old Testament or of other books.