Gospel Traditions In The Second Century: Origins, Recensions, Text, And Transmission

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Koester’s essay (in The Text of the Synoptic Gospels in the Second Century, in Gospel Traditions in the Second Century: Origins, Recensions, Text, and Transmission [ed. William L. Petersen; Notre Dame: from original text to initial text 639 to the Hebrew bible]. Petersen, after citing Paul Maas’s famous definition of textual criticism: “The business of textual criticism is to produce a text as close as possible to the original” suggests that an attempt to apply that dictum to the New Testament is problematic: First and foremost among, the problems is the difficulty of defining original. T