

Paper Proposal – IOSCS Congress, August 2013

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Title: “Lexical Possibilities in LXX Research: Revision and Expansion”

J. A. L. Lee’s 1970 doctoral thesis *A Lexical Study of the Septuagint Version of the Pentateuch* remains a landmark in the field of LXX studies, and its conclusions regarding both LXX Greek and the dating of the Greek Pentateuch have come to be taken largely for granted. As Trevor Evans has recently observed in the *BIOSCS*, however, Lee’s linguistic method remains largely undeveloped, despite its great potential for shedding further light upon the translation of LXX books (2010). It is the aim of this paper to pursue inroads to more exhaustive lexical studies in the LXX, specifically asking, do Lee’s conclusions drawn from lexical examples still hold? Two of Lee’s example words, those for ‘seeing’ and ‘donkey,’ will be reexamined. With the increased amount of *Koine* Greek data accessible in digital format via the “Words from the Sand” project based at Macquarie University, Lee’s work ought to be reevaluated and, if necessary, revised. Furthermore, the paper will ask how Lee’s method might be applied to dual-version LXX books. Because the task of finding valid lexical examples with which to conduct such a study is difficult, this paper will begin to develop criteria to identify feasible test-case words with an eye towards dual-version work specifically in LXX-Judges. Lexical research offers the possibility of dating the translation and even determining provenance of LXX books with greater specificity than other methods offer. How might this shed light upon the textual history of the dual-version of LXX-Judges?