

Lk 1:15  
A correction in L?

NA28 Luke 1:15 ἔσται γὰρ μέγας ἐνώπιον [τοῦ] κυρίου, καὶ οἶνον καὶ σίκερα οὐ μὴ πίνη, καὶ πνεύματος ἁγίου πλησθήσεται ἔτι ἐκ κοιλίας μητρὸς αὐτοῦ,

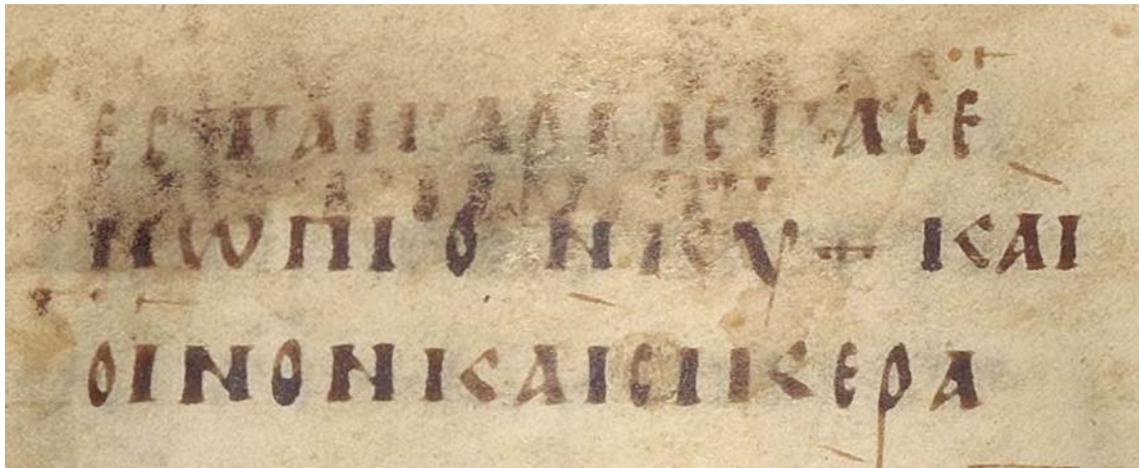
**omit** 01, A, C, L\*, f1, 33, 579, 1241, 1342, L844, L2211, al<sup>60</sup>[Ω, 2], Cyr, NA<sup>25</sup>, WH, Tis, Bal

txt B, D, L<sup>C</sup>, W, 28, 565, 892, Maj, Ir<sup>Lat</sup>, WH<sup>mg</sup>, [Trg]

τοῦ θεοῦ Θ, Ψ, f13, 157, 700, 1071, 1424, al<sup>10</sup>

IGNTP has L<sup>C</sup> for the omission, against Swanson, who has L<sup>C</sup> for the addition. NA and Tischendorf do not list any correction, but have L for the omission.

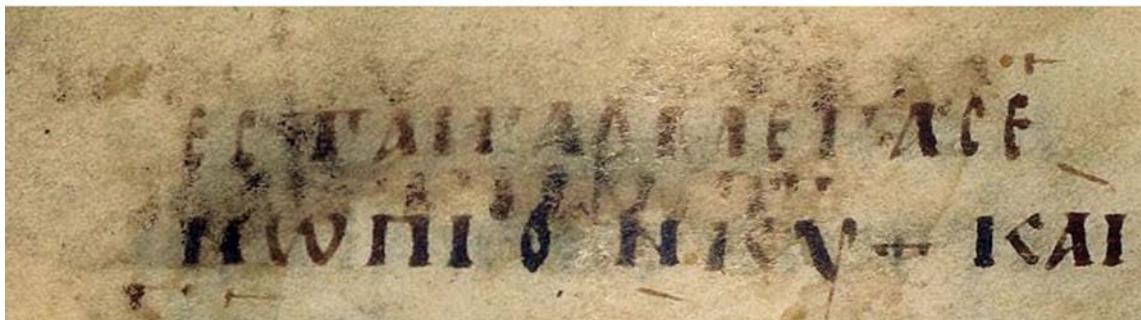
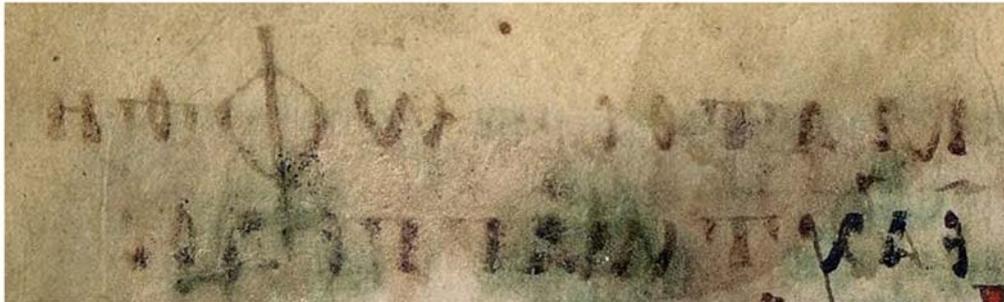
Image from BnF:



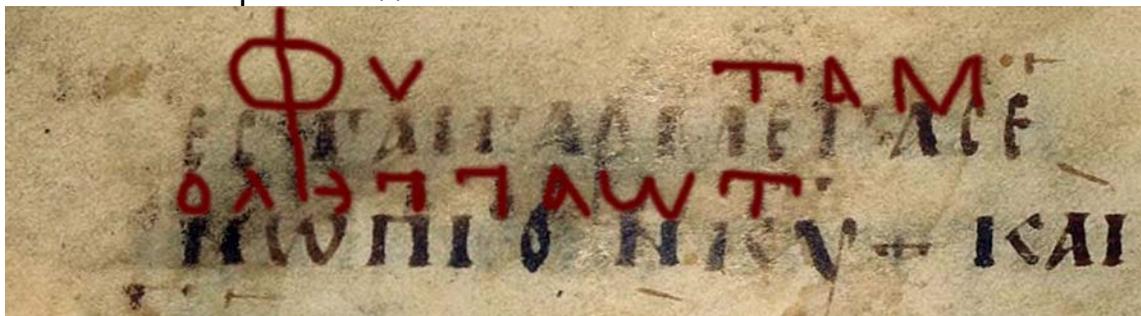
There are two observations that have to be discussed:

1. There is some water damage at the top of the page which resulted in smeared ink. The smeared ink above the ο could be interpreted as an added τοῦ above the line.
2. There is a large gap around the ο of ἐνώπιον.

The water damaged resulted in print off from the verso of the previous page. This can be seen clearly in this enhanced image:

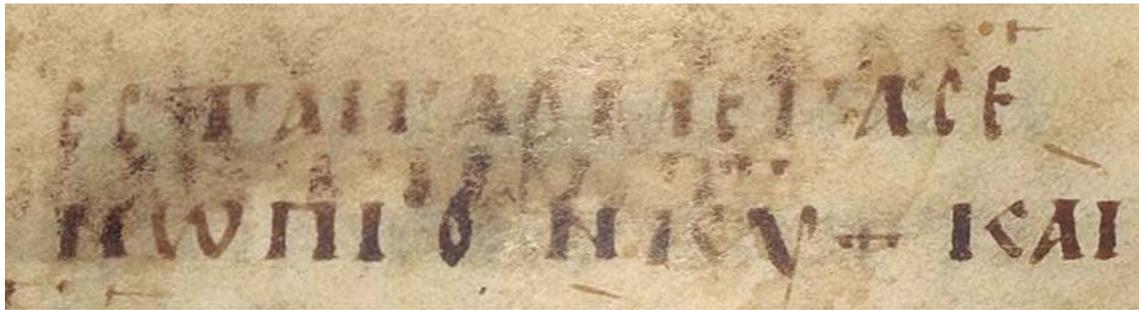


On top are the horizontally flipped lines from the previous page. One can clearly see the letters printed off:



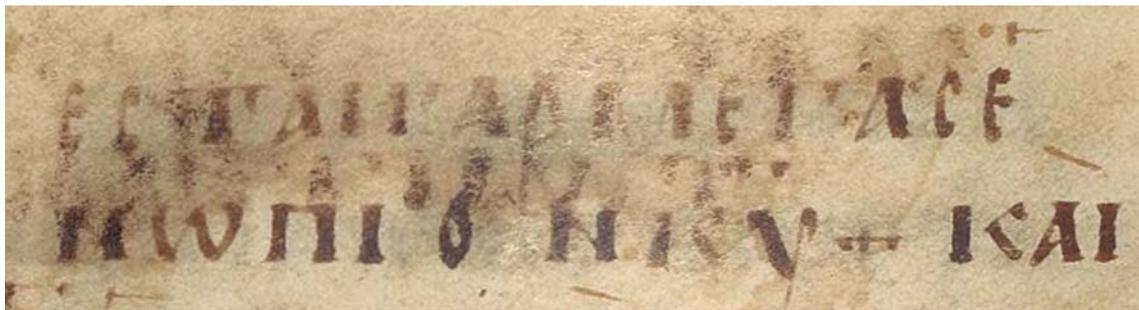
This resolves the first point: There is no τὸῦ written above the line as Swanson suspected it. It is only ink printed off from the verso.

Now the second question is the large space around the ο. It seems that IGNTP assumed that originally τὸῦ was present but had been erased. But this is extremely improbable from space considerations. Below is a reconstruction with quite cramped letters:



There is not enough space to include a τὸ.

I think the most probable explanation is that the original scribe made some kind of error here, e.g. writing ω instead of ο. After already finishing the line he noted his error, washed off the wrong letter and added ο.



Conclusion:

1. It is certain that L does not read τὸ. There is no correction involving this word.
2. There is some other kind of correction "on the fly" involving ο of ἐνώπιον, but it is not clear what this was, since the original writing had been erased completely.