

Massorah

To deliver to another for safe custody
R Akiba called it "A Fence to the Scriptures"

No notes or comments are made, just
a record of facts and features

The Massoretes tabulated number of
occurrences of every letter.

D, M, occurs 77778 times

They used K'ri (read) and K'thib (written)
but never altered the text.

Preservation of the Text.

1. The Targums or Paraphrases in Aramaic.
Onkelos a disciple of Hillel who was
Grandfather of Gamaliel.
2. The Talmud or Doctrine. Embodied in
rules all that had been written
3. The Talmud consists of two parts
 - (1) Mishna "The second law" or "Text"
 - (2) Gemara "The commentary".

Neh VIII. 8

"They read in the book of the law" = in original tongue
"distinctly" = Chaldee paraphrase
"gave the sense" = exposition & division of words
"caused to understand" = points & accents