

Acts 20:28b

Be shepherds of the Church of God, which he bought with his own blood. (*NIV*)

1. There are some Greek manuscripts that read “the church of the Lord” instead of “the church of God.” Many Trinitarian scholars believe that “Lord” is the original reading, because there is no mention anywhere in the Bible of God having blood. If the Greek manuscripts that read “Lord” are the original ones, then the “problem” is solved. However, it is the belief of the authors that good textual research shows that “the church of God” is the correct reading.
2. Both the American Bible Society and the Institute For New Testament Research in Germany (which produces the Nestle-Aland Greek text) agree that the manuscript evidence supports the reading *tou haimatios tou idiou*, literally, the blood of His own (Son), and not *idiou haimatios*, “his own blood.” God paid for our salvation with the blood of His own Son, Jesus Christ.
3. The text note at the bottom of the very Trinitarian *NIV Study Bible* gets the meaning of the verse correct: “*his own blood*. Lit. ‘the blood of his own one,’ a term of endearment (such as ‘his own dear one’) referring to His own Son.”

Norton, pp. 184,199-203

Ehrman, pp. 87 and 88

Racovian Catechism, pp. 83 and 84

Wilson, p. 429

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