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When I watch the interview that was given to Professor David Flusser by Roy Blizzard, the first common that Blizzard gave to Flusser is that between all the books that Flusser had written, Blizzard said that his favorite was the one intitled “Jesus.” Blizzard in this interview continue to ask Professor Flusser more questions. One of them was what language or languages as a Jew in the first century, that Jesus spoke? According to Flusser Jesus spoke two languages which is Aramaic and Hebrew, because these was the languages, they spoke during Jesus’s time. Flusser also said that when Jesus taught, He always taught only in Hebrew language and not Aramaic. He gave an example about the “Kingdom of Heaven” does not exist in the Aramaic language but in Hebrew.

Flusser says that all the parables in the rabbinic literature are in Hebrew language. When we look at the difference that Flusser suggest is that in Jesus’s time the languages Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic is different then the languages we have now, because of the different meaning of the words. He also said that even before Jesus’s time, the Greek, Hebrew, and Aramaic languages is different from the time of Jesus. When we look at the languages of Greek, Hebrew, and Aramaic it is different in the first and second centuries and it sometimes helps depending on the rabbinic and Jesus’s literature. Flusser says that we must “go through the Greek text in order to see what is behind it.”

The background that Flusser propose about the phrase “the poor in Spirit” was those who

want to make a theology from the Greek, which Professor Flusser said that it is wrong. Flusser also says that “it is forbidden, as far as he sees especially in the synoptic Gospels to make theology from the Greek wording when you cannot recognize the Hebrew wording which is behind it, because it is important to know that the sayings of Jesus were translated by equivalence.” My understanding of what Flusser is saying is that without the understanding of the original language of the Hebrew we will not understand the true meaning of the bible which the original text came from. So, many theologians try to translate the words of Jesus into Greek but if they do not understand the Hebrew language, it will not be the same meaning. So, when we get different translations, it is very important that we read the King James Version, which is the correct one and not the New English Bible, because Flusser says it was made by people who knew Greek but did not understand the original language of Hebrew. Professor Flusser, understood that the meaning of “the poor in Spirit,” literally means “the poor who have the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

What was most surprising to me is what Flusser’s said about a Jewish philosopher by the name Martin Buber, that he was right when he said, “we can hear from the Gospels Jesus own voice,” The only way to do this is to know how to hear.” Flusser also said that when we read the Gospels, “then we can hear Jesus’s voice and recognize His personality.” The best way to hear Jesus’s voice is to study the Gospels on a Jewish background or when we see Jesus as being a part of Judaism of his days as Martin Buber puts it. When I heard this statement, it encourages me even more that when I read or study the Gospels or word of God, I should be looking forward for Jesus speaking to me through His words. I also should study it in a Hebrew language so that I can understand better what was written in its correct content, which was in the Hebrew, scriptures, or literatures.