Isaiah 40:3 Over Two Millennia

In the New Testament and among the Jewish sectarians at Qumran on the Dead Sea, one verse is often cited as a mission statement (Matthew 3:3; *Rule of the Community* 8:12-15). Below are photocopies of the same passage in the Hebrew Bible, spanning 2,100 years.

"A voice is calling, Clear the Way of the LORD in the wilderness . . . " (Isaiah 40:3)

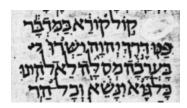
Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia

[German Bible Society, Stuttgart, 1997; based on Leningrad Codex B19 dated to AD/CE 1008. Standard critical edition used for most academic textual research and translation.]



The Aleppo Codex

[Date: AD/CE 930. Oldest complete manuscript of Hebrew Bible; in book or codex (not scroll) format]



The "Great Isaiah Scroll" from Qumran (1QIsa)

[Date: circa 100 BC/E; scroll format; complete: 24 feet long; sheepskin]

