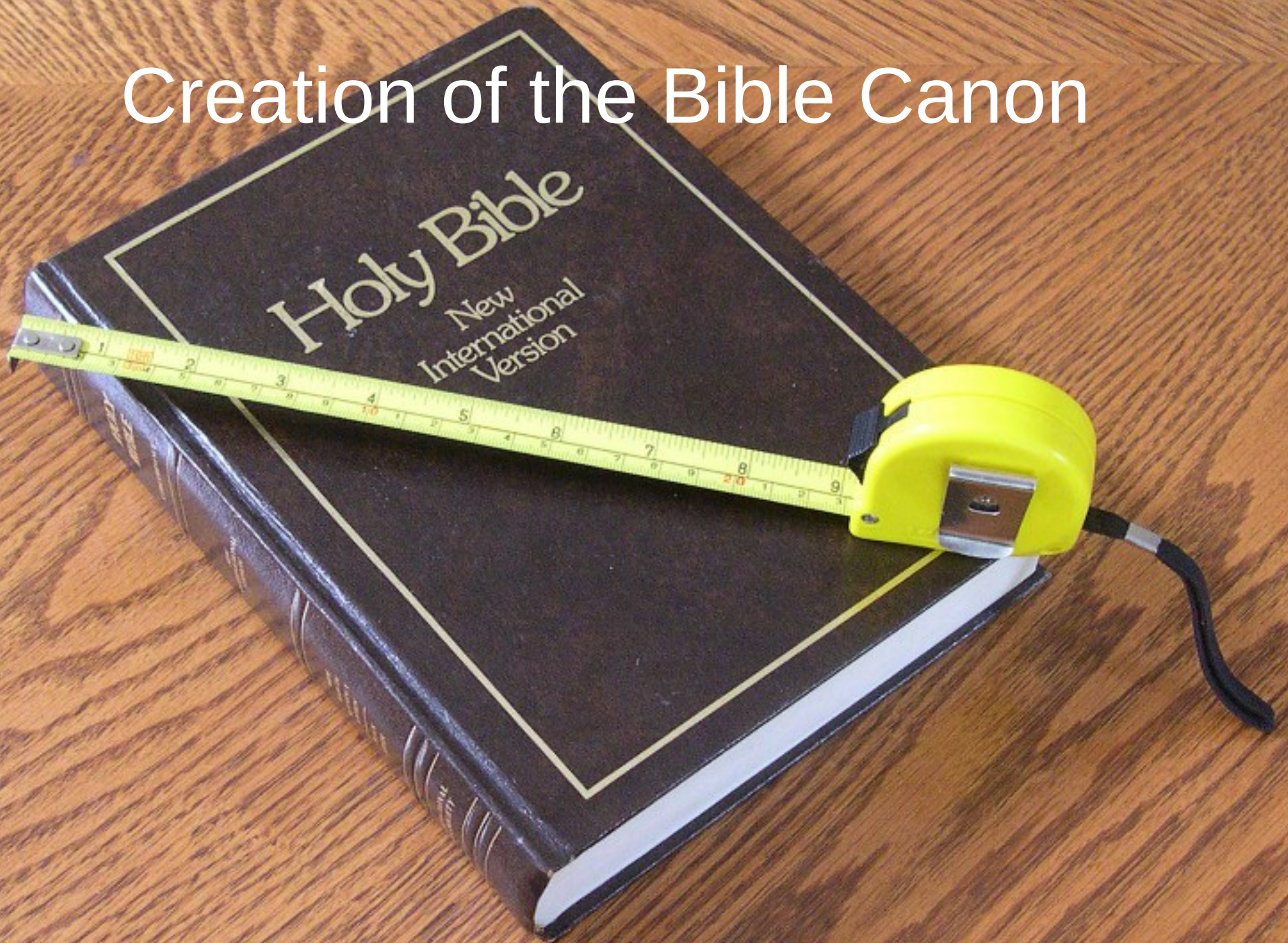


Creation of the Bible Canon

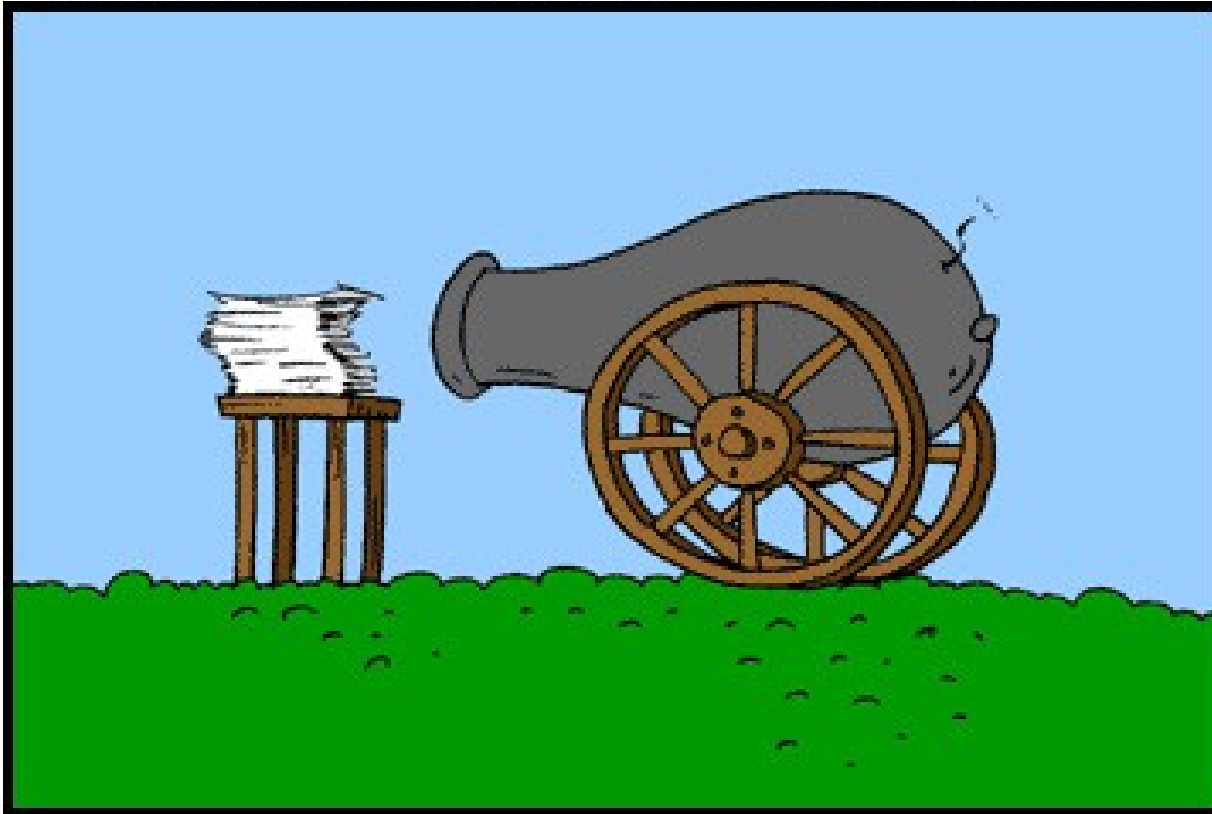


Creation of the Bible Canon

INTRODUCTION

Creation of the Bible Canon

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09-17-1999

PROPHET JOE WAS SURE EXCITED WHEN HE FOUND OUT THAT HIS WRITINGS WERE GOING TO BE 'CANONIZED'

Creation of the Bible Canon

ΚΑΝΩΝ

Canon (greek) = 'rule' or 'measuring stick'

Creation of the Bible Canon

ΚΑΝΩΝ

Canon (greek) = 'rule' or 'measuring stick'

Bible Canon = the books Christians regard as
divinely inspired

Creation of the Bible Canon

Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words will never disappear. [Matthew 24:35]

And I solemnly declare to everyone who hears the words of prophecy written in this book: If anyone adds anything to what is written here, God will add to that person the plagues described in this book. And if anyone removes any of the words from this book of prophecy, God will remove that person's share in the tree of life and in the holy city that are described in this book.

[Revelation 22:18-19 NLT]

Creation of the Bible Canon



Creation of the Bible Canon

MODERN LIST OF PROTESTANT BIBLE BOOKS [66 BOOKS]

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5			Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 8	1Sm 9	2Sm 10
1Kg 11	2Kg 12	1Ch 13	2Ch 14	Er 15	Ne 16	Es 17	Jb 18	Ps 19	Pr 20	Ec 21	Sg 22
Is 23	Je 24	Lm 25	Ez 26	Dn 27	Hs 28	Jl 29	Am 30	Ob 31	Jo 32	Mi 33	Na 34
Hb 35	Zp 36	Hg 37	Zc 38	Ml 39			Mt 1	Mk 2	Lk 3	Jn 4	Ac 5
Rm 6	1Co 7	2Co 8	Gl 9	Ep 10	Ph 11	Cl 12	1Th 13	2Th 14	1Tm 15	2Tm 16	Ti 17
Pl 18	Hb 19	Js 20	1Pt 21	2Pt 22	1Jn 23	2Jn 24	3Jn 25	Jd 26	Rv 27		

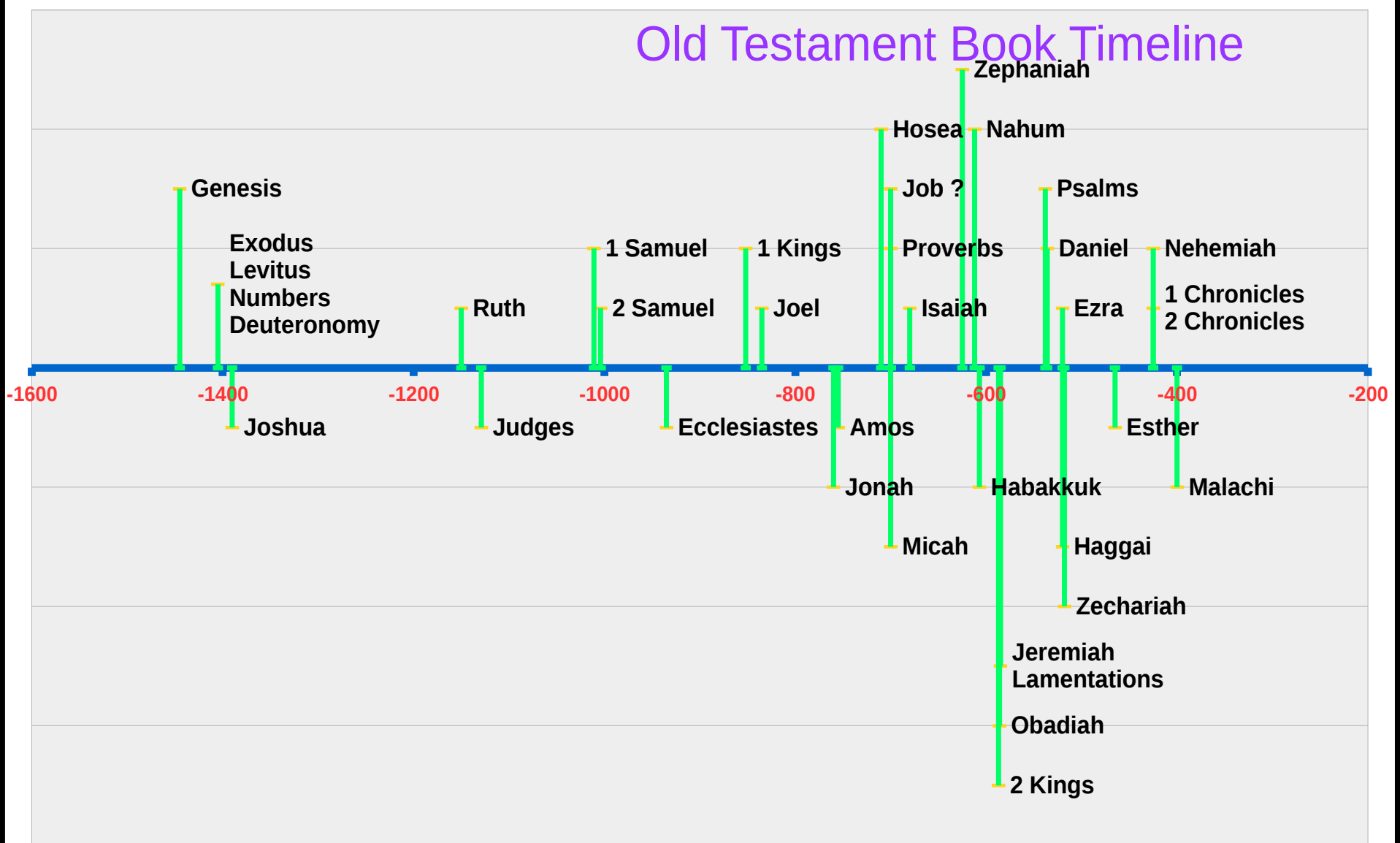
PENTATEUCH [NARRATIVE]	HISTORY [NARRATIVE]	WISDOM WRITINGS	MAJOR PROPHETS	MINOR PROPHETS	
GOSPELS [NARRATIVE]	ACTS [NARRATIVE]	PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES	PAUL'S LETTERS TO INDIVIDUALS	GENERAL LETTERS	LETTER [PROPHECY]

Creation of the Bible Canon

OLD TESTAMENT

Creation of the Bible Canon

Old Testament Book Timeline



Creation of the Bible Canon

Then he said, “When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled.” [Luke 24:44 NLT]

As a result, you will be held responsible for the murder of all godly people of all time—from the murder of righteous Abel to the murder of Zechariah son of Berekiah, whom you killed in the Temple between the sanctuary and the altar. [Matthew 23:35 NLT]

Creation of the Bible Canon

OT BIBLE BOOKS IN HEBREW ORDER

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5	LAW
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Jo 6	Jg 7	1Sm 9	2Sm 10	1Kg 11	2Kg 12	PROPHETS (EARLY)
---------	---------	----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	---------------------

Is 23	Je 24	Ez 26	Hs 28	Jl 29		
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Am 30	Ob 31	Jo 32	Mi 33	Na 34		PROPHETS (LATE)
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	--	--------------------

Hb 35	Zp 36	Hg 37	Zc 38	Ml 39		
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	--	--

Ps 19	Pr 20	Jb 18	Sg 22		WRITINGS
----------	----------	----------	----------	--	----------

Ru 8	Lm 25	Ec 21	Es 17		
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Dn 27	Er 15	Ne 16	1Ch 13	2Ch 14		
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Creation of the Bible Canon

NT LIST OF HEBREW BIBLE BOOKS [22 BOOKS]

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5		Jo 6	Jg-Ru 17			Sm 7		
Kg 8		Ch 22			Er-Ne 21		Es 19	Jb 15	Ps 13	Pr 14	Ec 18	Sg 16
Is 9	Je-Lm 10		Ez 11	Dn 20	Hs-Jl-Am-Ob-Jo-Mi-Na 12							
Hb-Zp-Hg-Zc-Ml 12												

LAW

PROPHETS

WRITINGS

Creation of the Bible Canon

RABBINIC LIST OF HEBREW BIBLE BOOKS [24 BOOKS]

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5		Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 18	Sm 8		
Kg 9		Ch 24		Er-Ne 23		Es 21	Jb 16	Ps 14	Pr 15	Ec 20	Sg 17
Is 10	Je 11	Lm 19	Ez 12	Dn 22	Hs-Jl-Am-Ob-Jo-Mi-Na 12						
Hb-Zp-Hg-Zc-Ml 12											

LAW
Torah [Ta]

PROPHETS
Nevi'im [Na]

WRITINGS
Ketuvim [Kh]

TANAKH [Hebrew Bible]

Creation of the Bible Canon

αντιλεγόμενα

antilegomena = 'spoken against' (disputed)
= written texts whose authenticity
or value is disputed

Creation of the Bible Canon

RABBINIC LIST OF HEBREW BIBLE BOOKS [24 BOOKS]

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5		Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 18	Sm 8		
Kg 9		Ch 24		Er-Ne 23		Es 21	Jb 16	Ps 14	Pr 15	Ec 20	Sg 17
Is 10	Je 11	Lm 19	Ez 12	Dn 22	Hs-Jl-Am-Ob-Jo-Mi-Na 12						
Hb-Zp-Hg-Zc-Ml 12											

LAW
Torah [Ta]

PROPHETS
Nevi'im [Na]

WRITINGS
Ketuvim [Kh]

SEPTUAGINT
LXX

Creation of the Bible Canon

ANTILEGOMENA REASONS

OT BOOK	REASON FOR CONCERN / DISPUTE
Song of Solomon	seemed to be a poem of merely human love
Ecclesiastes	thought to contain contradictory statements
Esther	does not mention any name of God, and Purim (new post-Mosaic holiday)
Ezekiel	several points thought to contradict Mosaic law
Proverbs	thought that certain of its maxims contradict each other (Proverbs 26:4,5)
Ruth	thought to violate rule regarding Moabites (Deuteronomy 23:3)

Creation of the Bible Canon

JEWISH EVIDENCE OT CANON

“We do not possess myriads of inconsistent books, conflicting with each other. Our books, those which are justly accredited, are but two and twenty, and contain the record of all time. Of these, five are the books of Moses...the prophets subsequent to Moses wrote the history of the events of their own times in thirteen books. The remaining four books contain hymns to God and precepts for the conduct of human life. From Artaxerxes to our own time the complete history has been written, but has not been deemed worthy of equal credit with the earlier records, because of the failure of the exact succession of the prophets” [Flavius Josephus]

Creation of the Bible Canon

JEWISH EVIDENCE OT CANON

“When the last of the prophets, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi, died, the holy spirit departed from Israel” [Babylonian Talmud Yoma 9b]

“When the latter prophets died, that is, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi, then the Holy Spirit came to an end in Israel” [Tosefta Sota 13:3]

Creation of the Bible Canon

COUNCIL OF JAMNIA

- 1st-century council where Hebrew Bible canon was finalized
- First proposed in 1871, and popular most of the 20th century
- The theory has been largely discredited (!)
- Many still quote it as truth (i.e. liberals)

- City of Jamnia had rabbinical school and court A.D. 70-135
- The OT canon was one of many topics discussed at Jamnia
- No books are mentioned except those now considered canonical
- Canonicity, authorship, and age were not challenged – just internal issues

Creation of the Bible Canon

RULES FOR INCLUSION INTO THE JEWISH CANON

- The writing had to be composed in Hebrew

EXCEPTIONS: Daniel 2:4b–7:28, Ezra 4:8–6:18 and 7:12–26, Jeremiah 10:11 OK

- The writing had to be sanctioned by usage in the Jewish community

EXCEPTIONS: Esther OK (Purim holiday), Judith NOT

- The writings had to contain one of the great religious themes of Judaism

EXCEPTION: Song of Solomon OK (allegory)

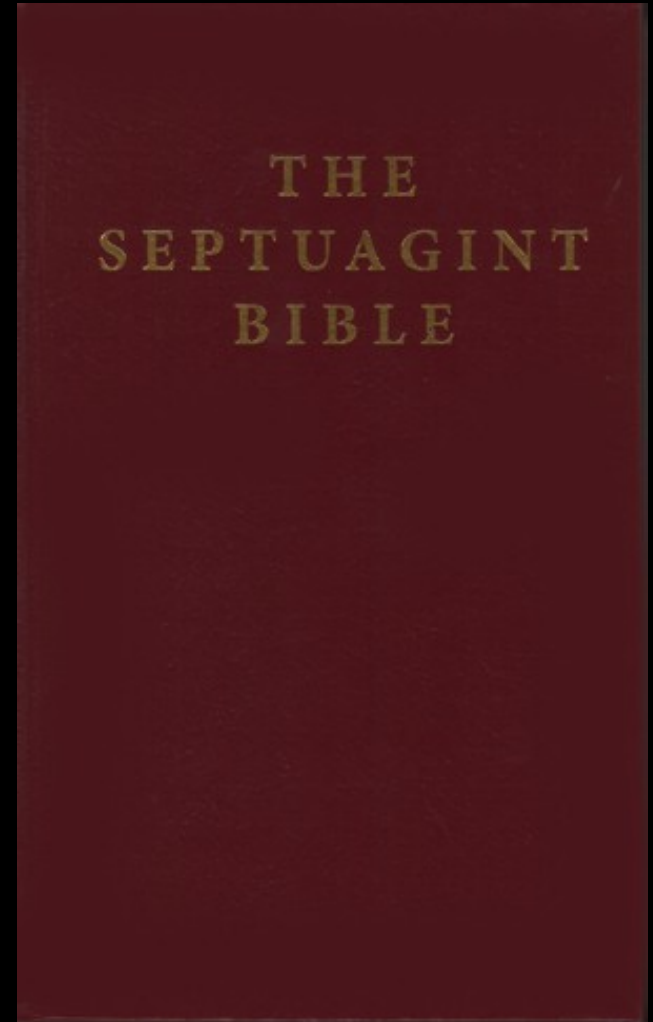
- The writing had to be composed before the time of Ezra (inspiration had ceased)

EXCEPTIONS: Daniel OK (exile), Jonah (before Nineveh destroyed) OK *

Creation of the Bible Canon

Septuagint (LXX)

- Greek version of OT
- Translated from 285-132BC
- Legend: Requested by Greek King of Egypt Ptolemy II Philadelphus for inclusion in the Library of Alexandria, and 70 (or 72) Jewish scholars created it
- Probably different *vorlage* (sources) than **MT**
- Varying literalness; sometimes shorter than **MT**
- 80% of NT quotes from OT are from Septuagint



Creation of the Bible Canon

SEPTUAGINT LIST OF BIBLE BOOKS [24 + 18 BOOKS]

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5			Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 18	Sm 8	
Kg 9		Ch 24		Er-Ne 23		Es 21	Jb 16	Ps 14	Pr 15	Ec 20	Sg 17
Is 10	Je 11	Lm 19	Ez 12	Dn 22	Hs-Jl-Am-Ob-Jo-Mi-Na 12						
Hb-Zp-Hg-Zc-Ml 12											

PrM	1Es	To	Ju	1Ma	2Ma	3Ma	4Ma	Ps151	Od	Wi	Si
PsS	Ba	EpJ	Su	Dn2	BeD						

LAW Torah [Ta]	PROPHETS Nevi'im [Na]	WRITINGS Ketuvim [Kh]	SEPTUAGINT LXX
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Creation of the Bible Canon

SEPTUAGINT FOR JEWS: GOOD OR BAD?

YES

- Philo (25BC-50AD) and Josephus (33-100AD) considered it equal to Hebrew text
- Only Greek was valid for Torah translation
- Widely used (found in DSS)
- Hebrew in decline
- LXX is warmly accepted

NO

- Greek scribes not following Jewish technical rules of scribal interpretation
- Used by Christians against the Jews
- Decline in Greek after fall of Jerusalem (70 AD)
- Re-assertion of Hebrew (MT) & Greek is forbidden
- LXX is firmly rejected

Creation of the Bible Canon

SEPTUAGINT FOR CHRISTIANS: GOOD OR BAD?

YES

- NT quotes LXX more often than MT
- Stronger and clearer Messianic references
- Rejected by Jews
- RCC & Orthodox adopt LXX in Bible translations

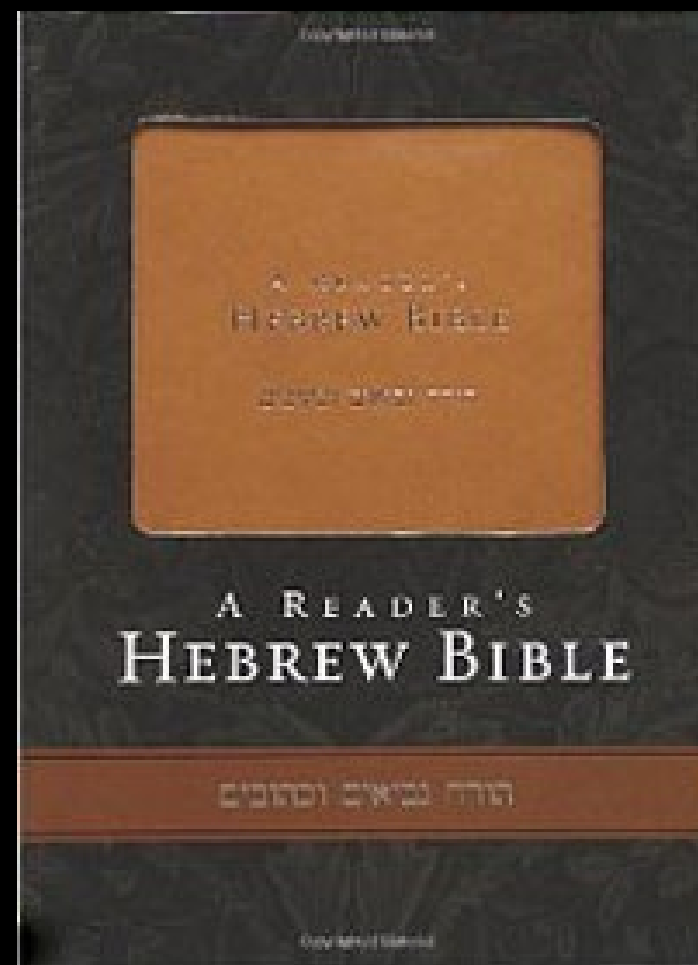
NO

- Included Apocrypha *
- Rejected by Jews
- Supported by RCC
- Protestants adopt MT in Bible translations

Creation of the Bible Canon

Masoretic Text (MT)

- Hebrew text of the Old Testament
- Created between 900-1100AD (but dates are controversial)
- Based on textual tradition of the Jewish scholars known as the *Masoretes*
- Intended to correct the faults that had crept into the text of the Old Testament during the Babylonian captivity, and to prevent corruption



Creation of the Bible Canon

ἄπρόκρυφος

Apokryphos = 'hidden', 'concealed', 'secret'

Creation of the Bible Canon

ἄπρόκρυφος

Apokryphos = 'hidden', 'concealed', 'secret'

For everything that is hidden [apokryphos] will eventually be brought into the open, and every secret will be brought to light. [Mark 4:22 NLT]

Creation of the Bible Canon

VARIOUS LISTS OF EXTRA APOCRYPHA / CANONICAL BOOKS

ROMAN CATHOLIC

1 Esdras *	2 Esdras *	Tobit	Judith	Esther (Extra)
1 Maccabees	2 Maccabees	Wisdom of Solomon	Sirach / Ecclesiasticus	Baruch
Epistle of Jeremiah	Daniel (extra) Story of the Three Children	Daniel (extra) Story of Susanna	Daniel (extra) Bel and the Dragon	Prayer of Manasseh *

EASTERN ORTHODOX +

3 Esdras	4 Esdras	3 Maccabees	4 Maccabees	Psalm 151
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SYRIAN ORTHODOX +

2 Baruch	Psalm 152-155
----------	---------------

ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX +

1 Meqabyan	2 Meqabyan	3 Meqabyan	Jubilees	1 Enoch #
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Creation of the Bible Canon

NON-NT-QUOTED SEPTUAGINT LIST OF BIBLE BOOKS [5 + 18 BOOKS]

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5		Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 18	Sm 8		
Kg 9		Ch 24		Er-Ne 23		Es 21	Jb 16	Ps 14	Pr 15	Ec 20	Sg 17
Is 10	Je 11	Lm 19	Ez 12	Dn 22	Hs-Jl-Am-Ob-Jo-Mi-Na 12						
Hb-Zp-Hg-Zc-Ml 12											

PrM	1Es	To	Ju	1Ma	2Ma	3Ma	4Ma	Ps151	Od	Wi	Si
PsS	Ba	EpJ	Su	Dn2	BeD						

LAW Torah [Ta]	PROPHETS Nevi'im [Na]	WRITINGS Ketuvim [Kh]	SEPTUAGINT LXX
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Creation of the Bible Canon

APOCRYPHA FOR CHRISTIANS: GOOD OR BAD?

YES

- Early part of LXX and written by Jews
- Alluded to in NT
- Accepted by early church fathers (e.g. Augustine)
- Church creates the Word (Council of Trent, 1546)
- Accepted by RCC & Orthodox as 'deuterocanonical' (2nd in time or authority respectively)

NO

- Late part of LXX and never part of Hebrew text or canon
- Not quoted in NT
- Excluded by early church fathers (e.g. Jerome)
- Bad theology & history
- Word creates the Church
- Rejected by Protestants as canonical
- Removal from KJV (1885)

Creation of the Bible Canon

REASONS TO ACCEPT APOCRYPHA AS CANON

“There is only one way we know whether a book is divinely inspired. And it is not because a book claims to be inspired. It is not because Christ or the Apostles quotes from it. It is not because we think we know who the author is. It is not because the Holy Spirit has guided history to ensure a consensus amongst Christians. Rather, it is because the Church is the only entity with the authority to define what the received books are.”

Creation of the Bible Canon

PROTESTANT CANON

Sola Scriptura (latin) = 'by Scripture alone'

The doctrine that the Bible contains all knowledge necessary for salvation and holiness.

Creation of the Bible Canon

Sola Scriptura



Both subject to the *probability* of the evidence.

Dual-Source

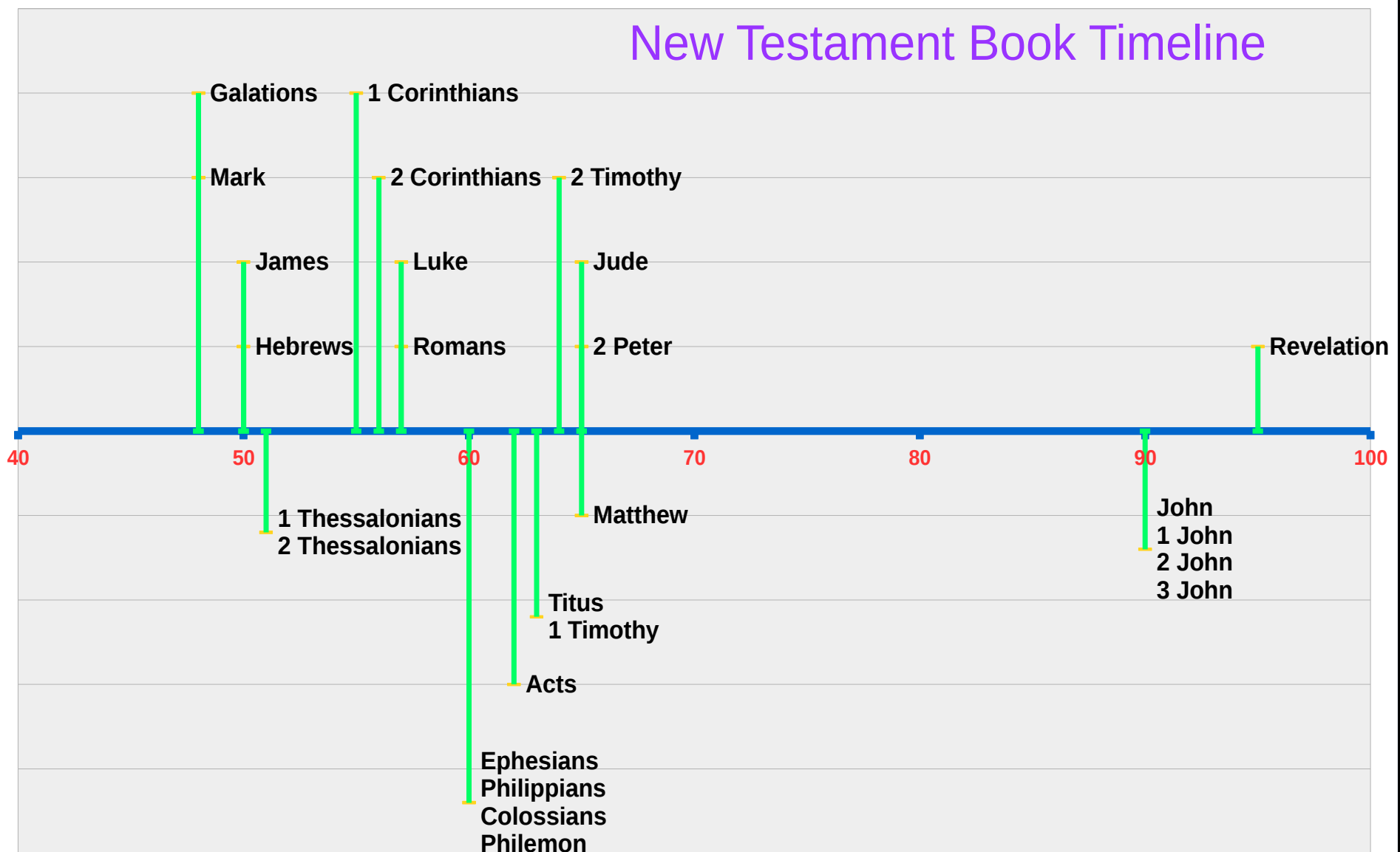


Creation of the Bible Canon

NEW TESTAMENT

Creation of the Bible Canon

New Testament Book Timeline



Creation of the Bible Canon

αντιλεγόμενα

"Disputed writings" widely read in the Early Church

Creation of the Bible Canon

αντιλεγόμενα

"Disputed writings" widely read in the Early Church:

James, Jude, 2 Peter, 2 & 3 John, Revelation, Hebrews, Apocalypse of Peter, Acts of Paul, Shepherd of Hermas, Epistle of Barnabas and the Didache
[Eusebius' church history 325AD]

Creation of the Bible Canon

MODERN LIST OF PROTESTANT BIBLE BOOKS [66 BOOKS]

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5			Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 8	1Sm 9	2Sm 10
1Kg 11	2Kg 12	1Ch 13	2Ch 14	Er 15	Ne 16	Es 17	Jb 18	Ps 19	Pr 20	Ec 21	Sg 22
Is 23	Je 24	Lm 25	Ez 26	Dn 27	Hs 28	Jl 29	Am 30	Ob 31	Jo 32	Mi 33	Na 34
Hb 35	Zp 36	Hg 37	Zc 38	Ml 39			Mt 1	Mk 2	Lk 3	Jn 4	Ac 5
Rm 6	1Co 7	2Co 8	Gl 9	Ep 10	Ph 11	Cl 12	1Th 13	2Th 14	1Tm 15	2Tm 16	Ti 17
Pl 18	Hb 19	Js 20	1Pt 21	2Pt 22	1Jn 23	2Jn 24	3Jn 25	Jd 26	Rv 27		

PENTATEUCH [NARRATIVE]	HISTORY [NARRATIVE]	WISDOM WRITINGS	MAJOR PROPHETS	MINOR PROPHETS	
GOSPELS [NARRATIVE]	ACTS [NARRATIVE]	PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES	PAUL'S LETTERS TO INDIVIDUALS	GENERAL LETTERS	LETTER [PROPHECY]

Creation of the Bible Canon

ANTILEGOMENA REASONS

NT BOOK	REASON FOR CONCERN / DISPUTE
Hebrews	written anonymously
James	unrecognized author & suspect theology
2 Peter	style difference, Jude quotes, late citation *
2 & 3 John	unknown author, late citation *
Jude	1 Enoch quotes (pseudepigraphal)
Revelation	apocalyptic nature

Creation of the Bible Canon

LUTHER'S ANTILEGOMENA

- Moved deuterocanonical OT into Apocrypha
- Tried to move Esther to Apocrypha
- Tried to remove Hebrews, James, Jude and Revelation from the canon [placed at end of NT]

Creation of the Bible Canon

GUIDELINES FOR DETECTING CANONICITY

- Was the author an apostle or have a close connection with an apostle?
- Is the book being accepted by the body of Christ at large?
- Did the book contain consistency of doctrine and orthodox teaching?
- Did the book bear evidence of high moral and spiritual values that would reflect a work of the Holy Spirit?

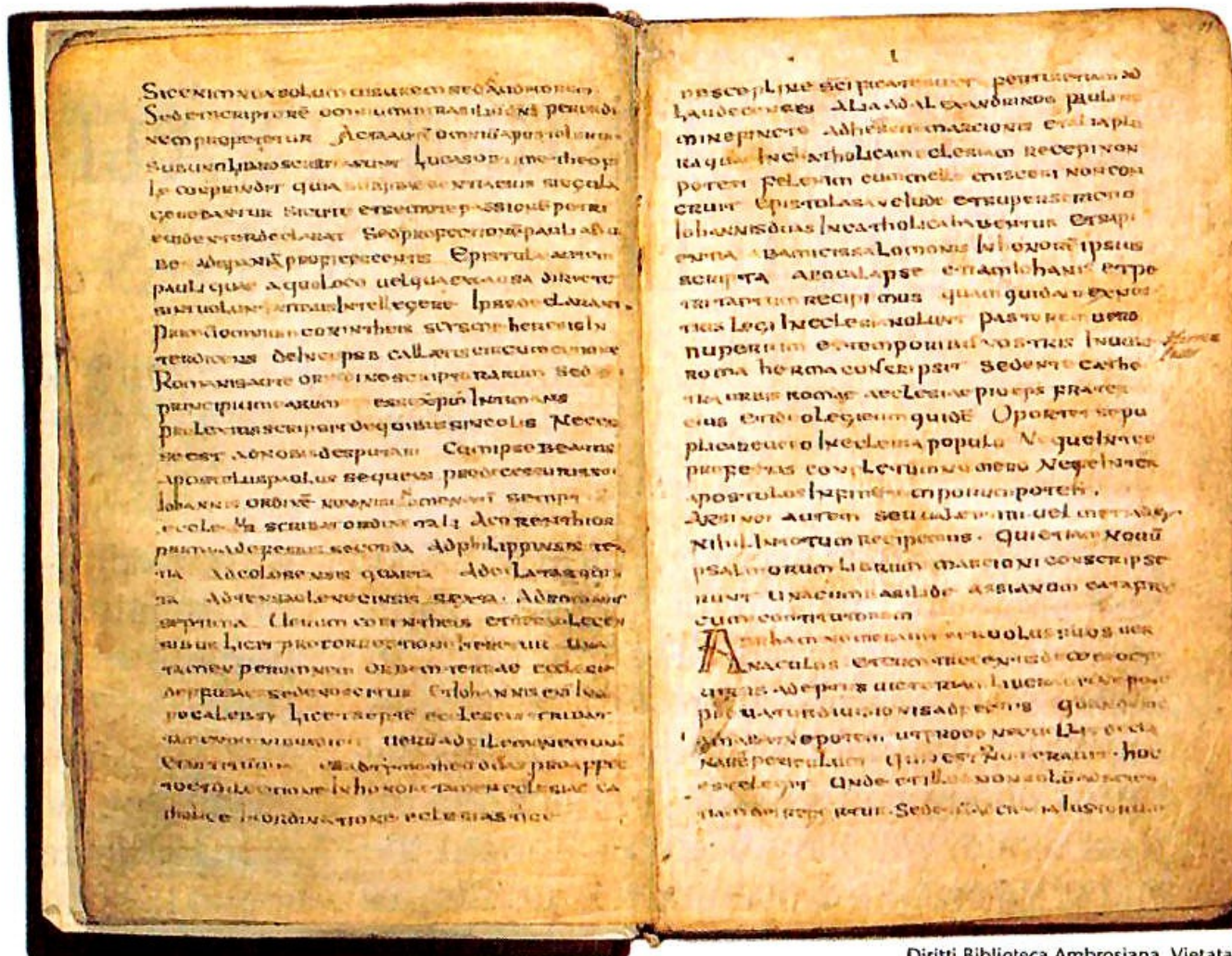
Creation of the Bible Canon

MARCION GNOSTIC LIST OF NT BOOKS 140 AD [66 BOOKS]

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5			Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 8	1Sm 9	2Sm 10
1Kg 11	2Kg 12	1Ch 13	2Ch 14	Er 15	Ne 16	Es 17	Jb 18	Ps 19	Pr 20	Ec 21	Sg 22
Is 23	Je 24	Lm 25	Ez 26	Dn 27	Hs 28	Jl 29	Am 30	Ob 31	Jo 32	Mi 33	Na 34
Hb 35	Zp 36	Hg 37	Zc 38	Ml 39			Mt 1	Mk 2	Lk 3	Jn 4	Ac 5
Rm 6	1Co 7	2Co 8	Gl 9	Ep 10	Ph 11	Cl 12	1Th 13	2Th 14	1Tm 15	2Tm 16	Ti 17
Pl 18	Hb 19	Js 20	1Pt 21	2Pt 22	1Jn 23	2Jn 24	3Jn 25	Jd 26	Rv 27		

PENTATEUCH [NARRATIVE]	HISTORY [NARRATIVE]	WISDOM WRITINGS	MAJOR PROPHETS	MINOR PROPHETS	
GOSPELS [NARRATIVE]	ACTS [NARRATIVE]	PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES	PAUL'S LETTERS TO INDIVIDUALS	GENERAL LETTERS	LETTER [PROPHECY]

Creation of the Bible Canon



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The Muratorian Fragment

Lines 32-85

Creation of the Bible Canon

MURATORIAN FRAGMENT LIST OF NT 170 AD [23 BOOKS]

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5			Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 8	1Sm 9	2Sm 10
1Kg 11	2Kg 12	1Ch 13	2Ch 14	Er 15	Ne 16	Es 17	Jb 18	Ps 19	Pr 20	Ec 21	Sg 22
Is 23	Je 24	Lm 25	Ez 26	Dn 27	Hs 28	Jl 29	Am 30	Ob 31	Jo 32	Mi 33	Na 34
Hb 35	Zp 36	Hg 37	Zc 38	Ml 39			Mt 1	Mk 2	Lk 3	Jn 4	Ac 5
Rm 6	1Co 7	2Co 8	Gl 9	Ep 10	Ph 11	Cl 12	1Th 13	2Th 14	1Tm 15	2Tm 16	Ti 17
Pl 18	Hb 19	Js 20	1Pt 21	2Pt 22	1Jn 23	2Jn 24	3Jn 25	Jd 26	Rv 27		

PENTATEUCH [NARRATIVE]	HISTORY [NARRATIVE]	WISDOM WRITINGS	MAJOR PROPHETS	MINOR PROPHETS	
GOSPELS [NARRATIVE]	ACTS [NARRATIVE]	PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES	PAUL'S LETTERS TO INDIVIDUALS	GENERAL LETTERS	LETTER [PROPHECY]

Creation of the Bible Canon

IRENÆUS LIST OF NT BOOKS 180 AD [23 BOOKS]

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5			Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 8	1Sm 9	2Sm 10
1Kg 11	2Kg 12	1Ch 13	2Ch 14	Er 15	Ne 16	Es 17	Jb 18	Ps 19	Pr 20	Ec 21	Sg 22
Is 23	Je 24	Lm 25	Ez 26	Dn 27	Hs 28	Jl 29	Am 30	Ob 31	Jo 32	Mi 33	Na 34
Hb 35	Zp 36	Hg 37	Zc 38	Ml 39			Mt 1	Mk 2	Lk 3	Jn 4	Ac 5
Rm 6	1Co 7	2Co 8	Gl 9	Ep 10	Ph 11	Cl 12	1Th 13	2Th 14	1Tm 15	2Tm 16	Ti 17
Pl 18	Hb 19	Js 20	1Pt 21	2Pt 22	1Jn 23	2Jn 24	3Jn 25	Jd 26	Rv 27		

PENTATEUCH [NARRATIVE]	HISTORY [NARRATIVE]	WISDOM WRITINGS	MAJOR PROPHETS	MINOR PROPHETS	
GOSPELS [NARRATIVE]	ACTS [NARRATIVE]	PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES	PAUL'S LETTERS TO INDIVIDUALS	GENERAL LETTERS	LETTER [PROPHECY]

Creation of the Bible Canon

ORIGEN LIST OF NT 240 AD [21+6 BOOKS] "HOMOLOGOUMENA"

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5			Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 8	1Sm 9	2Sm 10
1Kg 11	2Kg 12	1Ch 13	2Ch 14	Er 15	Ne 16	Es 17	Jb 18	Ps 19	Pr 20	Ec 21	Sg 22
Is 23	Je 24	Lm 25	Ez 26	Dn 27	Hs 28	Jl 29	Am 30	Ob 31	Jo 32	Mi 33	Na 34
Hb 35	Zp 36	Hg 37	Zc 38	Ml 39			Mt 1	Mk 2	Lk 3	Jn 4	Ac 5
Rm 6	1Co 7	2Co 8	Gl 9	Ep 10	Ph 11	Cl 12	1Th 13	2Th 14	1Tm 15	2Tm 16	Ti 17
Pl 18	Hb 19	Js 20	1Pt 21	2Pt 22	1Jn 23	2Jn 24	3Jn 25	Jd 26	Rv 27		

PENTATEUCH [NARRATIVE]	HISTORY [NARRATIVE]	WISDOM WRITINGS	MAJOR PROPHETS	MINOR PROPHETS	
GOSPELS [NARRATIVE]	ACTS [NARRATIVE]	PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES	PAUL'S LETTERS TO INDIVIDUALS	GENERAL LETTERS	LETTER [PROPHECY]

Creation of the Bible Canon

EUSEBIUS LIST OF NT 325 AD [22+5 BOOKS] "HOMOLOGOUMENA"

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5			Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 8	1Sm 9	2Sm 10
1Kg 11	2Kg 12	1Ch 13	2Ch 14	Er 15	Ne 16	Es 17	Jb 18	Ps 19	Pr 20	Ec 21	Sg 22
Is 23	Je 24	Lm 25	Ez 26	Dn 27	Hs 28	Jl 29	Am 30	Ob 31	Jo 32	Mi 33	Na 34
Hb 35	Zp 36	Hg 37	Zc 38	Ml 39			Mt 1	Mk 2	Lk 3	Jn 4	Ac 5
Rm 6	1Co 7	2Co 8	Gl 9	Ep 10	Ph 11	Cl 12	1Th 13	2Th 14	1Tm 15	2Tm 16	Ti 17
Pl 18	Hb 19	Js 20	1Pt 21	2Pt 22	1Jn 23	2Jn 24	3Jn 25	Jd 26	Rv 27		

PENTATEUCH [NARRATIVE]	HISTORY [NARRATIVE]	WISDOM WRITINGS	MAJOR PROPHETS	MINOR PROPHETS	
GOSPELS [NARRATIVE]	ACTS [NARRATIVE]	PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES	PAUL'S LETTERS TO INDIVIDUALS	GENERAL LETTERS	LETTER [PROPHECY]

Creation of the Bible Canon

ATHANASIUS LIST OF NT 367 AD / 3rd COUNCIL OF CARTHAGE 397 AD [27 BOOKS]

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5			Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 8	1Sm 9	2Sm 10
1Kg 11	2Kg 12	1Ch 13	2Ch 14	Er 15	Ne 16	Es 17	Jb 18	Ps 19	Pr 20	Ec 21	Sg 22
Is 23	Je 24	Lm 25	Ez 26	Dn 27	Hs 28	Jl 29	Am 30	Ob 31	Jo 32	Mi 33	Na 34
Hb 35	Zp 36	Hg 37	Zc 38	Ml 39			Mt 1	Mk 2	Lk 3	Jn 4	Ac 5
Rm 6	1Co 7	2Co 8	Gl 9	Ep 10	Ph 11	Cl 12	1Th 13	2Th 14	1Tm 15	2Tm 16	Ti 17
Pl 18	Hb 19	Js 20	1Pt 21	2Pt 22	1Jn 23	2Jn 24	3Jn 25	Jd 26	Rv 27		

PENTATEUCH [NARRATIVE]	HISTORY [NARRATIVE]	WISDOM WRITINGS	MAJOR PROPHETS	MINOR PROPHETS	
GOSPELS [NARRATIVE]	ACTS [NARRATIVE]	PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES	PAUL'S LETTERS TO INDIVIDUALS	GENERAL LETTERS	LETTER [PROPHECY]

Creation of the Bible Canon

MODERN LIST OF PROTESTANT BIBLE BOOKS [66 BOOKS]

Gn 1	Ex 2	Lv 3	Nm 4	Dt 5			Jo 6	Jg 7	Ru 8	1Sm 9	2Sm 10
1Kg 11	2Kg 12	1Ch 13	2Ch 14	Er 15	Ne 16	Es 17	Jb 18	Ps 19	Pr 20	Ec 21	Sg 22
Is 23	Je 24	Lm 25	Ez 26	Dn 27	Hs 28	Jl 29	Am 30	Ob 31	Jo 32	Mi 33	Na 34
Hb 35	Zp 36	Hg 37	Zc 38	Ml 39			Mt 1	Mk 2	Lk 3	Jn 4	Ac 5
Rm 6	1Co 7	2Co 8	Gl 9	Ep 10	Ph 11	Cl 12	1Th 13	2Th 14	1Tm 15	2Tm 16	Ti 17
Pl 18	Hb 19	Js 20	1Pt 21	2Pt 22	1Jn 23	2Jn 24	3Jn 25	Jd 26	Rv 27		

PENTATEUCH [NARRATIVE]	HISTORY [NARRATIVE]	WISDOM WRITINGS	MAJOR PROPHETS	MINOR PROPHETS	
GOSPELS [NARRATIVE]	ACTS [NARRATIVE]	PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES	PAUL'S LETTERS TO INDIVIDUALS	GENERAL LETTERS	LETTER [PROPHECY]

Creation of the Bible Canon

FACT #	NT CANON FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW
1	The New Testament Books are the Earliest Christian Writings We Possess
2	Apocryphal Writings are All Written in the Second Century or Later
3	The New Testament Books Are Unique Because They Are Apostolic Books
4	Some NT Writers Quote Other NT Writers as Scripture
5	The Four Gospels are Well Established by the End of the Second Century
6	At the End of the Second Century, the Muratorian Fragment lists 22 of our 27 NT books
7	Early Christians Often Used Non-Canonical Writings
8	The NT Canon Was Not Decided at Nicea—Nor Any Other Church Council
9	Christians Did Disagree about the Canonicity of Some NT Books
10	Early Christians Believed that Canonical Books were Self-Authenticating

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Creation of the Bible Canon

MYTH #	NT CANON MYTHS YOU SHOULD REJECT
1	The term “canon” can only refer to a fixed, closed list of books
2	Nothing in early Christianity dictated that there would be a canon
3	The New Testament authors did not think they were writing scripture
4	New Testament books were not regarded as scriptural until around 200 AD
5	Early christians disagreed widely over the books which made it into the canon
6	In the Early Stages, Apocryphal Books Were as Popular as the Canonical Books
7	Christians had no basis to distinguish heresy from orthodoxy until the 4 th century
8	Early christianity was an oral religion and therefore resisted writing things down
9	The canonical Gospels were certainly not written by the individuals named in their titles
10	Athanasius’ festal letter (367 AD) is the first complete list of new testament books

Creation of the Bible Canon

The Early Church Father's References to the Books of the New Testament

	Clement of Rome	Justin Martyr	Polycarp	Didache	Papias	Barnabas	Hermas	Aristides	Muratorian Fragment	Athenagoras	Lyons	Clement of Alexandria	Hippolytus	Irenaeus	Tatian	Theophilus	Origen	Tertullian	Cyprian	Ignatius	Eusebius		
Date A. D.	95	100	110	125	130	140	150	175	175	177	177	180	200	200	200	200	230	240	250	250	275	Date A. D.	
Matthew																							Matthew
Mark																							Mark
Luke																							Luke
John																							John
Acts																							Acts
Romans																							Romans
1 Corinthians																							1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians																							2 Corinthians
Galatians																							Galatians
Ephesians																							Ephesians
Philippians																							Philippians
Colossians																							Colossians
1 Thessalonians																							1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians																							2 Thessalonians
1 Timothy																							1 Timothy
2 Timothy																							2 Timothy
Titus																							Titus
Philemon																							Philemon
Hebrews																							Hebrews
James																							James
1 Peter																							1 Peter
2 Peter																							2 Peter
1 John																							1 John
2 John																							2 John
3 John																							3 John
Jude																							Jude
Revelation																							Revelation

Creation of the Bible Canon

Scripture alone is infallible because God is infallible. The church receives the Scripture as God's Word, and the church is not infallible.

“The canon of Scripture is a fallible collection of infallible books” [R. C. Sproul]

Creation of the Bible Canon

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Creation of the Bible Canon

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

We talk of the Bible as being the inspired Word of God:

- Would the men who chose the books to be included in the Bible also have been inspired by God?
- Did the Holy Spirit protect the Bible canon from error?

Creation of the Bible Canon

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

- Should Christians read or study non-canonical books?

Creation of the Bible Canon



Creation of the Bible Canon

BONUS SLIDES

Creation of the Bible Canon

LOST BOOKS

Creation of the Bible Canon

LOST BOOKS OF THE OT

- The Book of the Wars of the Lord.(Num. 21:14-15)
- The Book of Jasher. (Josh. 10:13, 2 Sam. 1:18)
- The Book of the Acts of Solomon. (I Kings 11:41)
- The Chronicles of Nathan the Prophet. (I Chron. 29:29, 2 Chron. 9:29)
- The Chronicles of Gad the Seer. (I Chron. 29:29)
- The Records of Iddo the Seer. (2 Chron. 12:15)
- The Annals of Jehu the Son of Hanani. (2 Chron. 20:34)
- The Book of Records. (Ezra 4:15)
- The Book of the Chronicles-of the Kings of Media and Persia. (Esther 2:23, 6:1, 10:2)
- The Prophecy of Ahijah the Silonite. (2 Chron. 9:29)
- The Visions of Iddo the Seer. (2 Chron. 9:29)
- The Chronicles of Samuel the Seer. (I Chron. 29:29)
- The Records of Shemaiah the Prophet. (2 Chron. 12:15)
- The Records of the Hozai. (2 Chron. 33:19)
- The Writings of David, King of Israel. (2 Chron. 35:4) [Psalms?]
- The Writing of Solomon. (2 Chron. 35:4)
- The Proverbs, Songs and Biology of Solomon. (I Kings 4:32-33) [3000 proverbs, 1005 songs, etc.]
- Jeremiah's Scroll. (Jer. 36) [most thrown in the fire]
- Various unnamed books. (Ex. 17:14, Josh. 18:9, 1 Sam. 10:25, Esther 9:32)

Creation of the Bible Canon

LOST BOOKS OF THE NT

- Paul's Other Corinthian Epistles. (I Cor. 5:9, 11)
- Letters from the Corinthians to Paul. (I Cor. 7:1)
- The Epistle of the Laodiceans. (Col. 4:16)
- Pseudo-Pauline Epistles. (2 Thess. 2:2)
- Other Written Gospels. (Luke 1:1-4)
- The Tradition of the Elders. (Matt. 15:2, 3, 6) [Jewish 'Mishnah'?)
- The Books and the Parchments. (2 Tim. 4:13)

Creation of the Bible Canon

ALMOST BOOKS

Creation of the Bible Canon

ALMOST MADE IT INTO NT CANON

- Revelation of Peter (lost till 1886!)
- Epistle of Clement to the Corinthians
- Epistle of Barnabas
- The Shepherd of Hermas
- The Didache

Creation of the Bible Canon

GNOSTIC BOOKS

Creation of the Bible Canon

EXAMPLES OF CRAZINESS

Simon Peter said to them: "Let Mary go away from us, for women are not worthy of life." Jesus said: "Lo, I shall lead her, so that I may make her a male, that she too may become a living spirit, resembling you males. For every woman who makes herself a male will enter the kingdom of heaven" [Gospel of Thomas]

Creation of the Bible Canon

EXAMPLES OF CRAZINESS

The son of Annas the scribe was standing there with Jesus. Taking a branch from a willow tree, he dispersed the waters which Jesus had gathered. When Jesus saw what had happened, he became angry and said to him, "You godless, brainless moron, what did the ponds and waters do to you? Watch this now: you are going to dry up like a tree and you will never produce leaves or roots or fruit." And immediately, this child withered up completely. Then, Jesus departed and returned to Joseph's house. The parents of the one who had been withered up, however, wailed for their young child as they took his remains away. Then, they went to Joseph and accused him, "You are responsible for the child who did this." [Infancy Gospel of Thomas]

Creation of the Bible Canon



Creation of the Bible Canon