

HOW WE GOT THE BIBLE, Week 3

Week 1 INSPIRATION How it was written	Week 2 TRANSMISSION How it was preserved	Week 3 CANONIZATION How it was collected	Week 4 TRANSLATION How it was translated
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“Write this down” (i.e. Ezekiel 24:2; Revelation 21:5)

Q: How do we know which writings belong in the Bible and which don't?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joshua 10:13 • Numbers 21:14 • Jude 1:14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Corinthians 15:33 • 1 Corinthians 5:9 • Colossians 4:16 |
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“Canon” (not cannon!): _____ (καλών in Galatians 6:16)

CRITERIA to recognize CANONICITY¹

1. Authority: Prophets & Apostles (*Eph. 2:20*)
2. Credential (*Heb. 2:4; 2 Cor. 10:18*)
3. Truthful (*1 Jn. 4:1*)
4. Transformative (*2 Tim. 3:16-17; Heb. 4:12*)
5. Early Acceptance (*2 Pet. 3:15-16; 1 Tim 5:18 / Luke 10:7*)

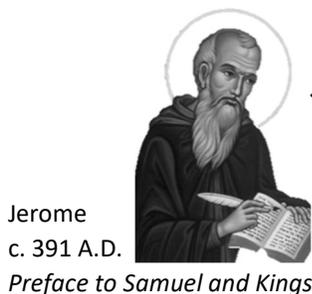
INSUFFICIENT CRITERIA

1. Old
2. Reliable Author
3. Hebrew Language
4. General Value
5. Church Use

“Apocrypha”: _____ / “Deuterocanon”: _____

The Septuagint LXX (3rd-2nd century B.C.) translated Hebrew Scriptures into Greek;
the LXX translated many other Hebrew religious writings into Greek as well.

The Latin Vulgate (4th century A.D.) used LXX, including some of the other writings but not as canon.



Jerome
c. 391 A.D.
Preface to Samuel and Kings

*This preface to the Scriptures may serve as a “helmeted” introduction to all the books which we turn from Hebrew into Latin, so that we may be assured that what is not found in our list must be placed amongst the **Apocryphal writings**. Wisdom, therefore, which generally bears the name of Solomon, and the book of Jesus the Son of Sirach, and Judith, and Tobias, and the Shepherd are **not in the canon**. The first book of Maccabees I have found to be Hebrew, the second is Greek, as can be proved from the very style. Seeing that all this is so, I beseech you, my reader, not to think that my labors are in any sense intended to disparage the old translators.*

SUMMARY: While the recognition of the canon (or “rule”) of the final books of Scripture was not always easy or entirely clear, God ultimately holds the ruler (Ezekiel 40) and keeps His words.

¹ These criteria should not be misunderstood as a tidy checklist, as recognition of the canon was often more organic. This list is adapted from *From God to Us: How We Got Our Bible* (Norman L. Geisler & William E. Nix), pp.92ff.

<i>Jewish TaNaKh</i>		<i>Old Testament Christian Order</i>	<i>Apocrypha (books vary) c. 200s B.C. – 100 A.D.</i>
<i>Torah (Law)</i>	<i>Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy</i>	<i>Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy</i>	<i>1 Esdras (or “3 Esdras”) 2 Esdras (or “4 Esdras”) Tobit Judith</i>
<i>Nevi'im (Prophets)</i>	<i>Joshua Judges Samuel Kings Jeremiah Ezekiel Isaiah The 12: Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi</i>	<i>Joshua Judges Ruth 1 Samuel 2 Samuel 1 Kings 2 Kings 1 Chronicles 2 Chronicles Ezra Nehemiah Esther Job Psalms Proverbs Isaiah Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel</i>	<i>Esther additions Wisdom (of Solomon) Sirach (or “Ecclesiasticus”) Baruch Epistle of Jeremiah Daniel additions: Susanna Bel and the Dragon Song of the Three Young Men Prayer of Manasseh 1 Maccabees 2 Maccabees 3 Maccabees 4 Maccabees</i>
<i>Ketuvim (Writings)</i>	<i>Psalms (with Ruth) Job Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon Lamentations Daniel Esther Ezra-Nehemiah Chronicles</i>	<i>Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi</i>	

*“Then [Jesus] said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the **Law of Moses** and the **Prophets** and the **Psalms** must be fulfilled.”*

(Luke 24:44)

*“...from the blood of righteous Abel (**Gen. 4:8**) to the blood of Zechariah (**2 Chron. 24:20-21**) the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar.”*

(Matthew 23:35)