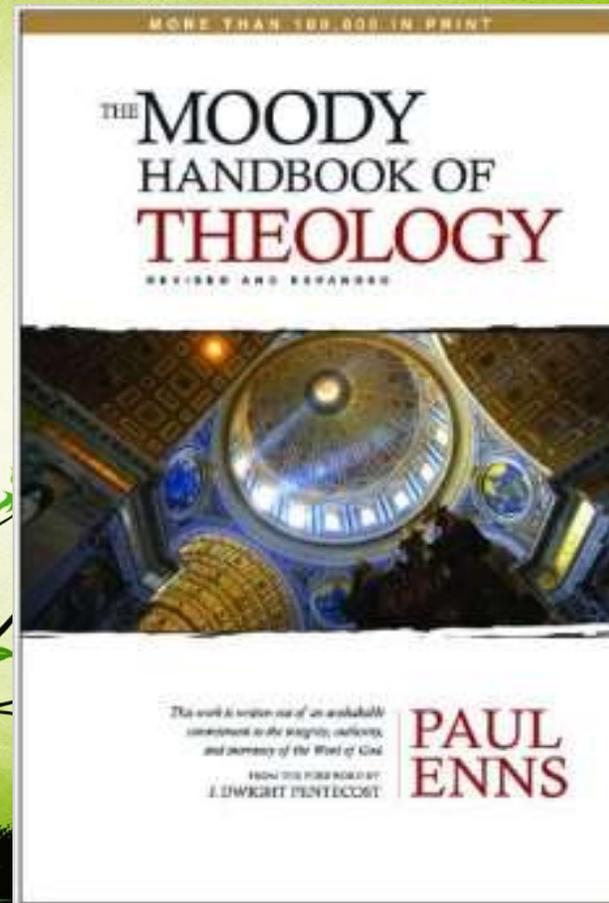
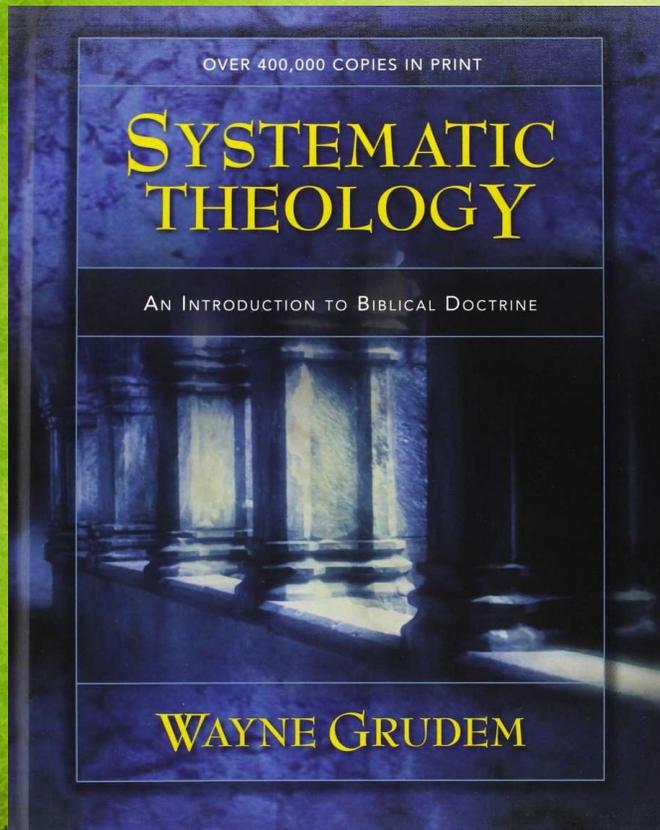




Doctrines

Resources



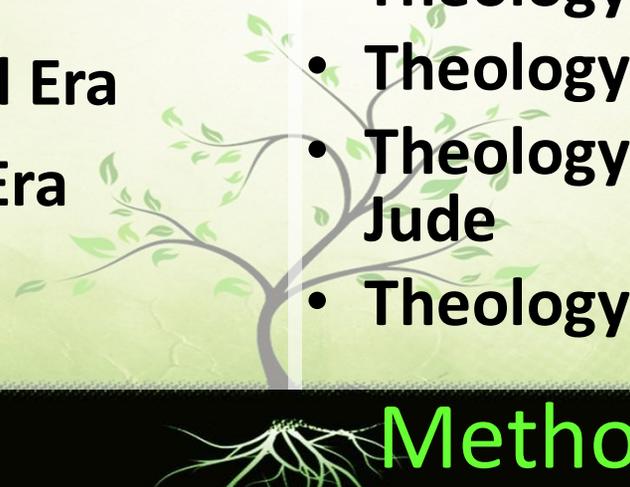
Biblical Theology

Old Testament Theology

- Edenic Era
- Noahic Era
- Patriarchal Era
- Mosaic Era
- Monarchial Era
- Prophetic Era

New Testament Theology

- Theology of the Synoptics
- Theology of Acts
- Theology of James
- Theology of Paul
- Theology of Hebrews
- Theology of Peter and Jude
- Theology of John

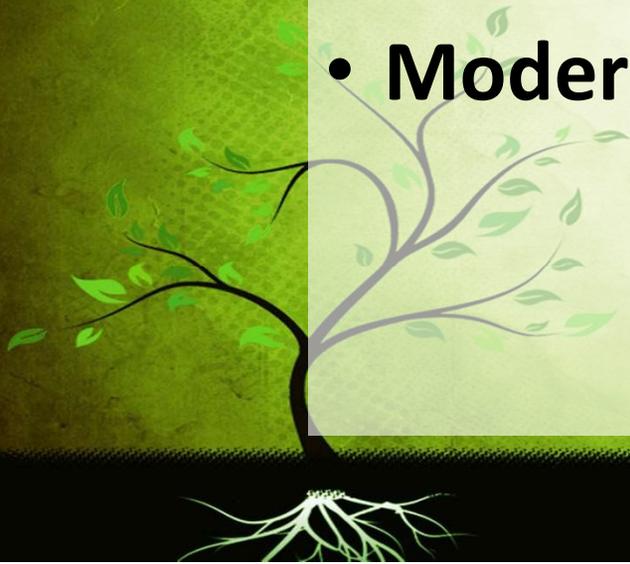


Methods of Organization

Historical Theology

- Ancient Theology
- Medieval Theology
- Reformation Theology
- Modern Theology

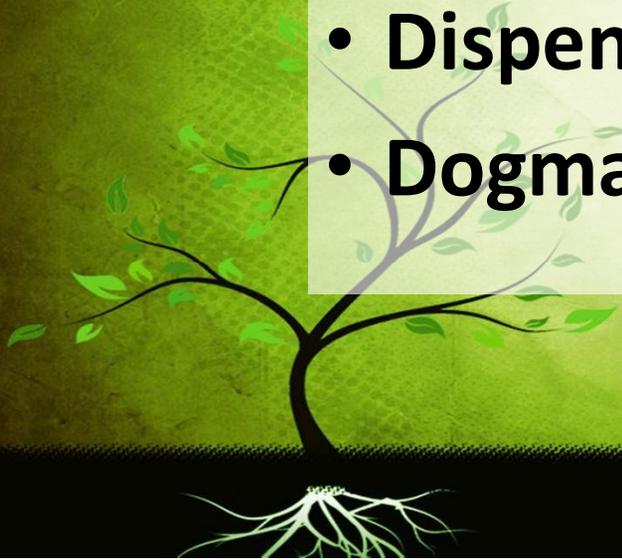
Methods of Organization



Dogmatic Theology

- **Calvinistic Theology**
- **Arminian Theology**
- **Covenant Theology**
- **Dispensational Theology**
- **Dogmatic Roman Catholic Theology**

Methods of Organization



Contemporary Theology

- Liberal Theology
 - Neo-orthodox Theology
 - Radical Theology
 - Historicist Theology
 - Socialist Theology
 - Catholic Theology
 - Conservative Theology
 - Evangelical Theology
 - Charismatic Theology
 - Emerging Church
 - Postmodern Theology
 - Post-evangelical Theology
 - Reformed Theology
- 

Systematic Theology

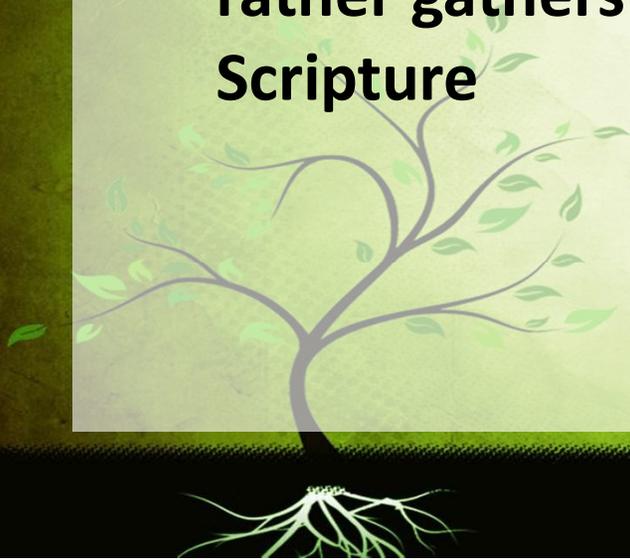
- Bibliology
- Theology Proper
- Christology
- Pneumatology
- Angelology

- Anthropology
- Hamartiology
- Soteriology
- Ecclesiology
- Eschatology



• **Systematic Theology**

- Taking what is known about particular aspects of theology and organizing them into a systematic manner based on topics.
- Does not follow a particular book of the Bible or writer, but rather gathers information from multiple locations in Scripture



“Systematic Theology may be defined as the collecting, scientifically arranging, comparing, exhibiting, and defending of all facts from any and every source concerning God and His works.”



- Lewis Sperry Chafer

“The science of the facts of divine revelation so far as those facts concern the nature of God and our relation to Him, as His creatures, as sinners, and as the subjects of redemption. All these facts, as just remarked, are in the Bible.”



- Charles Hodge

- **Theology should be...**

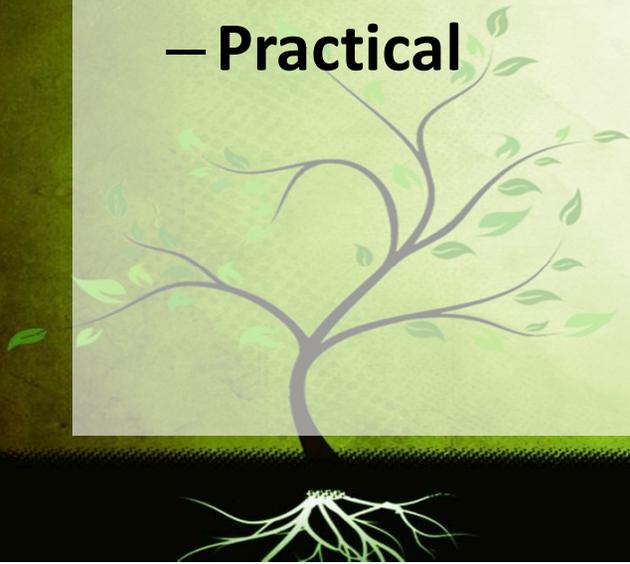
- **Biblical**

- **Systematic**

- **Relevant**

- **Contemporary**

- **Practical**



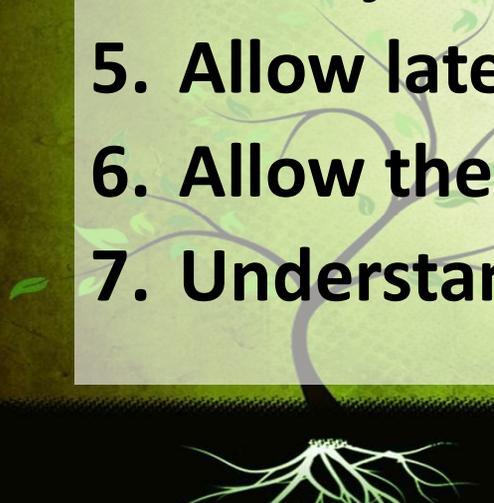
- Millard Erickson

Why do we need systematic theology?

1. As an explanation for why I am a Christian.
2. As an apologetic for my faith.
3. As a method to grow in the faith.

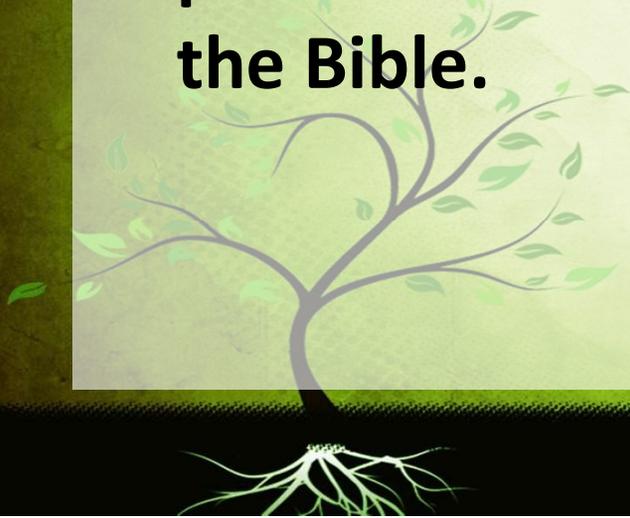


What should be included in systematic theology?

- 1. A proper view of inspiration and inerrancy.**
 - 2. The ability to interpret Scripture properly.**
 - 3. Should logically drawn conclusions.**
 - 4. Be objective, let Scripture speak for itself.**
 - 5. Allow later passages to clarify earlier ones.**
 - 6. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide in truth.**
 - 7. Understanding that I will never know it all.**
- 

Where should I get my theology?

- 1. Our first source for all theology should be found in the Word of God.**
- 2. Other sources, such as creeds and confessions, can prove valuable, but should not take supremacy over the Bible.**





The study of the Bible

Bibliology

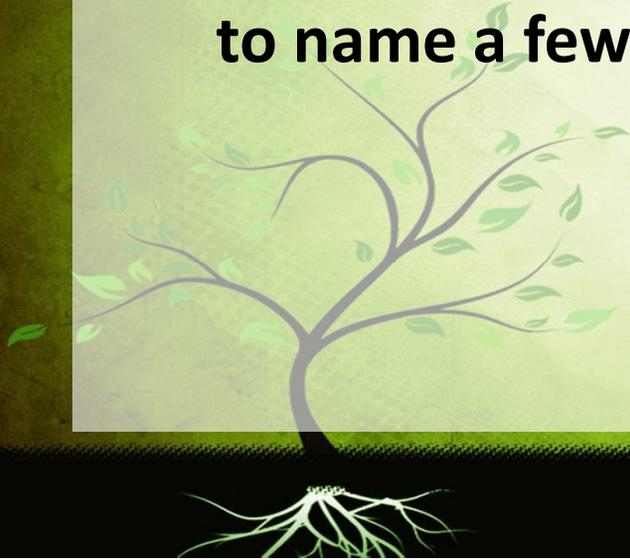
Common words and their meaning

- **Bible** – The Greek word *biblion*, which means book or roll, derived from *byblos*, which is the papyrus plant that was used to make paper.
- **Scripture** – *graphe* (Gr.) or writing. In the NT it was used to refer to the “writings” which was part of the OT, the Law, the Prophets, and the Writings. Later usage of the word came mean the OT as a whole.

- **The Bible claims to be God's Word.**
 - 3,800x “God said” or “Thus saith the Lord”
- **The Apostles recognized Scripture.**
 - Paul – 1 Cor. 14.37
 - Peter – 2 Pet. 1.16-21
 - John – 1 John 4.6
- **The church recognized Paul's words as Scripture.**
 - 1 Thess.2.13
- **Witnesses in history verify portions of God's word.**
 - Jesus, Moses, David, John, and Paul.

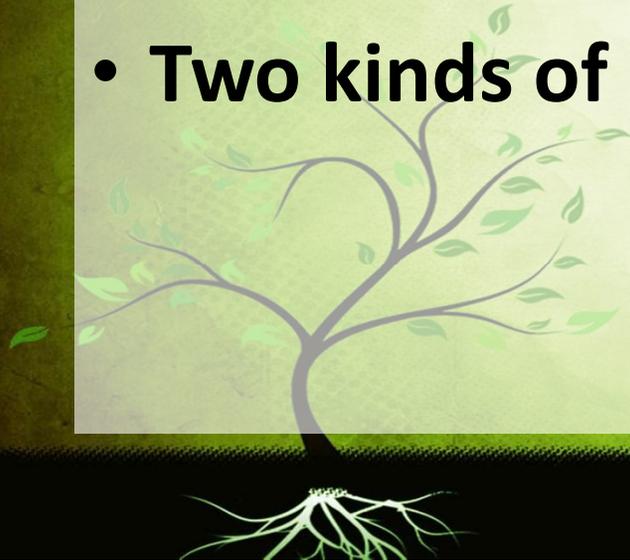
Bibliology – Divine Origin

- **The Bible is continuous in its teaching.**
- **Penned over a period of 1,500 years on 3 continents by 40 authors of all different kinds.**
 - **Political leaders, military leaders, shepherds, kings, prime ministers, farmers, tax collectors, a rabbi, a fisherman – just to name a few.**



Bibliology – Divine Origin

- **Revelation – God unveiling Himself to mankind.**
 - Without this, there would be no theology and there would be no knowledge of God.
- **God has revealed Himself through creation, history, man’s conscience, and Scripture.**
- **Two kinds of revelation: General and Special**



Bibliology – Divine Revelation

General Revelation

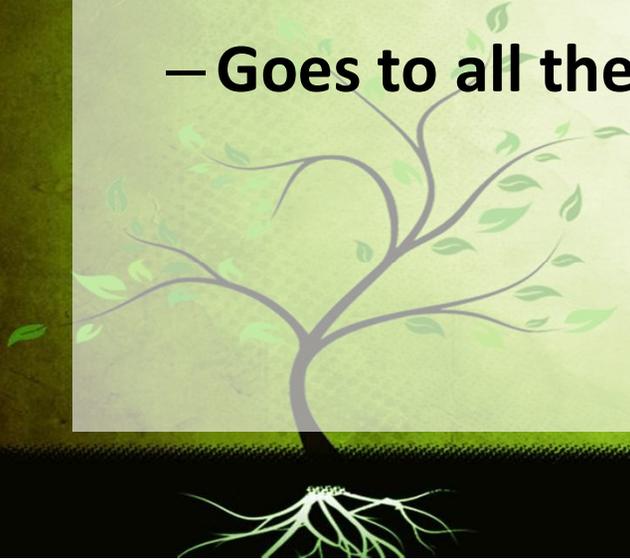
- **That which God has revealed to all mankind.**
- **This is the baseline for special revelation.**



Bibliology – Divine Revelation

God is revealed in nature.

- **Psalm 19.1-6 shows us that this revelation is**
 - **Continuous “day unto day”**
 - **Never ceases “night unto night”**
 - **No words are used “no speech, language, or voice”**
 - **Goes to all the earth “all the earth”**



Bibliology – General Revelation

God is revealed in humans.

- **A conscience is given to everyone as a means for determining wrong from right.**
 - Rom. 1.17-20; 2.14-15
- **The design of the human body with all of its complex systems point to a wise Creator.**



Bibliology – General Revelation

God is revealed in His providence.

- **God provides food and water for humans.**
 - Acts 14.15-17, Matt. 5.45, and Gen. 8.22
- **God raises and brings down leaders.**
 - Dan. 2.21 and Pro. 21.1



Bibliology – General Revelation

General revelation provides man with an awareness that God does exist, however it is not sufficient to provide enough revelation for salvation. That requires special revelation.



Bibliology – General Revelation

- **Special revelation is narrowly focused on what God has revealed through the Scriptures and Jesus Christ.**
- **All humans are able to possess general revelation from within, but special revelation is given to them from God.**



Bibliology – Special Revelation

It is absolutely necessary that we believe in inspiration.

- **Inspiration assures us that our special revelation is from God.**
- **Inspiration is defined as the Holy Spirit superintending (directing or controlling) over a human author to produce the Word of God.**



Bibliology - Inspiration

Inspiration includes:

- **The Holy Spirit controlling the author**
- **The author using his personality**
- **Truth written down without error**
- **Words chosen carefully**
- **Entirely inspired original manuscripts**
 - **Sometimes called autographs**

Bibliology - Inspiration

The “go to” for inspiration

- 2 Tim. 3.16 – *Theopneustos* “God-breathed”
- Appears only here – a “hapax legomenon”



Bibliology - Inspiration

Ways not to view inspiration

- Natural inspiration – authors were normal scholars, their books just became important.
- Spiritual illumination – the writers were inspired men, but their writings were not.
- Partial\dynamic inspiration – sections related to faith and practice are inspired, but not those referring to science and history.
 - Rejects both that the words are inspired as well as the whole book.

Ways not to view inspiration

- **Conceptual inspiration** – the concepts or topics were inspired but not the words.
- **Divine dictation** – that God told the authors exactly what to write at all times, like an amanuenses (secretary).
 - **No room for personality**
- **Neoorthodox opinion** – as you read the Bible and “experience” God revealing Himself, it becomes inspired.
 - **You decide what is “God’s Word” and what isn’t.**

Ways we should view Biblical inspiration

- **Verbal Plenary inspiration**

- Verbal = words
- Plenary = whole

- **Matthew 5.18**

- Jot = the smallest letter – I
- Tittle = the smallest stroke of a pen – Q O

Biblical inerrancy

- **Free from error in the original manuscripts.**
- **“Truth can and does include approximations, free quotations, language of appearances, and different accounts of the same event as long as those do not contradict.” — James Montgomery Boice**
- **If the Bible contains errors, then we impugn the character of God.**

- 
- **Variety in styles**
 - **Different details of one event**
 - **Variance from verbatim writing**
 - **Variance in grammar usage**
 - **Allowing problem passages**
 - **No contradictions**
 - **Reflecting into translations**

Inerrancy includes:

- **How could an error teach truth?**
 - Is it right or is it wrong?
- **How could a holy God allow errors in His Word?**
- **Why doesn't everyone agree on what the "errors" are?**

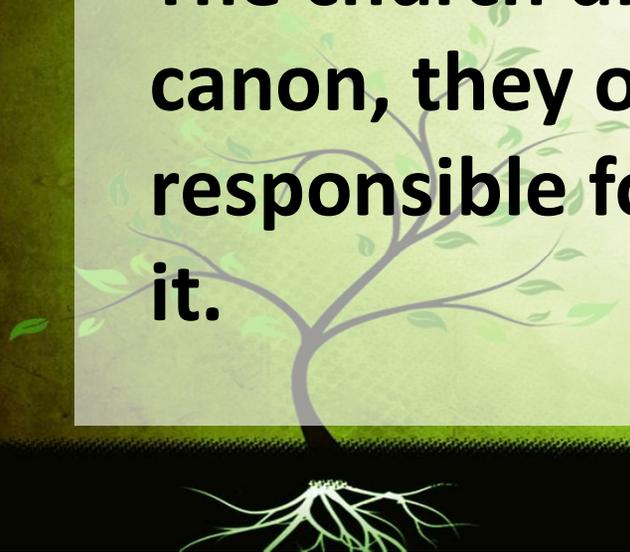


Questions to ask

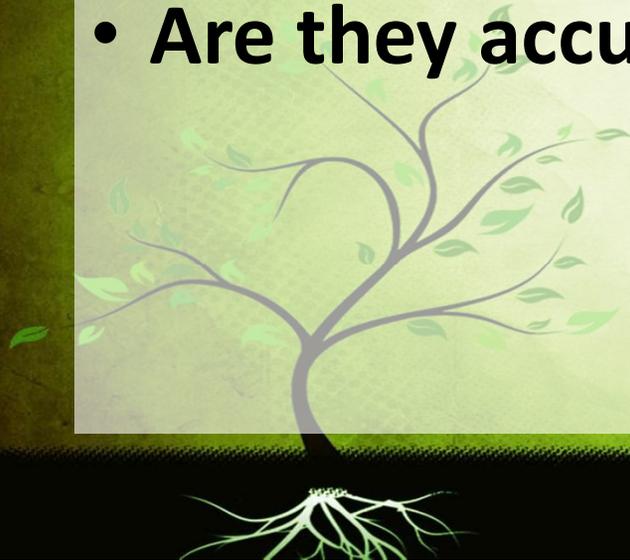


Canonicity

- **Canon – the listing of the inspired books**
 - Hebrew “qaneh” – a measuring rod
 - Greek “kanon” – a rule
- **The church did not determine the books for the canon, they only recognized them. God is responsible for determining which books made it.**



- **Was is Apostolic in origin?**
- **Was it authentic and authoritative?**
- **Has is been used by the early church?**
- **Has the church universally accepted?**
- **Are they accurate and orthodox?**



Canonicity Tests Given

- **OT Canon**

- Began in Exodus 31.18

- Ended with post-exilic prophets: Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

- **Included**

- Law (Pentateuch)

- Prophets

- Narratives – Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings

- Oracular – Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Isaiah, Book of the 12

- Writings

- Lyric\wisdom – Ruth\Psalms, Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Lamentations

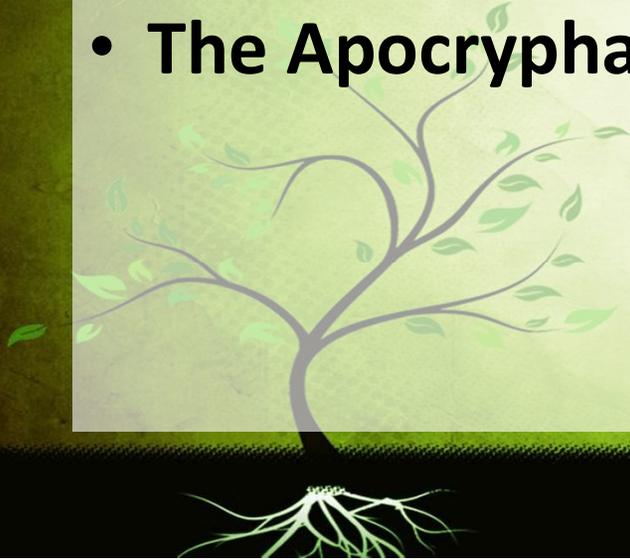
- Narrative – Daniel, Esther, Ezra\Nehemiah, Chronicles

- **Upon Israel's return to Jerusalem, the OT canon would have been closed about 435 BC.**
- **The earliest listing of the OT canon is by Melito, bishop of Sardis in AD 170.**
 - 38 books mentioned , Esther is omitted
- **However, other books are written during the inner-testamental period.**
- **Athanasius (AD 367) said these books were not for the canon, but for new converts.**



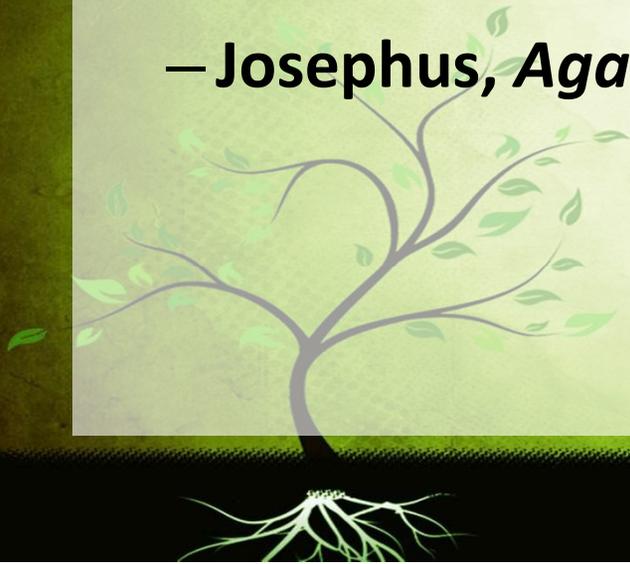
Septuagint

- 250 BC
- Used by apostles
- LXX (70 translators)
- The Apocrypha may have been included



“From Artaxerxes to our own times a 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”

– Josephus, *Against Apion*



“things that are hidden”

- **Includes**

- **1&2 Esdras, Tobit, Judith, the Rest of Esther, Wisdom of Solomon, Ecclesiasticus, Baruch (including the Epistle of Jeremiah), the Song of the Three Holy Children, Susanna, Bel and Dragon, Prayer of Manasseh, 1&2 Maccabees**

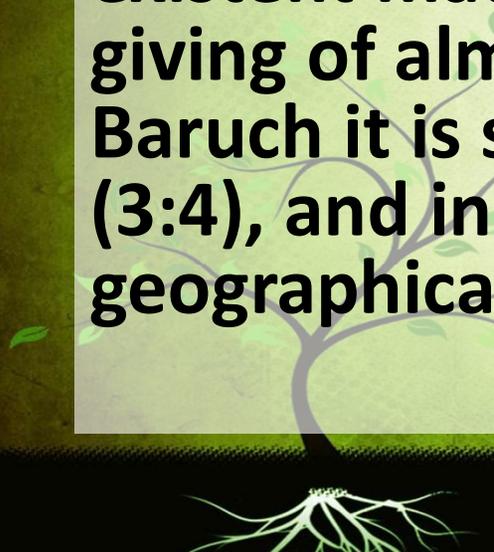
- **Included by Jerome in the Latin Vulgate (AD 404), but called books of the church not the canon.**

- **The Old Latin was translated from the LXX, Jerome used the Hebrew Canon.**

- **Never used by the Jews as Scripture**
- **Never used by Josephus as Scripture**
- **Never used by Jesus and the Apostles**
- **They don't claim the same authority as the OT**
- **They are inconsistent with the Canon**

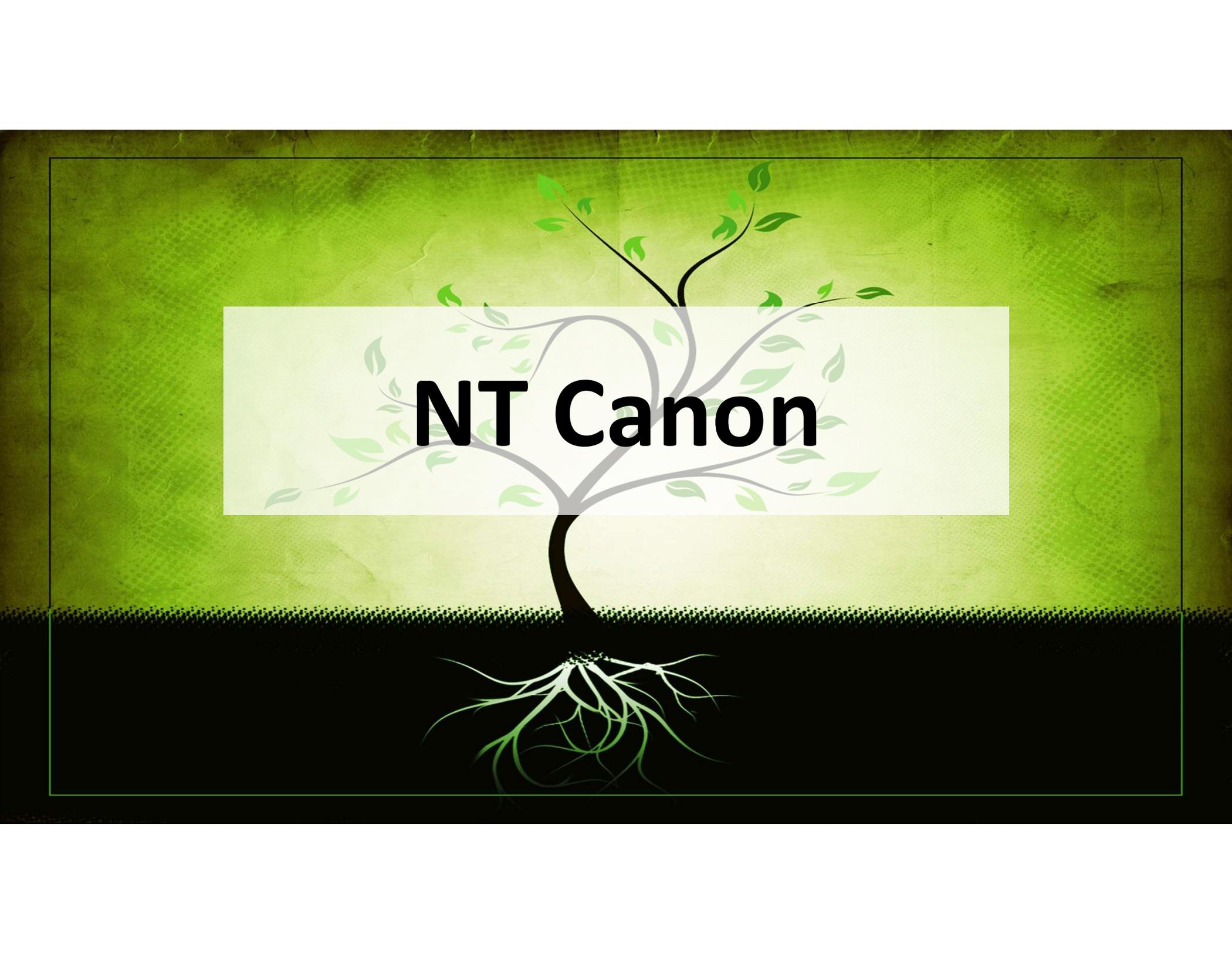


Why not the Apocrypha?



“Both Judith and Tobit contain historical, chronological, and geographical errors. The books justify falsehood and deception and make salvation to depend upon works of merit.... Ecclesiasticus and the Wisdom of Solomon inculcate a morality based upon expediency. Wisdom teaches the creation of the world out of pre-existent matter (11:17). Ecclesiasticus teaches that the giving of alms makes atonement for sin (3:30). In Baruch it is said that God hears the prayers of the dead (3:4), and in 1 Maccabees there are historical and geographical errors.”

E.J. Young



NT Canon

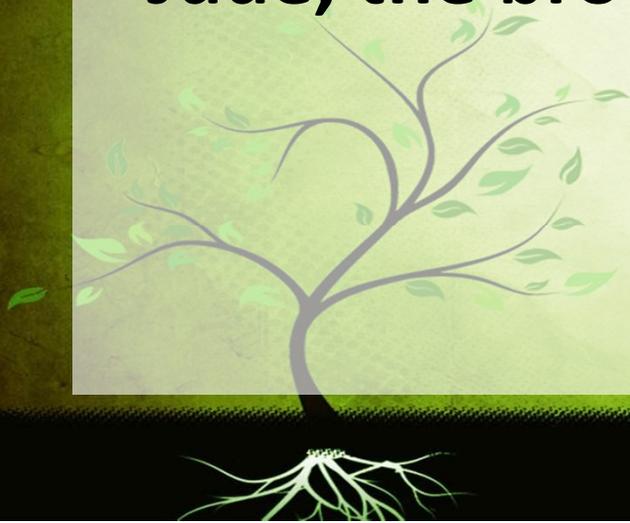
- **Manuscript** – a complete work such as a book of a collection
- **Fragment** – a small scrap, sometimes containing only a few verses
- **Codex** – a collection of manuscripts into a large volume
- **Lectionary** – a printed church worship manual containing scheduled scripture readings

NT Canon

- **Began with the gospels (probably Matthew)**
- **The Holy Spirit is the origin of the NT canon**
– John 14:26
- **Ended with Revelation – 22:18-19**



- **22 of the 27 NT are written by Apostles which the early church collectively accepted.**
- **Mark, Luke, Acts, Hebrews, and Jude**
- **Mark, Luke, and Acts are accepted early.**
- **Jude, the brother of James and Jesus.**



Questioned because of the quote from the book of 1 Enoch 1:9.

- **An early Jewish writing**
- **Does not disqualify the book of Jude from the canon**
- **Does not qualify 1 Enoch for the canon.**
- **Points out that this particular reference to a non-biblical book is true.**

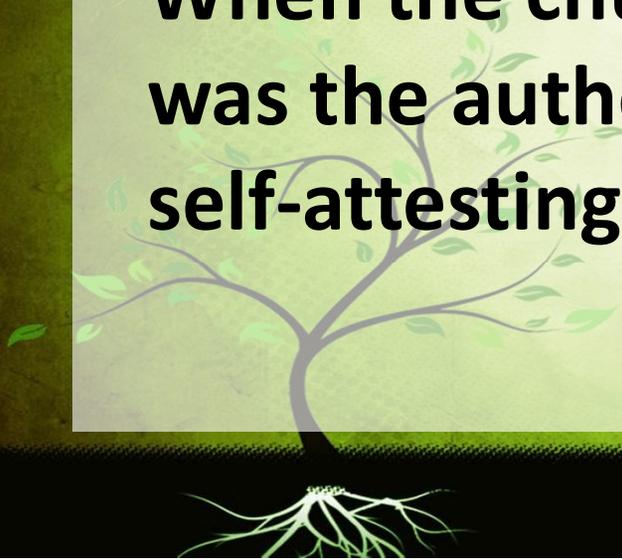
Why not Jude?

- Accepted early as Pauline
- “The intrinsic qualities of the book itself must have finally convinced early readers... that whoever its human author may have been, its ultimate author can only have been God himself. The majestic glory of Christ shines forth from the pages of the epistle to the Hebrews so brightly that no believer who reads it seriously should ever want to question its place in the canon.”

- Grudem

Hebrews

- **When books were proven to be authored by Apostles, then they were given canonicity.**
- **Mark, Luke, Acts were generally accepted because of the Apostles testimony.**
- **When the church studied the books to see if God was the author, these books were considered self-attesting.**



- **Polycarp (follower of John)**
 - Martyred in AD 155
- **Irenaeus (follower of Polycarp)**
 - Roman Bishop in AD 177
 - Quotes from all but about 5 NT books



- **Council of Jamnia AD 90-100**

- No records of what occurred.
- Not to decide what should be included.
- To discuss those already included.



- **Muratorian Canon AD 150**

- First list of books in the NT received by the church
- Did not include 1 and 2 Peter, James, and Hebrews

- **The church only ever used 4 gospels**

- No more than a dozen or so other “gospels” exist

- **By AD 180, 22 of 27 NT books were universally accepted**

- James, Jude, 2 & 3 John, 2 Peter, Hebrews, and Revelation
- Only a few churches had struggles with these.



- **The two earliest translations were the Syriac and the Old Latin. Each of these translations was completed by the year A.D. 170.**
- **The Syriac churches were located in the eastern Roman Empire. A translation of the books of the New Testament, known as the Peshitta, was made into Syriac at an early date. This translation included all of the present books of the New Testament except 2 Peter, 2 and 3 John, Jude, and Revelation.**
- **The books omitted in the Peshitta were originally sent to destinations in the western part of the Roman Empire. This explains their omission in the eastern part of the empire. Eventually all of these books were accepted in the east.**

- **The New Testament was also translated into Latin in the second century. The Old Latin New Testament contains every book except Hebrews, James, 1 and 2 Peter. These writings were originally sent to the eastern part of the Roman Empire. Eventually the churches in the west accepted these books as Scripture.**
- **Therefore, since A.D. 170 there has been consensus on nineteen of the twenty-seven books. Only Hebrews, James, 1,2 Peter, 2,3, John, Jude and Revelation were not universally attested.**

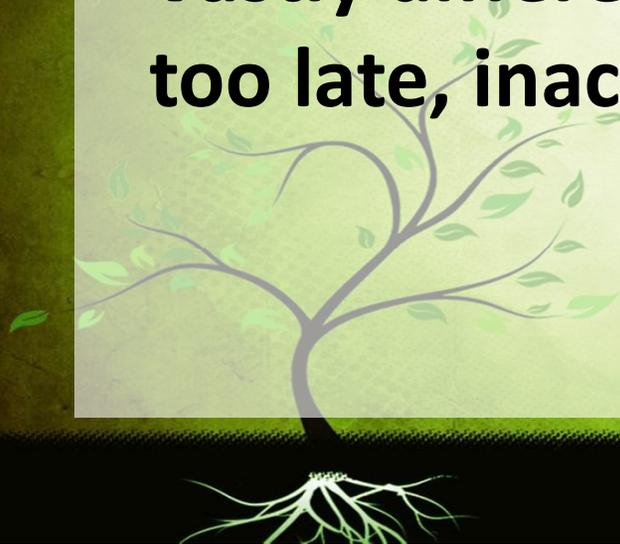
- **AD 150 Muratorian Canon – 24**
- **AD 180 Irenaeus' testimony – 23**
- **AD 240 Origen of Alexandria – 27**
- **AD 325 Eusebius of Caesarea – 27**
 - 22 unquestioned and 5 widely used
 - Advisor to Constantine
- **AD 367 Athanasius of Alexandria – 27**
 - Identical to modern lists
- **AD 397 Council of Carthage**

- 1. Originals were scattered across the Empire.**
- 2. No scroll could contain more than 1 or 2 books.**
- 3. 1st century Christians were expecting Christ.**
- 4. No one leader dominated the others.**
- 5. Early Christians all assumed the authority of Scripture.**
- 6. Only when false writings arise are the true writings appreciated.**

Why did it take so long?

Pseudepigrapha

- **60 documents**
 - Preaching of Peter, Acts of Peter, Apocalypse of Peter, Gospel of Thomas, Epistle to the Laodiceans, etc.
- **Vastly different, unused by the church, written too late, inaccurate details.**

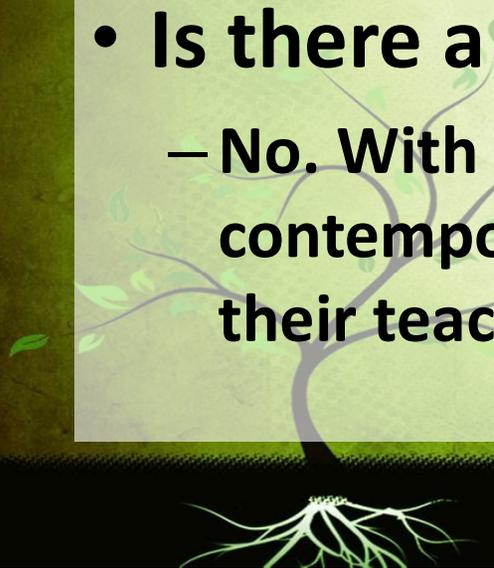


False Writings

- **Codex Sinaiticus – complete NT AD 350**
 - From Alexandria found on Sinai
- **Chester Beatty Papyri – 15 books c. AD 200**
- **John Rylands Papyrus – 5 verses, c. AD 125**
 - Egypt
- **Qumran fragment 7Q5 – AD 68**
 - Mark's gospel
 - Dead Sea in 1955

Available texts

- **Was something included that maybe should not have been included?**
 - No. Through thousands of years of faithful believers following the Spirit, something would have been noticed by now.
- **Is there a book out there we are missing?**
 - No. With all the extra-canonical books out there, none are contemporaries with the others nor are they orthodox in their teachings.



Critical Questions