



COMING UP ... NOV 18 Job part 1 NOV 25 NO CLASS DEC 2 Job part 2 DEC 9 Job part 3

## What does the Bible say about itself?

"The Bible, according to its own claims, is breathed from God. To maintain that there are flaws or errors in it is the same as declaring that there are flaws or errors in God himself." –E.J. Young

"If the Bible does not witness to its own infallibility, then we have no right to believe that it is infallible." –John Murray

"God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?" Numbers 23:19

"The words of the Lord are **pure words**, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times." Psalm 12:6

"Every word of God proves true ..." Proverbs 30:5

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." Matthew 24:35

"And now, O Lord God, you are God, and your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to your servant." 2 Samuel 7:28

"... it is impossible for God to lie." Hebrews 6:18

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness ..." 2 Timothy 3:16

"Scripture cannot be broken" John 10:35

"For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." 2 Peter 1:21

"Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, **through the living and abiding word of God**; for 'All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but **the word of the Lord remains forever.**' **And this word is the good news that was preached to you.**" 1 Peter 1:22-25

"And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For **no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.**" 2 Peter 1:19-21

## What did Jesus believe about the Bible?

He believed the Scriptures were useful.

He believed the Scriptures were historically accurate.

He believed the Scriptures should be taught and studied.

He believed the Scriptures were worth submitting your life to.

## Is the Bible really inerrant?

*Definitions:*

**Inerrant:** "Exempt from error, free from mistake." This definition does not describe any Bible that we use; instead, it is describing only the original autographs.

"The inerrancy of Scripture means that Scripture in the original manuscripts does not affirm anything that is contrary to fact." –Wayne Grudem

The Bible tells the truth about everything it talks about.

## Misunderstandings of inerrancy

It must hold to a strict adherence to the rules of grammar.

It must not have figures of speech or use common literary genres.

- It demands historical precision.
- It demands the technical language of modern science.
- It demands verbal exactness in the citation of the OT by the NT.
- It demands that the sayings of Jesus must contain the exact words of Jesus.
- It demands an exhaustive comprehensiveness of any single account.
- It demands that the sources used by the writers are infallible and inerrant.
- It demands that all copies of the original autographs must be inerrant as well.

**Arguments against inerrancy**

***"We don't have the original manuscripts."***

*Answer:* For over 99% of the Bible we know what the original manuscripts say. Of the 1% that has variations, they affect the meaning little, if at all.

Dr. Timothy Jones says that "the New Testament text is the best preserved text of the ancient world."

<b>Manuscript Evidence for Ancient Writings</b>				
<b>Author</b>	<b>Written</b>	<b>Earliest Fragment/Copy</b>	<b>Time Span in Years</b>	<b>Number of Manuscripts</b>
Caesar	100 to 44 B.C.	A.D. 900	1,000	10
Plato	427 to 347 B.C.	A.D. 900	1,200	7
Thucydides	460 to 400 B.C.	A.D. 900	1,300	8
Tacitus	A.D. 100	A.D. 1100	1,000	20
Suetonius	A.D. 75 to 160	A.D. 950	800	8
Homer (Iliad)	900 B.C.	400 B.C.	500	643
New Testament	A.D. 40 to 100	A.D. 125	25 to 50	24,000

Information in this chart can be found in various sources. This chart was adapted from *Christian Apologetics* by Norman Geisler (p. 307) and *Evidence That Demands a Verdict* by Josh McDowell (pp. 42, 43).

***"The Bible has contradictions in it."***

*Answer:* The first question I would ask is, "Show me where." Oftentimes, when you're able to look at the passage in detail (especially in the original languages) you can solve the dilemma. It's also helpful to refer to commentaries as aids along the way.

"The inerrancy of Scripture is not dependent upon our ability to provide, in every case, a rational explanation of difficulties encountered." –Roger Nicole

***"The Bible is only authoritative for faith and practice."***

These critics say that the Bible is only concerned with "faith and practice." They leave open the possibility that the Bible will make errors regarding historical details and scientific facts.

*Answer:* Paul says, "All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for us" (2 Tim 3:16). In Romans 15 Paul says, "whatever was written" in the OT was "written for our instruction" (Rom 15:4). Jesus says that the disciples are "foolish men" because they are "slow of heart to believe all that the prophets had spoken" (Lk 24:25).

**Problems with denying inerrancy**

If we deny inerrancy, how can we put our full trust in anything the Bible says?

Denying inerrancy puts our minds in authority over Scripture because we will be passing judgment on God's Word, instead of God's Word passing judgment on us.

**Who decided which books to include?**

What was the criteria for inclusion?

Was it written by a prophet/apostle?

Does it fit with the rest of Scripture?

Has it been consistently accepted and used by the people of God?

Does it display the power of God to change lives?

## The Apocrypha

Added to the Bible at the Council of Trent in 1546

Contained numerous historical and theological errors

Neither Jesus nor any other writer of the New Testament referred to them

## Gnostic Gospels

Not written by the authors credited. Written much later than the Gospels

Inconsistent with the four Gospels

Some accounts are simply ridiculous

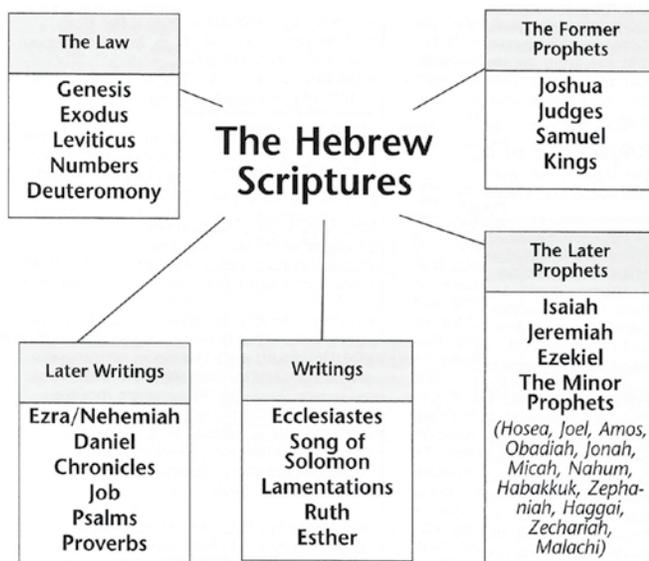
FOR NEXT WEEK: **Job 1-2**

**AUDIO & HANDOUTS ON OUR WEBSITE:** [www.ccbcfamily.org/sermons/old-testament-survey](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/sermons/old-testament-survey)  
**AUDIO PODCASTS (no handouts) ON ITUNES:** search "Christ Chapel Bible Church Old Testament 2018"

## How Did We Get the Bible?

### The Hebrew Scriptures

At first there were just the Hebrew Scriptures. The Hebrew Scriptures are the same as the Christian Old Testament, but arranged under three headings—Law, Prophets and Writings. This is more of a chronological arrangement, reflecting the three stages in which the Scriptures were gathered together. First came the Law of Moses, then the work of the prophets and finally the miscellaneous writings. They group some of the books together that the Christian Bible splits up. Samuel, Chronicles and Kings are each one book, rather than two; and all the minor prophets are brought together in one book. Thus the Hebrew version has twenty-four books, where the Christian Old Testament has thirty-nine.



### The oral tradition

The early Church used the Jewish Scriptures, probably singing from the Psalms and reading the passages to see how they pointed to Jesus. But in addition they told stories of Jesus' life on earth and shared memories and favorite quotes. These were spoken memories—an oral tradition—that were passed on from group to group, from one eyewitness to another. In the early days the Church was restricted to a fairly limited geographical location, many of the eyewitnesses were still alive and the followers believed strongly that the return of Jesus was imminent. For these reasons, they probably did not feel the need to write the accounts down.

### The first accounts

After a while, however, the Church began to spread throughout Asia Minor. Similarly, it became apparent that the Lord's return was not going to be quite as quick as had been anticipated and the original eyewitnesses began to die off (or were killed). Thus it became urgent that these stories and recollections be gathered together so that new converts would have something to tell them about the story of Jesus. So various people began to write down their own accounts, drawing on a range of material and their own observations.

### In the mail

At the same time, well-known figures such as Paul, Peter and John began to write to different churches helping them to solve problems and offering spiritual advice. There were other documents by respected figures in the Church—leaders such as Irenaeus and Polycarp. These letters, which contained a lot of valuable teaching and insight, were collected and copied and passed around the early Church.

### True or false

So far, so good. But then other documents began to be circulated, fake "gospels" full of fantastic details and strange stories. Some of these were written by opponents of Christianity in order to discredit it, or by people who wanted others to follow their own brand of false Christian teaching. Others were written by well-meaning supporters who had, perhaps, let their imagination get the better of them. Much of the material in these "gospels" focused on the early years of Jesus, particularly his childhood and upbringing about which so little was really known. One of these invented gospels gave him a wife and a family, others showed him performing miracles in his childhood, including turning his school friends into birds and murdering his teacher.

So the scriptures available to the Christian Church looked like this:



The Church was faced with a difficult and urgent question: what was the official teaching? What were the "approved" documents?

### The reading list

In response, various Church leaders began to draw up their lists of approved and recommended reading. Again there were problems, because Christianity was still an evolving faith with no centralized leadership, so many of these lists reflected the personal preferences of local Christian leaders. The earliest surviving list is a vivid example of this. It was issued by Marcion in AD 144. Marcion was very anti-Jewish, so his list omitted the entire Old Testament and every Gospel except for Luke (and even then he edited out parts he didn't like). He did include some letters of Paul (but then again, Paul was Greek, so that made him OK).

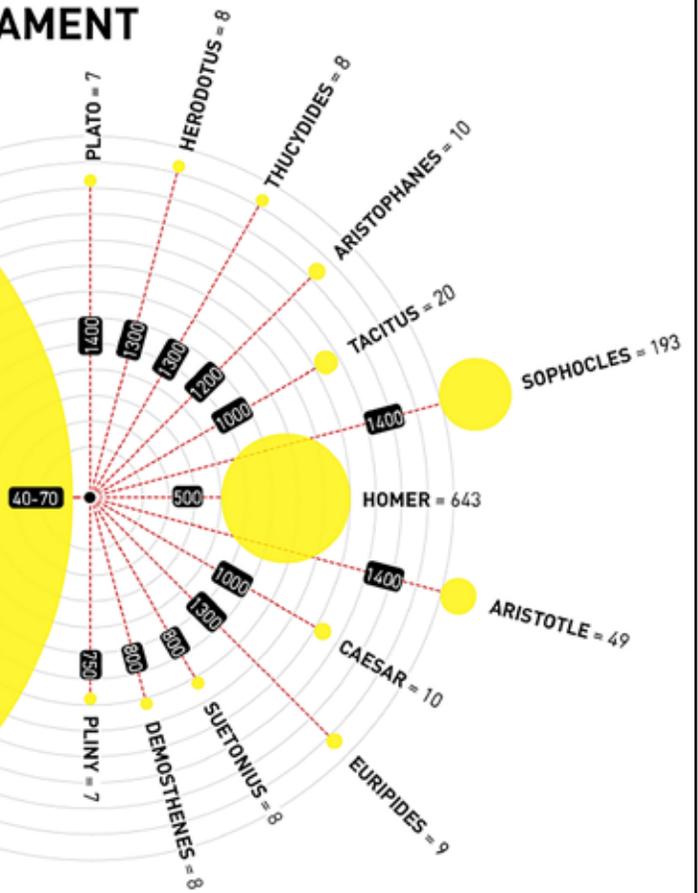
Other lists followed, each including its own selection. Gradually a consensus emerged and most lists included the four Gospels, the book of Acts and the letters of Paul. However, there was a lot of debate about some of the other letters, especially about James, Jude, Hebrews, 2 Peter, 2 and 3 John and Revelation.

# THE RELIABILITY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT COMPARED TO OTHER ANCIENT TEXTS

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AUTHOR / TEXT	EXISTING COPIES	YEARS BETWEEN ORIGINAL & EARLIEST SURVIVING COPIES
<b>NEW TESTAMENT</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>40-70</b>
HOMER / ILIAD	643	500
SOPHOCLES	193	1400
ARISTOTLE	49	1400
TACITUS	20	1000
CAESAR	10	1000
ARISTOPHANES	10	1200
EURIPIDES	9	1300
SUETONIUS	8	800
DEMOSTHENES	8	800
THUCYDIDES	8	1300
HERODOTUS	8	1300
PLINY	7	750
PLATO	7	1200

**NEW TESTAMENT = 24,000**



# THE TRANSMISSIONAL RELIABILITY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT COMPARED TO OTHER ANCIENT TEXTS

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Statistics taken from *The Bibliographical Test Updated*, Christian Research Journal, volume 35, number 03 (2012) [www.equip.org/article/the-bibliographical-test-updated/](http://www.equip.org/article/the-bibliographical-test-updated/)

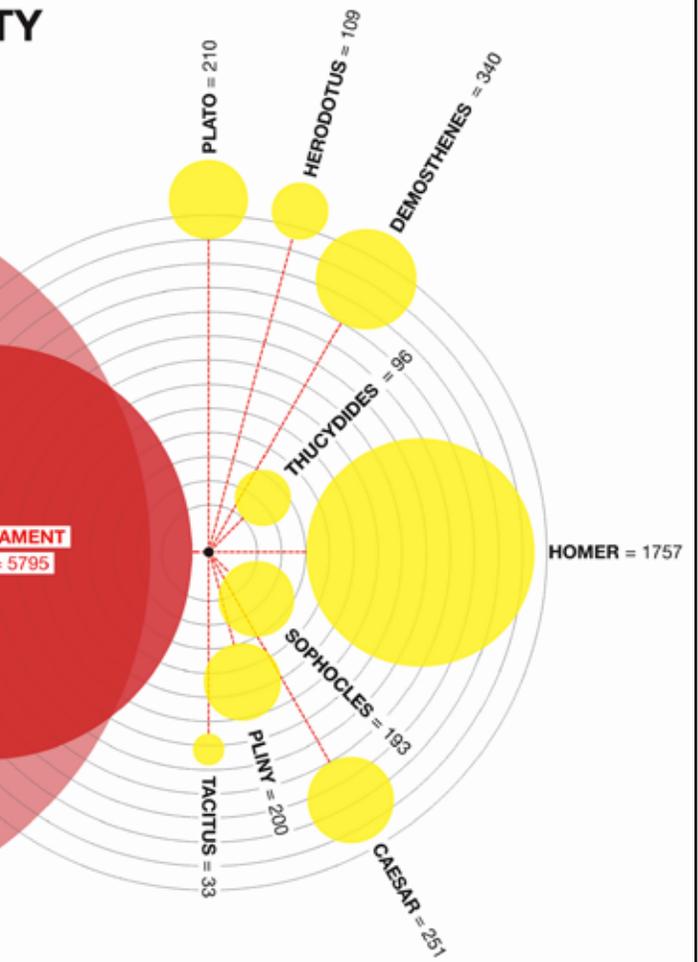
**NEW TESTAMENT TRANSLATIONS = 17974**

AUTHOR / TEXT	EXISTING COPIES	TIME GAP*
<b>NEW TESTAMENT: GREEK</b>	<b>5795</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>TRANSLATIONS</b>	<b>17974</b>	<b>250-300</b>
HOMER / ILIAD	1757	400
DEMOSTHENES / SPEECHES	340	1100+
CAESAR / GALLIC WARS	251	950
PLATO / TETRALOGIES	210	1300
PLINY / NATURAL HISTORY	200	400
SOPHOCLES / PLAYS	193	100-200
HERODOTUS / HISTORY	109	1350
THUCYDIDES / HISTORY	96	200
TACITUS / ANNALS	33	750-950

\* Years between original text and earliest surviving copies

Latin = 10,000+ Slavic = 4,000+ Armenian = 2,000+  
Coptic = 975 Ethiopian = 600+ Syriac = 350+  
Georgian = 43+ Gothic = 6

**NEW TESTAMENT GREEK = 5795**



**The Dead Sea Scrolls** have been called the greatest manuscript find of all time. Discovered between 1947 and 1956, they comprise some 800 documents in many tens of thousands of fragments. The Scrolls date from around 250 B.C. to 68 A.D. and were written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek; they contain Biblical and apocryphal works, prayers and legal texts and sectarian documents. The Scrolls' materials are made up mainly of parchment, although some are papyrus, and the text of one Scroll is engraved on copper.

The most well-known texts among the Dead Sea Scrolls are the ancient religious writings found in eleven caves near the site of Qumran. The caves are located about one mile west of the northwest shore of the Dead Sea, whence they derive their name.

Among the Scrolls are partial or complete copies of every book in the Hebrew Bible (except the book of Esther). Many biblical manuscripts closely resemble the Masoretic Text, the accepted text of the Hebrew Bible from the second half of the first millennium C.E. until today. This similarity is quite remarkable, considering that the Qumran Scrolls are over a thousand years older than previously identified biblical manuscripts.

The Isaiah Scroll, found relatively intact, is 1,000 years older than any previously known copy of Isaiah. In fact, the scrolls are the oldest group of Old Testament manuscripts ever found.



A section of the Isaiah scroll found at Qumran



Qumran cave 4



Qumran looking south: the Dead Sea Scrolls were written here and found nearby.



Qumran cave 4 interior

## FOR DOUBTERS ONLY

Once I spoke to a man who told me that he was not convinced that the Bible was the Word of God, though he believed "most of it." He could accept parts of the Bible, but could not believe some of the miracles; he doubted whether the authors of Scripture were truly freed of their cultural limitations when they condemned homosexuality and taught that creation took place in six days. If he had to believe the Bible was verbally inspired from cover to cover, he said he could "never become a Christian."

I gave him this advice: Begin reading the New Testament, particularly the book of John, a chapter a day. "And, before you open the Bible," I said, "pray and ask God to show you whether or not this is the truth."

It's too soon to know whether he will become a Christian, but my point was simply that a person does not have to accept the Bible as the inerrant Word of God before he or she chooses to believe on Christ. This man, like many others, was brought up in religious schools and a strict home. Part of his problem was that he was rebelling against an oppressive kind of Christianity, from which he was now "liberated." I encouraged him to take a fresh look at the Bible, free of the stereotypes that played such a big part in his formative years.

Doubts can be good if they lead us to seek the truth at any cost. Many strong believers confess that they were, at one time, very weak in the faith. Some have come to Christ trembling "with many a conflict, many a doubt," as the hymn puts it. Today, they have grown in their confidence that Christ is who He claimed to be and that their lives are secure in God's hands. They have also come to believe in the complete trustworthiness of the Bible.

"Unlike other religious texts, the Bible gives us the good, the bad, and the ugly of its heroes: Abraham, Jacob, David, and Peter among them," writes Stan Guthrie. "Further, Scripture's message rings true. It has been said that human depravity is the only religious doctrine empirically verified on a daily basis. And the Bible's gracious solution to our predicament, Christ's atoning death on the Cross, uniquely emphasizes what God has done, not what we must do, for our rescue."

Many people are converted before they understand the doctrine of the inerrancy of Scripture. As I have emphasized before, once the Holy Spirit grants a person the gift of repentance and he or she is "born again," belief in the infallibility of the Bible usually follows quite naturally. If God can save me, He can, most assuredly, do the miracles recorded in the pages of Scripture.

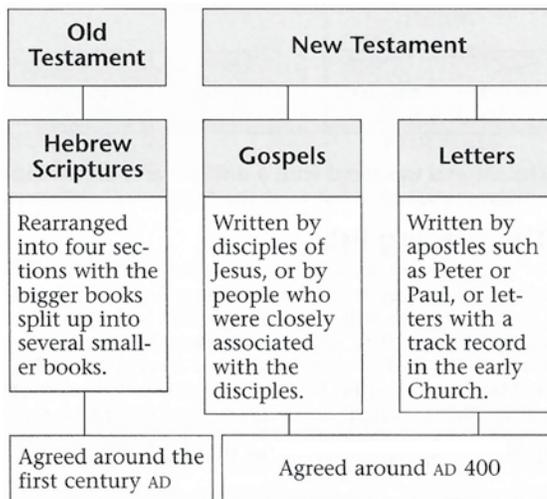
*Factual* doubts are doubts that are of the intellectual variety. Just like my friend, some people have genuine questions about whether the Bible can be true.

*Volitional* doubt is more difficult. It is a choice to not believe, most probably for moral reasons. In this case the intellectual doubts are often a smoke screen for a fundamental unwillingness to investigate the Scriptures seriously.

*Emotional* doubts describe those people who are often plagued with anxiety, depression, or guilt. They seem to have lost all hope of finding peace. Often such people wish to believe, but their emotional equilibrium does not give them the freedom to resolve the question of faith and evidence. We have probably all experienced that kind of doubt.

C. S. Lewis wrote, "Our faith in Christ wavers not so much when real arguments come against it as when it *looks* improbable—when the whole world takes on that desolate *look* which really tells us much more about the state of our passions and even our digestion than about reality."

From *Seven Reasons Why You Can Trust the Bible* by Erwin Lutzer



The MAP: Making the Bible Meaningful, Accessible and Practical, ©2002 Harper Collins Publishers

### Books that missed out

Many of the books that were rejected can still be read today.

They include:

- Genuine letters from early church leaders such as Clement, Ignatius and Polycarp.
- Anonymous writings such as the Didache and the Shepherd of Hymas. These were felt to be genuine teaching but not helpful enough to be included.
- Fake “gospels” and “acts,” such as the gospel of Thomas, the gospel of Hebrews and the Acts of Paul and Thecla. These were rejected as fake, although some experts today argue that some real sayings of Jesus might be hidden among the unreal parts.

The MAP: Making the Bible Meaningful, Accessible and Practical, ©2002 Harper Collins Publishers

## Noncanonical Books

### THE APOCRYPHA

If you look at the table of contents in a Roman Catholic Bible you will notice that there are additional books inserted between the Old and the New Testaments. In all, fifteen books comprise what we call the Apocrypha (the word means “hidden”) though the Roman Catholic Church has accepted only eleven of these as Scripture. Because four of the eleven are combined with Old Testament books, the Douay Version of the Bible (a Roman Catholic translation) contains only seven additional books in its table of contents.

Where did these books come from?

To answer this question we must go back to the city of Alexandria in Egypt, where a group of scholars translated the Hebrew Old Testament into Greek in about the year 250 B.C. This translation, known as the *Septuagint*, meaning “seventy” (allegedly this translation was completed in seventy days using seventy scholars), had a great impact on the Greek-speaking world. In fact, this translation was known and used during the time of Christ. New Testament writers showed acquaintance with it and even used it in some of their quotations.

Later editions of this translation included the apocryphal books. We cannot be sure exactly when the books appeared, but there is no evidence that they were in the Septuagint at the time of Christ. But since they were inserted in the Septuagint translation, their relative value was debated—some scholars arguing that they were Scripture, others insisting that they were subbiblical.

Those who accepted them as canonical included Irenaeus, Tertullian, and Clement of Alexandria; among those who rejected their canonicity were Athanasius, Origen, and Jerome, to name a few. In fact, when Jerome translated the Bible into Latin (the *Vulgate*) he did not want to translate the apocryphal books but was urged to do so. He made a hurried translation of them, though he kept them separate from the other books. Nevertheless, they appeared in his Latin translation.

Protestants give numerous reasons for rejecting these books as canonical. Since they describe events that took place before and during the time of Christ (the books date from about 200 B.C. to A.D. 100), they have historical value. And yet, many of us are convinced that they are not inspired Scripture. The following are some reasons for this view:

1. Though there are some allusions to the apocryphal books by New Testament writers (Hebrews 11:35; Jude 14–15), there is no direct quotation from them.<sup>11</sup> Neither Christ nor any New Testament

writer appealed to these books to make a point or explain a doctrine. The other books, which were regarded as inspired, are often quoted with the phrase “It stands written” or its equivalent. Not so the apocryphal books.

2. Even the Roman Catholic church made a distinction between the Apocrypha and the other books of the Old Testament prior to the Reformation. For example, Cardinal Cajetan, who opposed Luther at Augsburg in 1518, published *A Commentary on All the Authentic Historical Books of the Old Testament*. His commentary, however, did not include the Apocrypha.<sup>12</sup>
3. The first official council to ratify these books was the Council of Trent in 1546, only twenty-nine years after Luther posted his ninety-five theses on the door of the church in Wittenberg.<sup>13</sup> This council found it convenient to approve these books since they were being quoted against Luther. For example, 2 Maccabees speaks of prayers for the dead (12:46), and another book teaches salvation by works (Tobit 12:9). Even so, the council accepted only eleven of the fifteen books; we naturally would expect that these books, since they appeared together for so many centuries, would either be accepted or rejected together. But at Trent some were accepted, others bypassed.
4. The contents of the Apocrypha are subbiblical and some of the stories are clearly fanciful.<sup>14</sup> Bel and the Dragon, Tobit, and Judith have the earmarks of legend; the authors of these books even give hints along the way that these stories are not to be taken seriously.
5. These books contain historical errors. “It is claimed that Tobit was alive when the Assyrians conquered Israel (722 B.C.) as well as when Jeroboam revolted against Judah (931 B.C.),” which would make him at least 209 years old.<sup>15</sup> Yet, according to the account, he died when he was only 158 years old. Moreover, the book of Judith “speaks of Nebuchadnezzar as reigning in Nineveh instead of Babylon (Judith 1:1).”<sup>16</sup> Such inaccuracies are inconsistent with the doctrine of inspiration, which teaches that inspired books are “God-breathed” and free from errors.
6. Finally, and most important, we must remember that the Apocrypha was never part of the Old Testament Hebrew canon.<sup>17</sup> We have already emphasized that Christ assumed that the Hebrew canon ended with the Hebrew Scriptures. The Apocrypha was written in Greek, not Hebrew, and appeared at a later time.

# How We Got The Bible

## Ten Key Points

- 1 The Bible is inspired by God (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21).
- 2 The Bible is made up of 66 different books that were written over 1600 years (from approximately 1500 BC to AD 100) by more than 40 kings, prophets, leaders, and followers of Jesus. The Old Testament has 39 books (written approximately 1500-400 BC). The New Testament has 27 books (written approximately AD 45-100). The Hebrew Bible has the same text as the English Bible's Old Testament, but divides and arranges it differently.
- 3 The Old Testament was written mainly in Hebrew, with some Aramaic. The New Testament was written in Greek.
- 4 The books of the Bible were collected and arranged and recognized as inspired sacred authority by councils of rabbis and councils of church leaders based on careful guidelines.
- 5 Before the printing press was invented, the Bible was copied by hand. The Bible was copied very accurately, in many cases by special scribes who developed intricate methods of counting words and letters to insure that no errors had been made.
- 6 The Bible was the first book ever printed on the printing press with moveable type (Gutenberg Press, 1455, Latin Bible).
- 7 There is much evidence that the Bible we have today is remarkably true to the original writings. Of the thousands of copies made by hand before AD 1500, more than 5,300 Greek manuscripts from the New Testament alone still exist today. The text of the Bible is better preserved than the writings of Caesar, Plato, or Aristotle.
- 8 The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls confirmed the astonishing reliability of some of the copies of the Old Testament made over the years. Although some spelling variations exist, no variation affects basic Bible doctrines.
- 9 As the Bible was carried to other countries, it was translated into the common language of the people by scholars who wanted others to know God's Word. Today there are still 2,000 groups with no Bible in their own language.
- 10 By AD 200, the Bible was translated into seven languages; by AD 500, 13 languages; by AD 900, 17 languages; by AD 1400, 28 languages; by 1800, 57 languages; by 1900, 537 languages; by 1980, 1,100 languages.

Source: *The World Christian Encyclopedia*.

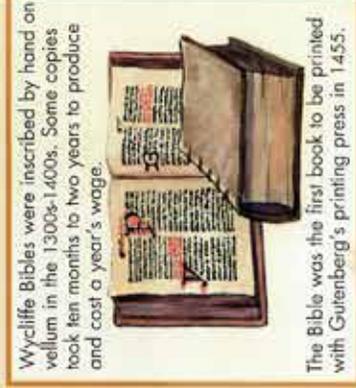


**Old Testament Written**  
(approx. 1500-400 BC)



Scrolls of leather, and later of papyrus, were used to make copies of the Scriptures.  
A papyrus codex is a bound volume made from sheets folded and sewn together, sometimes with a cover. They were used more than scrolls after AD 1-100.

**Bible Copied on Papyrus**



Wycliffe Bibles were inscribed by hand on vellum in the 1300s-1400s. Some copies took ten months to two years to produce and cost a year's wage.  
The Bible was the first book to be printed with Gutenberg's printing press in 1455.

**Bible Printed by Printing Press after 1455**



The oldest New Testament fragment (from John 18) that we have today was copied in Greek on a papyrus codex around AD 110-130.

papyrus

**New Testament Written**  
(approx. AD 45-100)



Fine quality animal skins from calves or antelope (vellum) and sheep or goats (parchment) were used for over 1000 years to make copies of the Bible approximately AD 300-1400.  
Two of the oldest vellum copies (AD 325-350) that exist today are the Vatican Codex and the Sinaitic Codex.

**Bible Copied on Fine Animal Skins**



The Bible is now printed on paper in many versions and languages. It is also on tape recordings, compact discs and computers.

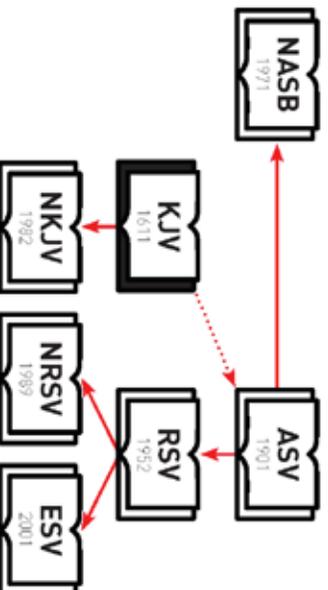
**The Bible, God's Word to The World**

# COMPARISON OF ENGLISH BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

© Mark Barry 2010. [Adapted from *How to Choose a Translation for All its Worth* by Gordon D. Fee & Mark L. Strauss.]

## FORMAL EQUIVALENCE WORD FOR WORD

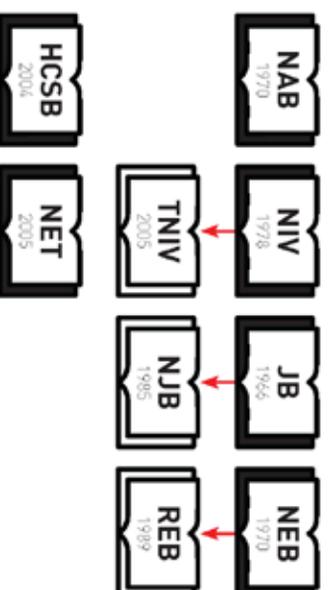
- **theory:** 'literal' or *word-for-word*
- **aim:** to retain the *form*, i.e. the words and structure, of the original text as much as possible
- **result:** an English translation that is primarily accurate, yet also comprehensible



ASV	= American Standard Version
ESV	= English Standard Version
KJV	= King James Version
NASB	= New American Standard Bible
NKJV	= New King James Version
NRSV	= New Revised Standard Version
RSV	= Revised Standard Version

## INTERMEDIATE

- **theory:** mediating between 'literal' and 'idiomatic'
- **aim:** to retain the *form* of the original text where possible, without compromising its *function*, i.e. to convey meaning
- **result:** an English translation that is both accurate and clear.



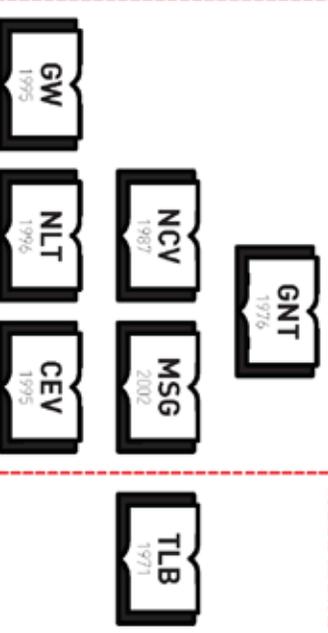
HSCB	= Holman Christian Standard Bible
JB	= Jerusalem Bible [Roman Catholic]
NAB	= New American Bible [Roman Catholic]
NEB	= New English Bible
NET	= New English Translation [online translation]
NIV	= New International Version
NJB	= New Jerusalem Bible [Roman Catholic]
TNIV	= Today's New International Version
REB	= Revised English Bible

## FUNCTIONAL EQUIVALENCE MEANING FOR MEANING

- **theory:** 'idiomatic' or *meaning-for-meaning*
- **aim:** to retain the *function* of the original text, i.e. to convey meaning, as much as possible
- **result:** to produce an English translation that is primarily natural and easy to understand

**Paraphrase** = re-wording a text in the *same* language, rather than translating it from one language to *another*.

## PARAPHRASE



CEV	= Contemporary English Version
GNT	= Good News Translation [Good News Bible]
GW	= God's Word
MSG	= The Message
NCV	= New Century Version
NLT	= New Living Translation
TLB	= The Living Bible