

The Authenticity of the Bible

	Old Testament	New Testament
Number of Books:	39	27
Dates:	1500-400BC	30-100AD
Language:	Hebrew	Greek
Purpose:	show God's people that a Savior is coming	show God's people the Savior has come
Authors:	Moses, Prophets, Kings	Apostles, Evangelists

Old Testament

Verbal inspiration = God breathed the words into the men and they copied them down

- Moses, David, prophets
 - The Word of the LORD came to...
 - This is what the LORD says...
 - The Spirit of the LORD was on my tongue...

Quoted in NT

- Jesus, apostles

Ezra – 440BC gathered a collection of the books of OT

Leningrad Codex – 1010AD (complete text of OT Hebrew)

Dead Sea scrolls – discovered in 1947, scroll of Isaiah is 1,000 older than Leningrad Codex

- 95% Qumran scrolls agreed with Leningrad Codes, 5% were slips of pens, variations on spellings

sopherim – scribes 400-200BC

Masorites – 500-950AD

Antilegomena =

- Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Esther, Proverbs, Ezekiel

Inter-Testamental Period (400BC - 30AD)

Apocrypha =

- written from 200BC – 200AD
- Council of Trent (1545-63) accepted 11 of the 14 as canonical

Why are they not part of the OT canon?

- 1) do not claim *inspiration (the word of the LORD came to...)*
- 2) written in a time when *prophecy ceased*
- 3) books were issued under *false names*
- 4) other books were *anonymous*
- 5) none were received into the OT *canon*
- 6) contain *false doctrine, fictional characters, bizarre stories*
- 7) never quoted in *NT by Jesus or disciples*

New Testament

Verbal inspiration =

- autographs vs. manuscripts
 - variants (less than 1%)
- full manuscript of NT in 4th century

The canon of the NT

- Jesus promised his disciples *the gift of inspiration by the HS (John 14.26, 16.13,14)*
- internal evidence (2Peter 3.15)
- quoted by early church fathers, pupils of the apostles 107-175AD
- manuscript written in Latin containing list (160AD)
- Tatianus 177AD Harmony of the Gospels
- Eusebius of Caesarea & the Council of Nicaea (325AD)
- Athanasius 367AD wrote letter to Christians in Egypt quoting same 27 books we have today
- Council of Hippo in Africa 393AD
- Third Council of Carthage 397AD

Antilegomena

- Hebrews, James, 2Peter, 2 and 3 John, Jude, Revelation

Apocrypha of NT

- false *names/authors*
- no mention of *Jesus*
- used to promote *false doctrine*
- not written or approved by *an apostle*