

HOW WE GOT THE BIBLE

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Five questions to help us understand how we got the Bible ...

I. _____ IS THE BIBLE?

- A. How is the Bible _____ than other books?
- B. How is the Bible _____ ?
- C. Where did the _____ come from?

II. _____ WROTE THE BIBLE?

- A. _____ (divine) partnering with men (human)!
2 Timothy 3:16 (NIV84) All Scripture is God-breathed...
 2 Peter 3:15-16 (NIV84) ...His [Paul's] letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.
- B. Bible has remarkable _____ (and agreement).

III. HOW DID WE _____ THE BIBLE ?

- A. The _____: from God to man.
- B. What is the _____ of Scripture is from God?
 1. "CANON" means "measuring rod" or the "norm"
IMPORTANT: Church did not pick the books they wanted; they simply recognized those that were God-breathed.

C. Four Tests for _____. (Bibliographical Test)

1. Connection to the _____.
2. Universal _____ across cultures & time.
3. Must contain _____ of doctrine.
4. Must bear evidence of high _____ & spiritual values.

IV. HOW _____ IS THE BIBLE?

TEXTUAL CRITICISM - Scholarly criticism concerned with the identification of textual variants in manuscripts.

- A. The Bible has strong manuscript _____.
 1. _____ - Short interval between original & the earliest copies.
 2. _____ - Lots of manuscripts are available.
 3. _____ - Hebrew scribes: very strict!
 4. _____ - Dead Sea Scrolls.
- B. History _____ the Bible.
 1. _____! Tried to **ban, burn & blast!**

V. HOW SHOULD I _____ TO THE BIBLE?

- A. _____ it.
- B. _____ it.
James 1:22 (NIV84) Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.