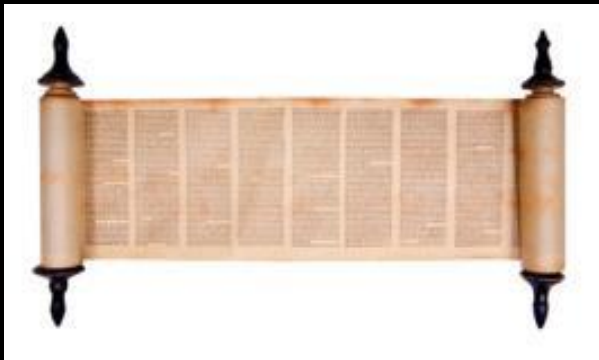


HOW WE RECEIVED THE BIBLE

From Scroll to eBook Session Three



WELCOME TO SESSION THREE

- Slides available at www.kelleycentral.com
- This session taught at New Hope Eugene by Dr. Mark Kelley

FOR “EXTRA CREDIT”

- What are some methods of meditating on God’s word?

FOR “EXTRA CREDIT”

- What are some methods of meditating on God’s word?
 - Pondering
 - Perspective
 - Re-reading
-

THE IMPACT OF ONE BIBLE



THIS WEEK'S BIG PICTURE

- Why we know our Bibles reflect what the authors wrote
 - The process of recognizing the Bible (canon)
 - Purifying Ourselves with SOAP
-

HERE'S A PROBLEM

- When we say “the Bible is inspired” we don’t mean your English translation.
- We are talking about the original writing by Moses, Ezekiel, and John
- Which we no longer have 😞

OFT-QUOTED ANCIENT BOOKS

<i>Author Copies</i>	<i>When Written</i>	<i>Earliest Copy</i>	<i>Time Span</i>	<i># of</i>
• Caesar	100-44 B.C.	900 A.D.	950 years	10
• Plato	427-347 B.C.	900 A.D.	1,330 years	7
• Aristotle	384-322 B.C.	1100 A.D.	1,450 years	49
• Sophocles	496-406 B.C.	1000 A.D.	1,400 years	193
• Euripides	480-406 B.C.	1100 A.D.	1,500 years	9
• New Testament	48-90 A.D.	130 A.D.	40-80 years	24,633

IN ADDITION TO ACTUAL BIBLES

- We have hundreds of 2nd & 3rd Century sermons & letters that quoted the Bible.

MORE DOCUMENTATION

- Downey, Peter & Ben Shaw. *Everything you want to know about the Bible*. 2005
- McDowell, Josh. *Evidence that Demands a Verdict*. 1972
- Geisler, Norman and Ronald M Brooks. *When Skeptics Ask*. 1990

WHEN WAS THE BIBLE OFFICIAL?

- Two misleading claims are often made
 - The books in the Bible weren't recognized as scripture until 400 AD
 - The “canon” was selected by a political process
-

TRUTH IS NOT ALWAYS STRANGER

- Most books were recognized as inspired almost immediately
 - The Torah (Pentateuch) is often referred to as “the Law” in other OT books, especially the Psalms.
 - Jesus often quoted the Old Testament (Mark 12:36)
 - Peter called Paul’s letters “scriptures” (2 Peter 3:15-16)

OLD TESTAMENT CANON FINALIZED

- In AD 95, a leading group of Jewish rabbis verified that Judaism accepted the Hebrew Scriptures (OT) as we find them today.
 - Council of Jamnia
-

EARLY RECOGNITION OF NEW TESTAMENT

- Peter referred to Paul's letters as scriptures
- Starting from AD 100, Christian leaders quoted the NT as "scripture."

FIRST PUBLISHED LIST OF NT SCRIPTURE

- Marcion (AD 140) lists Paul's letters and Luke as scripture
 - Tatian (AD 175) developed a harmony of "the four gospels"
-

OFFICIAL CHURCH COUNCILS

- Ratified the church's existing practice of treating 27 books as scripture
 - Hippo (AD 393) and Carthage (AD 397)
 - Church councils are classic church meetings
 - People are at work AND
 - God is at work
-

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO US?

- We know the words men used to record God's message.
 - We join with Christians for 1900 years who testify to the power of these words.
-

BIBLE TOOL: SOAP

- Select a **S**cripture portion
 - Make **O**bservations about the scripture portion's surroundings
 - **A**pply the truth of the scripture portion
 - **P**ray that God will make the scripture live in you.
-

SOAP IS NOT NEW

- This is the classic way to make the Bible “your” Bible

SELECTING THE SPECIAL SCRIPTURE

- How do you know which verse is God's verse for you on this day?

2 CORINTHIANS 3:12-17

- ² ¶ Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, ¹³ not like Moses, ^awho would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. ¹⁴ But ^atheir minds were ^bhardened. For to this day, when they read ^dthe old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. ¹⁵ Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. ¹⁶ But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding ^bthe glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

OBSERVATION IS OFTEN OMITTED

- Lets take time to see how many observations we can make about.
- Observations = things that are readily apparent

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THE GOAL OF OBSERVATION?

- Overcoming the tendency to “see” the same, safe thing every time we read the text.

AVID APPLICATION

- What can I do that shows I believe this verse is true?

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APPLYING 2 CORINTHIANS 3:16

- Now the Lord¹ is the Spirit, and where ^athe Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
 - How do I allow the Holy Spirit to be fully here (in me)?
 - How do I accept God's Freedom?
 - How I treat other people who are Freed?
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PASSIONATE PRAYER

- What is God committing to do for me?
 - What do I want to give to Jesus?
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NEXT WEEK

- What did the first Bibles look like?
 - Using the Bible as a Prayer Book
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