

# THE BOOKS OF THE APOCRYPHA

## THE BOOKS:

1 <sup>st</sup> Esdras	ECCLESIASTICUS	Bell and the Dragon
2 <sup>nd</sup> Esdras	Barauch	Prayer of Manasses
Tobit	Sirach	1 <sup>st</sup> Maccabees
Judith	Epistle of Jeremiah	2 <sup>nd</sup> Maccabees
Ester Chapters 11-16	Song of the 3 Holy Children	3 <sup>rd</sup> Maccabees
Wisdom of Solomon	Daniel Chapters 13-14	4 <sup>th</sup> Maccabees
	History of Susanna	

## THE ORIGIN:

The term *Apocryphal Books* refer to the 17 books (Some place the number as high as 24 books) and additions to 2 others, placed between the Old and New Testaments which are of doubtful authorship and authenticity, generally regarded as spurious or counterfeit by most Bible scholars. The term "*Pseudo Pygrapha*" meaning "False Writings" from the Greek has also been applied to this collection. Authorship has at times been attributed to the Maccabees family who are said to have kept a very whimsical account of history during the 400 years while there was no Prophet in Israel. The purpose was to encourage the Jews in those times of Roman occupation and oppression. Accepted as Historical and **NOT** Canonical Books by the Jews they were included at the conclusion of their Old Testament and even translated into the Greek *Septuagint*.

## GOD'S WORD IS NOT WRITTEN IN PEN ALONE:

### WRITTEN IN:

<b>NATURE</b>	<i>The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork Ps 19:1</i>
<b>CONSCIENCE</b>	<i>Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another; Rom 2:15</i>
<b>TABLES OF STONE</b>	<i>And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them. Ex 24:12</i>
<b>SCRIPTURE</b>	<i>For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. Rom 15:4</i>

## **CHRIST LIFE**

*And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. **John 1:14***

## **THE HEART**

*For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: **Heb 8:10***

## **CHRISTIAN LIFE**

*Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men: 3 Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart. **2 Cor 3:2-3***

## **THE CATHOLIC CHURCH:**

In the year 623 the first actual Catholic Pope “Gregory the Great” prevailed upon the Bible scholar and linguist Jerome (some even report it was under threat of death or imprisonment) to translate the Apocryphal Books into Latin. With a Latin version finished the Church would have access to the material within, and could claim that they as the other 66 books of the Bible were Divinely Inspired. At the Council of Trent in the year 1546 A.D. the Catholic Church accepted 9 of these books and additional portions of 2 others as part of Scripture. They are:

1<sup>st</sup> Esdras  
2<sup>nd</sup> Esdras  
Tobit  
Judith

Ester Chapters 11-16  
Wisdom of Solomon  
ECCLESIASTICUS  
Barauch

Daniel Chapters 13-14  
1<sup>st</sup> Maccabees  
2<sup>nd</sup> Maccabees

## **EXCERPTS FROM THE APOCRYPHA:**

“And they found under the coats of the slain some of the donaries of the idols of Jamnia, which the law forbiddeth to the Jews: so that all plainly saw, that for this cause they were slain. Then they all blessed the just judgment of the Lord, who had discovered the things that were hidden. And so betaking themselves to prayers, they besought him, that the sin which had been committed might be forgotten. And making a gathering, he sent twelve thousand drachms of silver to Jerusalem for sacrifice to be offered for the sins of the dead, thinking well and religiously concerning the resurrection, (For if he had not hoped that they that were slain should rise again, it would have seemed superfluous and vain to pray for the dead,) And because he considered that they who had fallen asleep with godliness, had great grace laid upon them. It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loose from sins.” **2 Maccabees 12:40 – 46**

**IDOLATRY IS CONSIDERED GODLY, MONEY PAYS TO FORGIVE SIN, AND PRAYER IS MADE FOR THE SALVATION OF THE DEAD.**

“Give alms out of thy substance, and turn thou not away thy face from any poor person: for so it shall come to pass that the face of the Lord shall not be turned from thee. According to thy ability be merciful. If thou have much give abundantly; if thou have little, take care even so to bestow willingly a little; for thus thou storest up to thyself a good reward for the day of necessity. For alms delivers from all sins, and death, and will not suffer the soul to go into darkness.” **Tobias 4:7 - 11**

### **THE LORD RESPONDS WHEN MONEY IS GIVEN, IT ALSO CAN TAKE AWAY ALL SINS.**

“Now it happened on the same day, that Sara daughter of Raguel, in Rages a city of the Medes, received a reproach from one of her father’s servant maids, Because she had been given to seven husbands, and the devil named Asmodeus had killed them, at the first going in unto her. So when she reproved the maid for her fault, she answered her, saying: May we never see a son, or daughter of thee upon the earth, thou murderer of thy husbands. . . . Then the angel said unto him: take out the entrails of this fish, and lay up his heart, and his gall, and his liver for thee: for these are necessary for useful medicines. And when they had done so . . . they came to Rages the city of the Medes. Then Tobias asked the angel, and said to him: I beseech thee, brother Azarias, tell me what remedies are these things are good for, which though hast bid me keep of the fish? And the angel, answering, said to him: if thou put a little piece of its heart upon the coals, the smoke thereof driveth away all kind of devils, either from man or from woman, so that they come no more to them.” **Tobias 3: 7 - 9, 6:5-8**

### **WITCHCRAFT IS TAUGHT BY AN ANGEL OF GOD, AND IT HAS POWER OVER THE DEVIL.**

## **THE CATHOLIC VIEWPOINT:**

- 1 These books are divinely inspired and belong in the Canon of Sacred Scripture.
- 2 The doctrines have been declared from these books, such as:
  - Purgatory
  - Prayers for the dead
  - Indulgences-Alms which pay for forgiveness of sins
  - Storing up good deeds which help pay for Salvation
  - Acquiring grace to outweigh evil deed at the Day of Judgment
  - The Rite of Exorcism, using objects and prayers to expel Satan
- 3 Non Catholic Denominations not using these books are deficient and do not have all the necessary means of Salvation at their disposal.
- 4 Protestants have removed these books and tampered with the Word of God.

# THE TEST OF CANONICITY

## PROPHETIC OR APOSTOLIC ORIGINS

This extends to those in close relation to them such as Luke and James the Lord's brother.     *Gal 1:18-19, James 1:1*

## CLAIM OF INSPIRATION FROM AUTHOR

3800 times in the Old Testament     *"Thus Saith the Lord"*  
1400 times in the New Testament     *"The Lord spoke saying"*

## UNITY OF DOCTRINE TAUGHT THROUGH OUT

## ONE PLAN OF SALVATION TAUGHT THROUGH OUT

## RECOGNITION BY OTHER WRITERS AND BIBLE CHARACTERS

Jesus quoted or alluded to every Old Testament Book

*Matt 12:3 - 1Sam 21:3-6*  
*Mark 12:10 - Ps 118:22-23, Isa 28:16*

The Apostles quoted or alluded to every Old Testament Book

Peter recognized the writings of Paul as Scripture     *2Peter 3:15*

Early Church accepted the Apostles doctrine     *Acts 2:42; 17:11*

## ACCEPTED BY THE JEWS AS CANONICAL

The same 37 Old Testament Books we include in the KJV

## ACCEPTED BY THE EARLY CHURCH AS CANONICAL

By the year 125 the early church had recognized the books we hold in both Testaments

At the Council of Ephesus 225AD, the early Church solidified the number to be 66 books accepted in the Bible.

(In the year 1546 at the Council of Trent the Catholic Church added 11 books of the Apocrypha to the Word of God)

# SHOULD THE APOCRYPHA BE IN OUR BIBLE

## 1 THE JEWS NEVER ACCEPTED THEM AS SCRIPTURE.

*And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. Deut 6:6-7*  
*What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? 2 Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God. Rom 3:1-2*

## 2 JESUS NEVER QUOTED FROM THEM.

*But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Matt 4:4*  
*Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. 18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. 20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; John 17:17-20*

## 3 THE APOSTLES NEVER QUOTED FROM THEM, EVEN THOUGH THEY USED SECULAR POETRY AND OTHER WRITINGS TO DEMONSTRATE BIBLE PRINCIPALS.

*For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, for we are also his offspring. Acts 17:28*  
*And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, Jude 14*

## 4 THEY ARE NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE TEACHINGS OF SCRIPTURE AS SEEN ABOVE.

*To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. Isa 8:20*  
*These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Acts 17:11*  
*Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 1 Cor 2:13*

## 5 THEY TEACH ANOTHER GOSPEL, OR ANOTHER WAY OF SALVATION.

*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. 2 But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. John 10:1-2*  
*I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. John 10:9*

*I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. Gal 1:6-9*

## 6 THE WRITINGS CLAIM TO BE THE WORK OF MEN WITHOUT INSPIRATION FROM GOD.

*So these things being done . . . , I will also make an end of my narration. 39 Which if I have done well, and as it becometh the history, it is what I desired: but if not so perfectly, it must be pardoned me. 40 For as it is hurtful to drink always wine, or always water, but pleasant to use sometimes the one, and sometimes the other: so if the speech be always nicely framed, it will not be grateful to the readers. But here it shall end. 2 Maccabees 15: 38-40*