

How Did We Get Our Bible?

June 3, 2018

Scriptures: John 16:13-14; 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20-21, 1 Cor. 2:14

Bottom Line: Despite the long, messy history, we can trust the process by which the Spirit has brought us our current Bible.

Old Testament

300-500 BC — Greek Bible with extra books included

400 AD — Latin Bible (Vulgate) with fewer extra books included

1500-1600 AD — English Bibles including KJV included extra books

1600-1825 AD — Modern Old Testament with 39 books finalized

New Testament

140 AD — Marcion attempts the first "New Testament"

190-300 AD — Multiple versions, all including extra books

367 AD — Modern New Testament with 27 books confirmed

Next Steps

1. Read your Bible prayerfully and with humility
2. Trust the process Jesus wins
3. Play your part in the story, you're good enough
4. Learn to listen, the Spirit still speaks

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Appetizer

1. Review Sunday's message. What stood out to you? What challenged you? Are there any lingering questions?
2. How did you used to think the Bible came to us?

Entree

1. What does a greater understanding of this process do to your level of trust in the Bible?
2. What would you have liked the process of the Bible's formation to look like?
3. What does the process of compiling the Bible teach us about our relationship with the Spirit?
4. How do you feel about this idea that God doesn't need us to be right in order to work through us?
5. What are some other ways that you can see the Spirit working throughout history and slowly revealing God's Kingdom here?

Dessert

Break into groups of 3-5 and discuss the following questions with each other.

1. When you look back at your life, how can you see the Spirit working through your story, even when you didn't know it, or things got messy?
2. What is the next chapter of your story?

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