

Fundamentals of the Faith

An Introduction: 2 Timothy 4:1-5

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INTRODUCTION BY
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FUNDAMENTALS
— OF THE —
FAITH

13 LESSONS TO GROW IN THE GRACE
AND KNOWLEDGE OF JESUS CHRIST



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Is Theology Important?

★ **Salvation:**

- ★ How can man be reconciled to God?
- ★ Can man be reconciled to God?
- ★ Does man need to be reconciled to God?

★ **Worship:**

- ★ What should church look like?
- ★ What is the role of the pastor?

★ **Life:**

- ★ How should I interact with my family (wife, children, parents)?
- ★ How should I interact with my neighbor?

Where does Theology Come from?

✦ **Creeds and Confessions?**

- ✦ The Nicene Creed
- ✦ Westminster Confession
- ✦ New Hampshire Baptist Confession

✦ **Tradition?**

- ✦ Church councils (Trent [RCC], Dort [Reformed])
- ✦ Church Fathers (Ignatius, Justin Martyr, Tertullian, Athanasius)
- ✦ Predecessors (Luther, Calvin, the Puritans, Spurgeon, Graham, MacArthur)

✦ **Scripture?**

Fundamentals of the Faith

Where does our Bible Come from?

What is the Canon?

- ✦ What you need to know is that the canon was **NOT DETERMINED** by men
- ✦ The canon was **RECOGNIZED** by men
 - ✦ Only God can determine what is and what is not canonical
 - ✦ Just because something is inspired does not necessitate that it is canonical



GOD

Inspiration relates to the person and the product.

Canonicity relates only to the final product

Key Word: Recognition

What is the Canon?

- ✦ In relation to our discussion concerning the biblical storyline, what would be a good question to ask any book to help use recognize its canonicity?
- ✦ Does the book articulate the idea of God's king/kingdom?

The Old Testament Canon

- ✦ Very little dispute on the books of the Old Testament
- ✦ The Jews separated the OT into three basic sections (for logistics more than theological reasons)
 - ✦ Torah (Instruction) - 5
 - ✦ Prophets (This includes the “history” books) - 8
 - ✦ Writings - 11

Former Prophets

Latter Prophets

Torah

1. Bereshith (Genesis)
2. Shemoth (Exodus)
3. Wayiqra (Leviticus)
4. Bemidbar (Numbers)
5. Debarim (Deuteronomy)

Former

6. Joshua
7. Shofetim (Judges)
8. Samuel
9. Melakim (Kings)
10. Isaiah
11. Jeremiah
12. Ezekiel
13. TereAsar (The Twelve)

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi

Kethu'bim

14. Tehilim (Psalms)
15. Job
16. Mishle (Proverbs)
17. Ruth
18. Shir Hashirim (Song of Songs)
19. Qoheleth (Ecclesiastes)
20. Ekah (Lamentations)
21. Esther
22. Daniel
23. Ezra – Nehemiah
24. Dibre Hayamin (Chronicles)

PROTESTANT

Pentateuch

1. Genesis
2. Exodus
3. Leviticus
4. Numbers
5. Deuteronomy

History

6. Joshua
7. Judges
8. Ruth
10. 1 and 2 Samuel
12. 1 and 2 Kings
14. 1 and 2 Chronicles
16. Ezra and Nehemiah
17. Esther

Poetry and Wisdom

18. Job
19. Psalms
20. Proverbs
21. Ecclesiastes
22. Song of Songs

Prophets

23. Isaiah
24. Jeremiah
25. Lamentations
26. Ezekiel
27. Daniel
28. Hosea
29. Joel
30. Amos
31. Obadiah
32. Jonah
33. Micah
34. Nahum
35. Habakkuk
36. Zephaniah
37. Haggai
38. Zechariah
39. Malachi

TANAK

ROMAN CATHOLIC AND ORTHODOX

PROTESTANT

Torah

1. Bereshith (Genesis)
2. Shemoth (Exodus)
3. Wayiqra (Leviticus)
4. Bemidbar (Numbers)
5. Debarim (Deuteronomy)

Pentateuch

1. Genesis
2. Exodus
3. Leviticus
4. Numbers
5. Deuteronomy

Pentateuch

1. Genesis
2. Exodus
3. Leviticus
4. Numbers
5. Deuteronomy

History

6. Joshua
7. Judges
8. Ruth
- 9 – 10. 1 and 2 Samuel
- 11 – 12. 1 and 2 Kings
- 13 – 14. 1 and 2 Chronicles
- 15 – 16. Ezra and Nehemiah
17. Esther
18. Judith*
19. Esther, including
The Rest of Esther*

History

6. Joshua
7. Judges
8. Ruth
- 9 – 10. 1 and 2 Samuel
- 11 – 12. 1 and 2 Kings
- 13 – 14. 1 and 2 Chronicles
- 15 – 16. Ezra and Nehemiah
17. Esther

Prophets

27. Isaiah
28. Jeremiah
29. Lamentations
30. Baruch, including The Letter of Jeremiah†
31. Ezekiel
32. Daniel, including The Rest of Daniel,* Susanna,* Song of the Three Holy Children,* Bel and the Dragon*
33. Hosea
34. Joel
35. Amos
36. Obadiah
37. Jonah
38. Micah
39. Nahum
40. Habakkuk
41. Zephaniah
42. Haggai
43. Zechariah
44. Malachi
45. 1 Maccabees*
46. 2 Maccabees†

Prophets

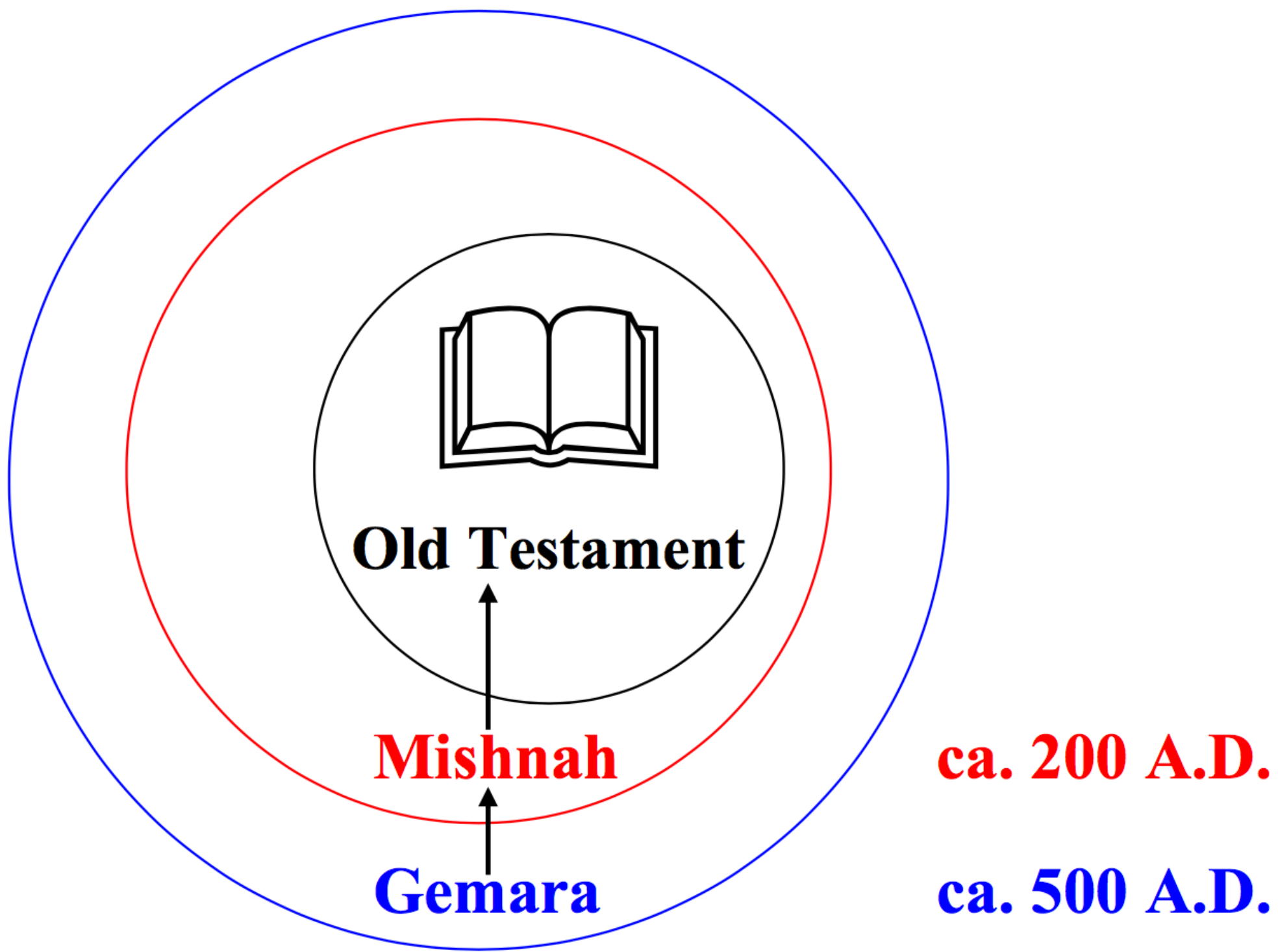
23. Isaiah
24. Jeremiah
25. Lamentations
26. Ezekiel
27. Daniel
28. Hosea
29. Joel
30. Amos
31. Obadiah
32. Jonah
33. Micah
34. Nahum
35. Habakkuk
36. Zephaniah
37. Haggai
38. Zechariah
39. Malachi

*Apocryphal in Protes

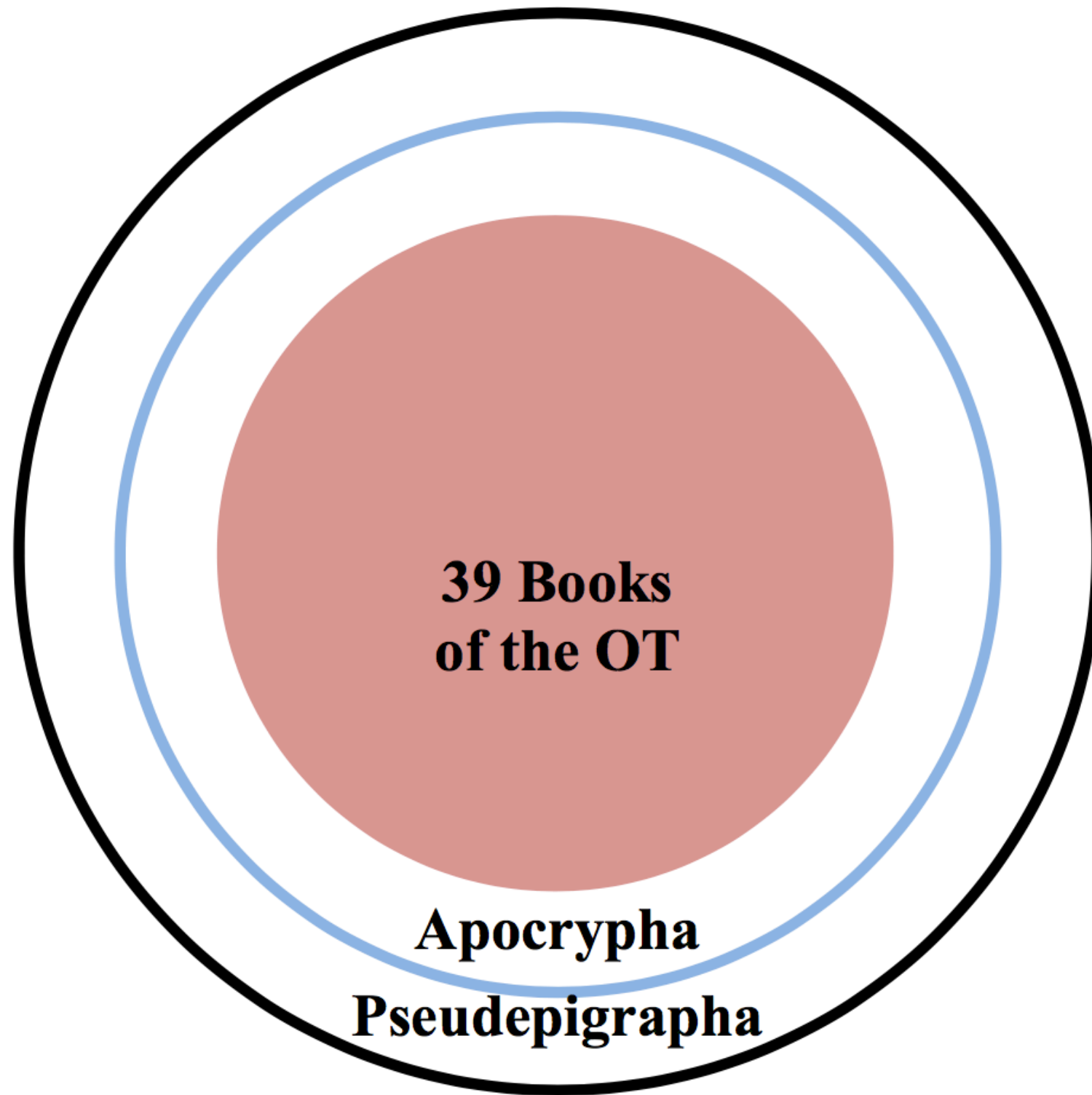
† Roman Catholic only

Mishnah- early oral interpretation of the Old Testament Scriptures

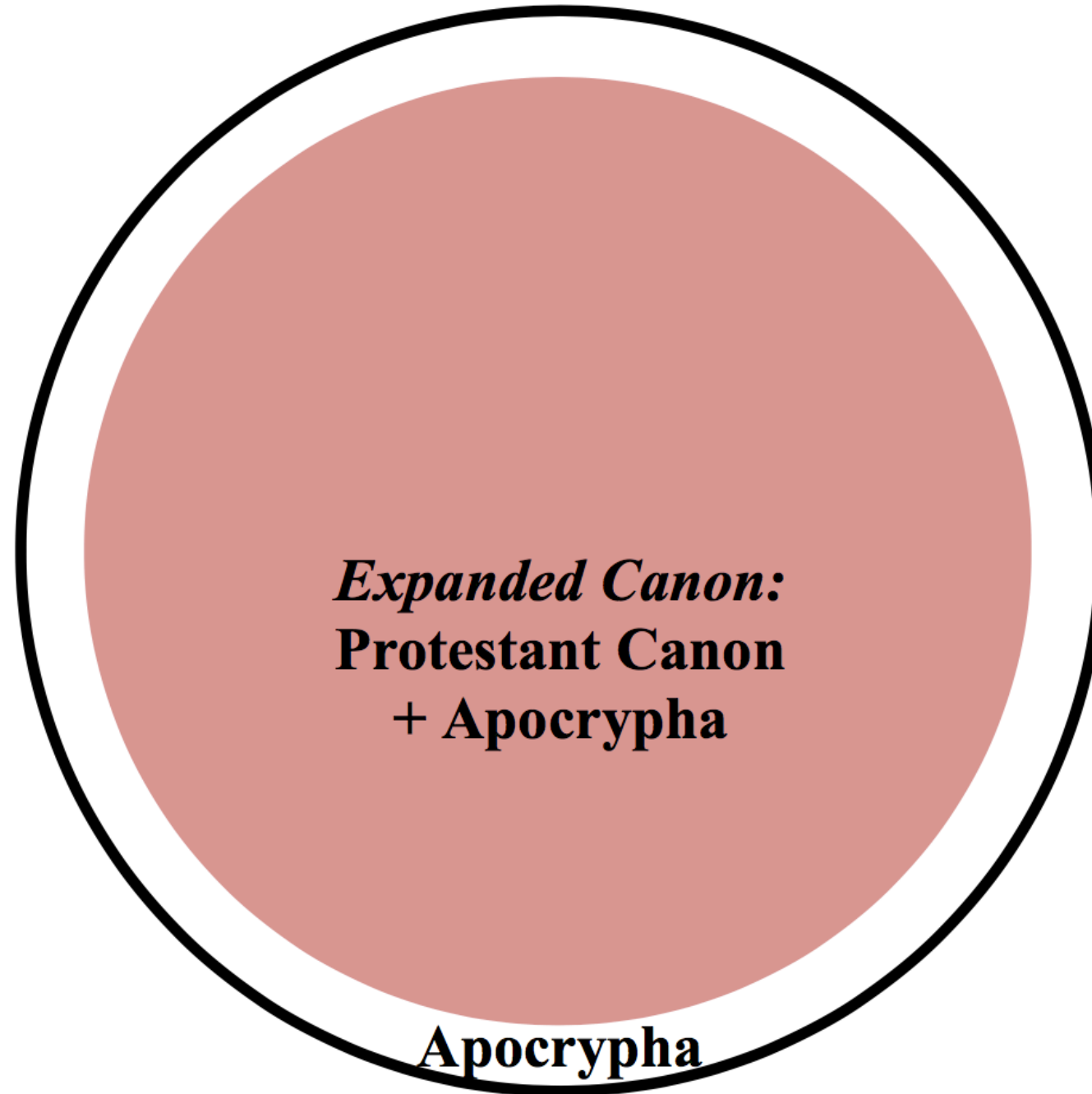
Gemara- a rabbinic commentary on the Mishnah



The Protestant Church's View of the OT Canon



The Roman Catholic and Orthodox Churches' View of the OT Canon



(What the Protestant church calls
the Pseudepigrapha)

Canon of the New Testament

- ✦ Again, the issue must be understood as RECOGNITION and **NOT** DETERMINATION
 - ✦ “The da Vinci Code” is a LIE!
 - ✦ (Teacher’s Rant) If the Holy Spirit is powerful enough to superintend the writing of Scripture then I hope he is powerful enough to superintend its preservation

Canon of the New Testament

- ★ **Five Principles when attempting to recognize a canonical book**
 - ★ Was it written by a prophet of God (Heb. 1:1; 2 Pet 1:20-21)?
 - ★ Was it confirmed by an act of God (Heb. 2:3-4)?
 - ★ Does it tell the truth about God (Deut. 18:22)?
 - ★ Does it have the power of God (Heb. 4:12)?
 - ★ Was it accepted by the people of God (1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Pet. 3:15)?

INCORRECT VIEW (RCC)CHURCH *DETERMINES* CANONCHURCH IS *MOTHER* OF CANONCHURCH IS *MAGISTRATE* OF CANONCHURCH IS *REGULATOR* OF CANONCHURCH IS *JUDGE* OF CANONCHURCH IS *MASTER* OF CANON**CORRECT VIEW**CHURCH *DISCOVERS* CANONCHURCH IS *CHILD* OF CANONCHURCH IS *MINISTER* OF CANONCHURCH IS *RECOGNIZER* OF CANONCHURCH IS *WITNESS* OF CANONCHURCH IS *SERVANT* OF CANON

Translations



The Word of God?

- ✦ The Bible (Written Word of God...to be distinguished from other forms) does not nearly contain the Word of God but IS the word of God.
- ✦ NOT a word about God
 - ✦ Stemming from the idea that this is the best expression of man's moral and spiritual quest for God
- ✦ BUT every single word is breathed out by God himself

God Breathed

- ✦ 2 Tim 3:16 - “Every word is inspired...”
- ✦ The Bible is objecting the Word of God, because its words in their grammatical structures are directly produced by God
- ✦ 2 Peter 1:20-21
- ✦ The men of God were “borne along” or “moved” like a ship moved by the winds

Written to Man

- ✦ The Bible is also “accommodated” revelation
 - ✦ NOT that God/Jesus were “accommodating” ignorance and just “playing along” for argument’s sake
 - ✦ BUT that Scripture is written so that we (finite mortals) are able to understand the message of God (an infinite immortal).
- ✦ Authorial Intention and Single Meaning
 - ✦ The precise wording of the original authors is VERY important
 - ✦ **The Bible in your lap is only the Word of God so far as it accurately represents the original manuscripts that God inspired.**

Theories of Translation

- ✦ **Word for Word** - Attempting to accurately reconstruct sentence structure of the Greek and Hebrew into English
 - ✦ NASB, ESV, NKJV
- ✦ **Thought for Thought** - Understanding the point and then restating that larger point in English
 - ✦ NIV
- ✦ **Paraphrase** - Just get the gist down
 - ✦ The Message, NLT, Amplified “Bible”

Translation Sources

- ✦ **Old Testament**

- ✦ The Hebrew Text as preserved in the Leningrad Codex
- ✦ The Greek Septuagint

- ✦ **New Testament**

- ✦ Majority Text
- ✦ Critical Text

Andy's Top Translations

	NASB	ESV	NKJV
Theory	Word for Word	Word for Word	Word for Word
Source (OT)	Hebrew	Hebrew (With inclinations toward the LXX)	Hebrew
Source (NT)	Critical	Critical	Majority
Score	90%	85%	80%