

CHARTING  
THE BIBLE  
CHRONOLOGICALLY

ED HINDSON & THOMAS ICE



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## **CHARTING THE BIBLE CHRONOLOGICALLY**

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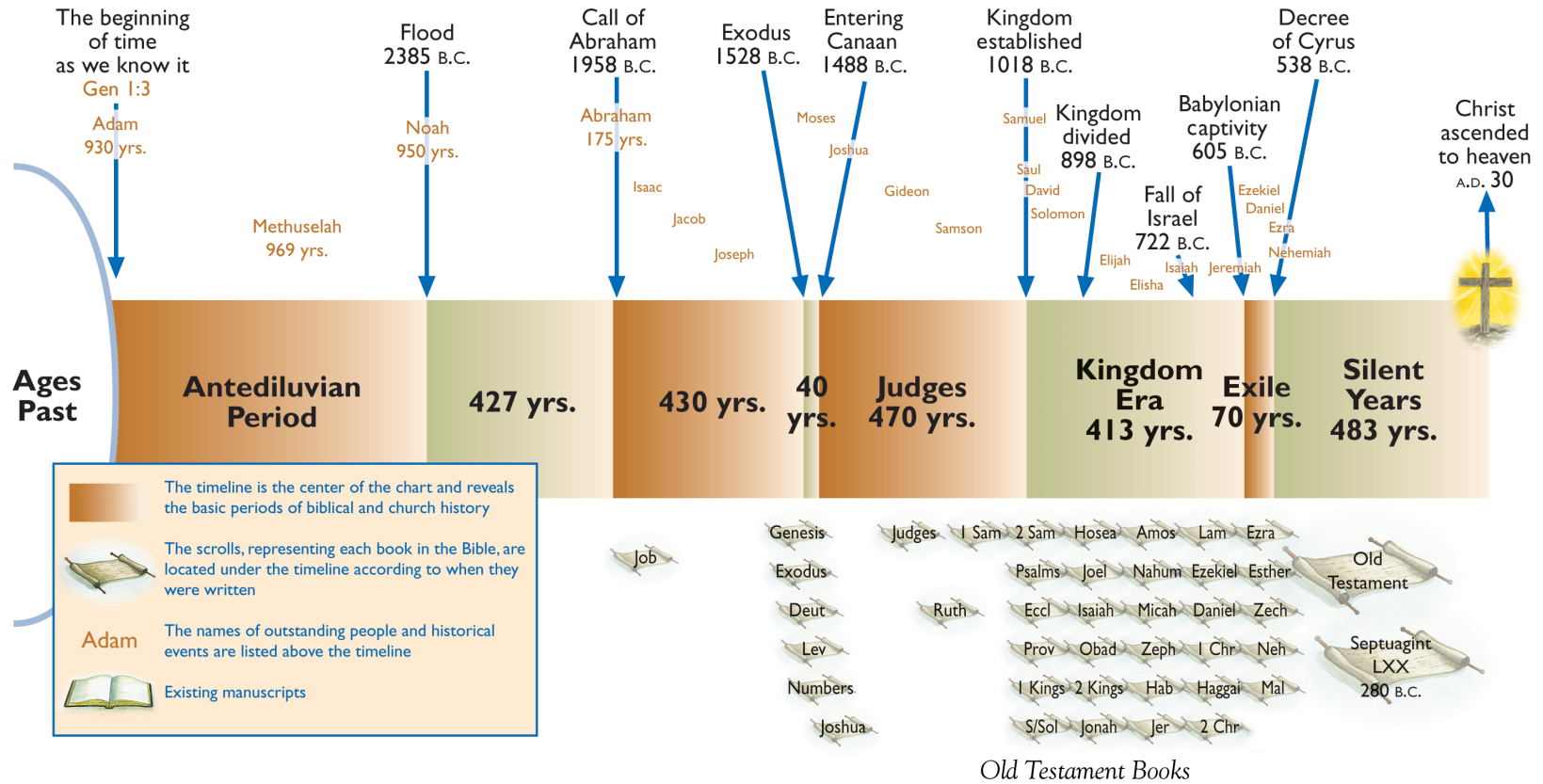
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# How We Get Our Bible



because it proves the Old Testament was canonized by this time. It is also important because its agreement with the original Hebrew text shows that the translators took great care to create an accurate work.

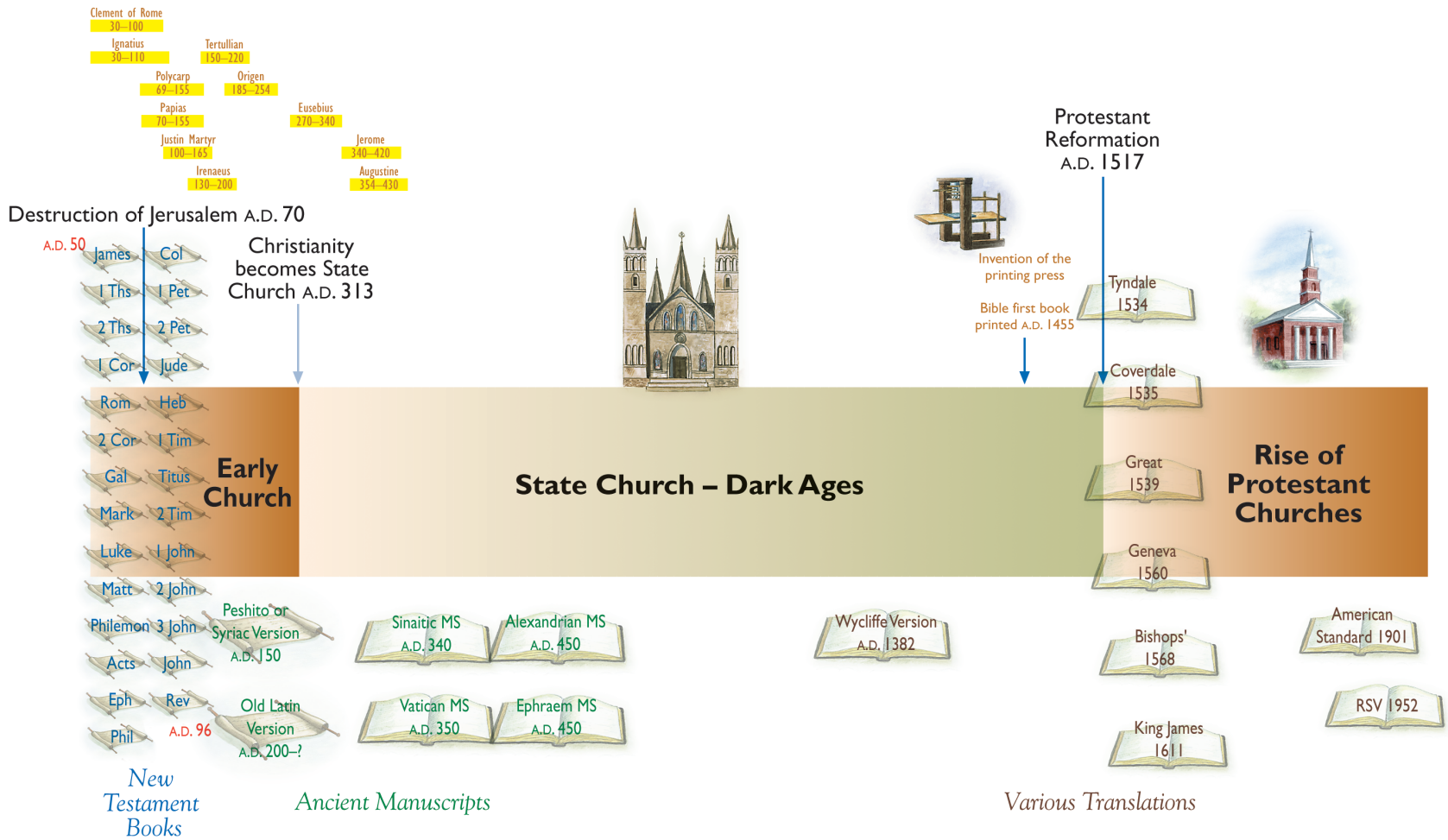
When our modern-day Bibles are compared with the ancient Hebrew texts, Greek Septuagint, and Greek texts, very few differences are found. This clearly suggests the Bible has been accurately preserved like no other ancient book.

The *Apocrypha* is the title given to 14 books that are included in the Roman Catholic Bible. These books were written in the era between the Old Testament and the New Testament. They contain fanciful stories and contradictory statements that immediately reveal that they are not

on the same par as Scripture. They have never been accepted by the Jews as inspired writ, were not quoted by Jesus nor any of the apostles, and were not recognized by the early church. They were “slipped in” with a translation of the Greek Septuagint during the fourth century AD and were recognized by the Catholic Church at the Council of Trent in 1546. They have never been accepted by the Protestant church.

## The New Testament

The New Testament is not arranged chronologically. The accompanying chart lists the 27 books as they were written, beginning with James about AD 50.



The New Testament is divided into five sections:

1. The Gospels . . . . . 4 books—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
2. The History of the Early Church . . . . . 1 book—Acts
3. Paul’s Epistles . . . . . 14 books—Romans to Hebrews
4. General Epistles . . . . . 7 books—James to Jude
5. Prophecy . . . . . 1 book—Revelation

## The New Testament’s Authority

From the start, the early church used the Old Testament in their services with the same authority as did the Jews in their synagogues. As the New Testament books were completed, they were given the same respect as the prophets or Moses and were used right along with the Old Testament Scriptures. In fact, in 1 Timothy 5:18, the apostle Paul quotes from Luke 10:7, citing it as “scripture.” He evidently regarded Luke’s Gospel as Scripture before he wrote his great message on biblical inspiration in 2 Timothy 3:16. In 2 Peter 3:1-2, the apostle Peter placed his and the other apostles’ writings on par with those of the Old Testament prophets. He also showed in 2 Peter 3:15-16 that he was