



SESSION 4: Introducing the Bible

I. How We Got the Bible:

KEY BIBLICAL DATES

In considering the broad scope of biblical history, there are some key dates that help us align the books of the Bible:

- Creation ___Undated 4004 BC___
- Abraham ___1921 BC___
- Exodus ___1447 BC___
- Kingdom ___1095 BC___
- Temple ___1000 BC___
- Assyrian Captivity ___722 BC___
- Babylonian Captivity ___586 BC___
- Return from Babylon ___516 BC___
- Birth of Jesus ___4 BC / 0 AD___
- Death, Burial, & Resurrection of Jesus ___AD 33___
- Fall of Jerusalem ___AD 70___

AUTHORSHIP AND DATE OF BIBLICAL WRITINGS

(GENERAL, ROUGH CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATES)

- Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
___Moses___ 1400 B.C.
- Joshua ___Joshua___ 1350 B.C.
- Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel
___Samuel, Nathan, Gad___ 1000 - 900 B.C.
- 1 Kings, 2 Kings
___Jeremiah___ 600 B.C.
- 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah
___Ezra___ 450 B.C.
- Esther ___Molochai___ 400 B.C.
- Job ___Job / Moses___ 1400 B.C.
- Psalms ___Various_ 1000 — 400 B.C.
David, Asaph, Sons of Korah, Moses, Heman the Ezrahite, Ethan the Ezrahite, Solomon, and other anonymous writers (roughly 50)
- Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon
___Solomon___ 900 B.C.
- Isaiah ___Isaiah___ 700 B.C.
- Jeremiah, Lamentations
___Jeremiah___ 600 B.C.
- Ezekiel _____ Ezekiel___ 550 B.C.
- Daniel ___ Daniel___ 550 B.C.
- Hosea ___ Hosea___ 750 B.C.
- Joel _____ Joel___ 850 B.C.
- Amos ___ Amos___ 750 B.C.
- Obadiah ___ Obadiah___ 600 B.C.
- Jonah _____ Jonah___ 700 B.C.
- Micah _____ Micah___ 700 B.C.
- Nahum ___ Nahum___ 650 B.C.
- Habakkuk ___ Habakkuk___ 600 B.C.
- Zephaniah _____ Zephaniah___ 650 B.C.
- Haggai _____ Haggai___ 520 B.C.
- Zechariah ___ Zechariah___ 500 B.C.
- Malachi _____ Malachi___ 430 B.C.

NEW TESTAMENT

- Matthew ___ Matthew___ A.D. 55
- Mark ___ John Mark___ A.D. 50
- Luke _____ Luke___ A.D. 60
- John ___ John___ A.D. 90/ 70
- Acts ___ Luke___ A.D. 65



- Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon
__Paul____ A.D. 50-70
- Hebrews __Unknown____ A.D. 65 (suggestions: Paul, Luke, Barnabas, or Apollos)
- James __James____ A.D. 45
- 1 Peter, 2 Peter __Peter____ A.D. 60
- 1 John, 2 John, 3 John __John__ A.D. 90/ 70
- Jude __Jude____ A.D. 60
- Revelation __John____ A.D. 90/ 70

PUTTING THE BIBLE TOGETHER WRITING MATERIALS

- Earliest writings __Cuneiform____
- Most of Old Testament __papyrus____
- New Testament __papyrus/ parchment____

SCRIPTURES ABOUT INSPIRATION

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17: God-breathed
- 2 Peter 1:21: “carried along by the Holy Spirit”
- 1 Corinthians 2:6-16 (esp 13): spiritual words
- Acts 4:25: God spoke thru the mouth of David
- 2 Peter 3:16 Paul’s writings “Scripture”

CANON TIMELINE

Old Testament:

- Masoretic Text __6th to 11th Centuries AD__
- Septuagint __132 BC____
- Dead Sea Scrolls __1st Century__ / __1947__
- Cannon Set __by 1st Century____

New Testament:

- Autographs ____Original writings (lost)____
- Manuscripts __> 5,000 ____
- Early Writings __the NT could be reconstructed from the writings of early Christian writers____
- Cannon Set __AD 170 / AD 367____

HOW DID THEY DECIDE?

1. Was there evidence of __apostolic__ origin?
2. Was it theologically __consistent__ with the rest of Scripture?
3. Was it recognized by the __Spirit-filled__ community?
4. Did the writing have __transformative__ power?

