**OUTLINE**

1. Origins of the Bible
   1. Old Testament
   2. New Testament
   3. Apocrypha Books
2. The Bible Today
   1. Different translations & versions

**SOME QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

1. What is the Bible?
2. Is the Bible really the Word of God?
3. Where did the Bible as we know it come from?
4. How did we get all the Bible translations and versions we have today?
5. What’s the difference between one Bible translation or Bible version and another?
6. Why is my Bible different from the Catholic Bible?

**BODY**

What is the Bible? What does it mean? I know many of us probably believe the BIBLE stands for Basic, Instructions, Before, Leaving this Earth. Bible in Greek means “The Books” or “The Book” or “The Holy Bible.”

How do we know we have the right books in our Bible? This is the issue of the Canon. The Canon of the Scriptures. The English word canon comes from the Greek word kanon (literal *rod*). It means the rule or standard. It’s the measuring stick or ruler. The rule by which we measure other things. The Canon are the books that God inspired, and we use these books to judge (or as the rule) everything else as true or false. We believe the books that make up the Bible are the books inspired by God.

How historically did the canon or the list of Books in the Bible develop? When did the current list in our Bible gain full acceptance? Were there any books in doubt? Were there any books rejected? We’ve heard of the Apocryphal Books or the Lost Books of the Bible. Apocrypha in Greek means “to hide away.” These are books or works not accepted as Scripture or considered canon. Some of the Apocrypha books are of doubtful authorship and authenticity.

*Deuterocanonical* means 2nd canon or forming a 2nd canon. This is a term popularized by the Catholics because it became known to refer to the religious books from the Judeo-Christian tradition perceived as having a lower status than those books regarded as normative for doctrine.

By the time Jesus began preaching and teaching along the Sea of Galilee, the Septuagint had already been in circulation for more than a century. And yet, even though Jesus cited Old Testament texts dozens of times in his teachings, he never once quoted any apocryphal texts.

Septuagint – the Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible produced a few centuries before Christ. Often quoted by the New Testament writers.

When do you think the Christian Canon or list of books started to exist? The canon is actually God’s inspired works and they started to exist as man begin to write as they were inspired or moved by the Spirit of God. How did God speak? In times past, He spoke **through His** priests and prophets.

**Heb. 1:1-4 (NASB); John 1:12 & 13 (NASB)**; **2 Peter 1:16-21, 2:1 (NASB)**

List Some Bible Fact

What are 5 Reasons to reject the Apocrypha:

What was a question the council asked as they convened, and what was a Gospel they rejected?