

Week 7 Assignment 7A  
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A canon is writings accepted as authoritative for faith and teaching that are gathered together. The Jewish Bible contains twenty-four books. The Protestant Bible contains thirty-nine books; the Eastern Orthodox Bible, forty-three books; and the Roman Catholic Bible, forty-six books. Many books were hidden because they contained esoteric knowledge that was to be revealed only to member of a particular group.

A council met at Jamnia under the leadership of Rabbi Johanan Ben Zakkai to determine the Jewish canon. Books agreed upon by the council constitute the Jewish canon of today. The council stated The Gospel and the books of the heretics are not sacred scripture. The books of Ben Sira and whatever book have been written since his time, are not sacred scripture. However, Christians continued to use the books that were rejected by the Jamnia Council. This took place in 90 A.D. During the Council of Trent that was held in Trindentum Italy. The Roman Catholic Church declared the books denied by the council of Jamnia to be canonical with the exception of I and II Esdras and the prayer of Manasseh. The Council of Trent was from 1545 to 1563.

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