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Assignment 7a

October 5, 2017, Bi-108 Old Testament Literature, Professor Armstrong

1. After reading the article (1), explain what is meant by canon. Then write a brief summary of each CANON that is outlined.

In this instance a canon is the books of the Bible recognized by any Christian church as genuine and inspired.

The canons outlined in the text are the Jewish Bible, Protestant Bible, Eastern Orthodox, and the Roman Catholic Bible. The Jewish bible contains twenty-four books in the Old Testament, The Protestant Bible, contains thirty-nine books in the Old Testament, The Eastern Orthodox Bible contains forty-three book, and the Roman Catholic church has forty-six books\ which make up the Old Testament.

There was no "official" canon for either Judaism or Christianity until tensions between the two traditions forced official lists to be made. The Jewish canon is usually associated with the Council of Jamnia around AD 90, while the Christian canon was not defined until the fourth century and could still be debated in both Eastern Orthodoxy and Protestantism as late as the 16th century. Eastern Orthodox Eastern Orthodox have a slightly different canon of Scripture. Everything in the Catholic canon is included in the Eastern Orthodox canon, but they have some additional parts, 3 & 4 Maccabees, Psalm 15. The Prayer of Manasseh in Chronicles, and 1 Esdras.

2. Explain what happened at the Council of Jamnia. In what way did it contribute to the canon that we have today? When did this Council take place?

In 90 AD, the council of Jamnia was unimportant in determining the Jewish Canon. It was not a major council like Nicea, but a small collection of rabbinic Jewish leaders. They did not gather to determine the canon of the Old Testament, but rather limited their discussion to the books of Ecclesiastes and the Song of Solomon.

3. Explain what happened at the Council of Trent? When did this Council take place?

The Council of Trent, held between 1545 and 1563 in Trento, northern Italy, was an ecumenical council of the Roman Catholic Church. Prompted by the Protestant Reformation, it has been described as the embodiment of the Counter-Reformation. The council declared the books of the Apocrypha canonical