

Week 7 Discussion Board Biblical Literature 117

Read article The Formation of the New Testament Canon.

1. How is an “apocryphal” writing different from a “noncanonical” writing?

Apocrypha is derived from the Greek word meaning hidden, though not all apocryphal writings are hidden, colloquially, some are unfairly deemed as untruthful. Noncanonical writings are simply early Christian documents that are not found in the New Testament. Unlike the noncanonical writings the Apocryphal writings are a part of the Roman Catholic’s canon. Noncanonicals are written in different forms-gospels, sermons and poetry.

2. Why do Catholics and Eastern Orthodox Religious have a different list of books for their Bible?

Catholics have a very strong belief in the work of the early Christian church and the Church Fathers, who stood their grounds in the wake of reprisals and objections from reformers. They believe in the divinely-inspired Word of God, but there is no list in Scripture itself telling us directly which books are or are not official canon. The Church needed the Early Church Fathers, Sacred Tradition, and councils to help fight heresy and declare the canon based on the teaching of Jesus and His Apostles as well as the guidance of the Holy Spirit. In this way, every Christian has the Bible first from God, Who inspired its authors, but also thanks to Sacred Tradition which preserved the canon.

https://www.reddit.com/r/OrthodoxChristianity/comments/70x9vc/why_does_the_orthodox_bible_have_moredifferent/

Research assignment: Choose one non-canonical books, and discuss your thoughts as to why it was not included in the canon.

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