

Week 4: Revelation of God

God as Divine Revealer

6-Week Outline

Week 1 – Truth of God

God as Giver of Absolute Truth

Week 2 – Existence of God

God as All-Powerful, Transcendent Creator

Week 3 – Creation of God

God as Intelligent Designer & Giver of Life

 Week 4 – Revelation of God

God as Divine Revealer

Week 5 – Divinity of Jesus

Jesus as God Incarnate

Week 6 – Resurrection of Jesus

Jesus as Victorious Savior

6-Fold Process



REVELATION

God makes Himself known



INSPIRATION

God makes Himself known in human words



INSCRIPTURATION

God causes His Word to be written



TRANSMISSION

God's Word copied



TRANSLATION

God's Word is made available in other languages



CANONIZATION

God's Word recognized by the Church as authoritative

Revelation

(Overview of General Revelation)



Broadcast
Tower

Universally Available to

- All People for
- All Time in
- All Places

Knowing God as Creator

Revelation

(External General Revelation - Creation)

“They know the **truth about God** because he has made it **obvious** to them.

For ever since the world was created, people have **seen** the earth and the sky.

Through everything God made, they can **clearly see** his invisible qualities—his **eternal power** and **divine nature**.”

Romans 1:19-20 (NLT)

Revelation

(External General Revelation – Fall of Creation)

“Creation was subjected to **frustration**.
Creation has been **groaning** as in the **pains** of
childbirth right up to the present time.
Creation will be liberated from its
bondage to **decay**.
We **groan** inwardly as we wait eagerly
for the **redemption** of our bodies.”

Romans 8:20-23 (NIV)

Revelation

(Internal General Revelation – Human Conscience)

“Even Gentiles, who do not have God’s written law, show that they know his law when they **instinctively** obey it, even without having heard it. They demonstrate that God’s law **is written in their hearts**, for their own **conscience** and **thoughts** either accuse them or tell them they are doing right.”

Romans 2:14-15

Revelation

(Internal General Revelation - Creation)

“God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who **suppress the truth** by their wickedness. They know the **truth about God** because he has made it obvious to them.”

Romans 1:18-19 (NLT)

Revelation

(Results General Revelation)

God's Eternal Power/Divine Nature in Creation



Moral Conscience (His Image)



Creation is Fallen



Wicked Suppress God's Truth

Revelation

(Evidence for General Revelation)

Emergent Religious Beliefs Among 85% of Indigenous Tribes

Existence of an All-Powerful/Knowing Deity

Existence of Evil/Morality

Existence of a Judging/Punitive Deity

Rituals of Appeasement/Atonement

Revelation

(Evidence for General Revelation)

Psychological Science of Morality

"Evidence suggests that we're all born with some **innate sense of morality** and fairness."

David Pizarro (Cornell University)

"Babies are **predisposed** to interact with good people."

Karen Wynn (Yale University)

"This innate sense of justice is **tragically limited**."
Although babies are born with an innate sense of morality, they are also **born with flaws**."

Paul Bloom (Yale University)

Revelation

(Special Revelation)



Headphones

Selectively Available to

- Specific People at
- Specific Times in
- Specific Ways

Knowing God as Redeemer

Revelation

(Jesus, the Incarnation of God)

“For in Christ lives all the **fullness of God**
in a human body.”

Colossians 2:9 (NLT)

“Christ is the **visible image**
of the invisible God.”

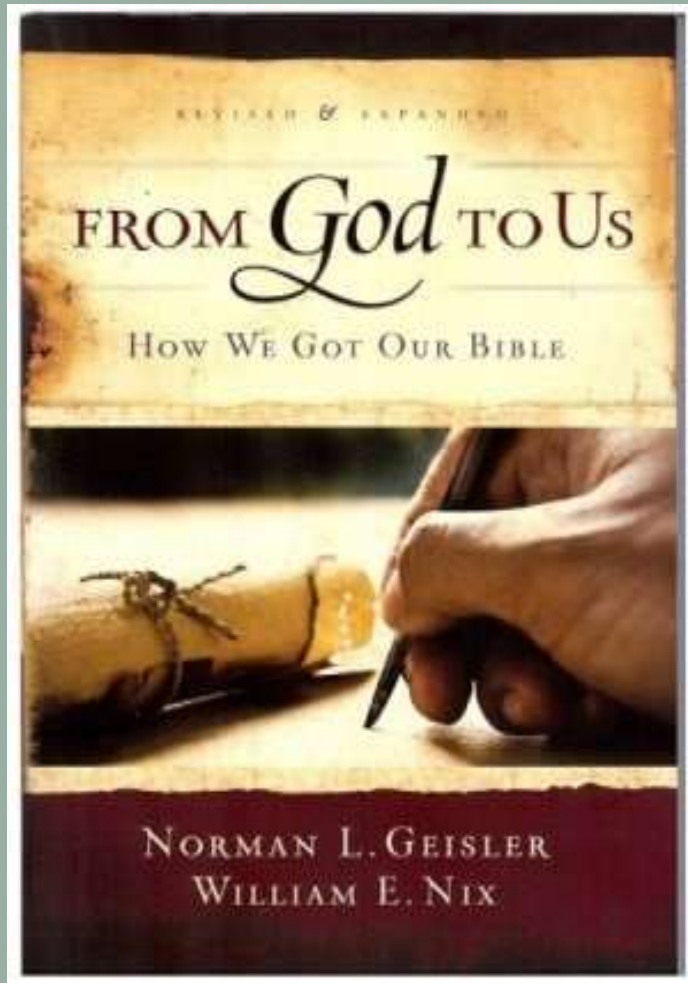
Colossians 1:15 (NLT)

“The Son **radiates** God’s own glory and
expresses the very character of God.”

Hebrews 1:3 (NLT)

From God to Us

How We Got Our Bible



Title: From God to Us

Authors : Norman L. Geisler,
William E. Nix

Publisher : Moody Publishers

Publication Date : July 24, 2012

Edition: Expanded

ISBN-10 : 0802428827

ISBN-13 : 978-0802428820

Inspiration

(Definition)

INSPIRATION is the process of God **speaking authoritatively** through the prophets of the Old Testament and the person of Jesus Christ in the New Testament, and **entrusting** the communication of His Word to godly people **appointed** by Him.

Inspiration

(All Scripture is God-Breathed)

“All Scripture is **God-breathed**
and is useful for teaching, rebuking,
correcting and training
in righteousness.”

2 Timothy 3:16

Inspiration

(Writers were Carried-Along)

“You must understand that **no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation** of things.

For **prophecy never had its origin in the human will**, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were **carried along** by the Holy Spirit.”

2 Peter 1:20-21

Inspiration

(God-Breathed & Carried-Along)

The Writings are
“God-Breathed”

The Writers were
“Carried Along” by the
Holy Spirit



Inspiration

(Evidence for Inspiration)

1,000+ prophecies
found in 66 books
written by 40 authors
over 1,500 years

The consistent and accurate fulfillment of
prophecy throughout the ages proves
one author, God Himself !

Transmission

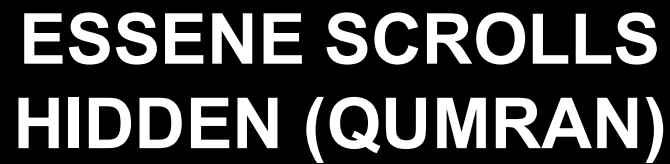
(Old Testament Transmission)

The **veracity** (accuracy) of the OT scriptures relies primarily on the **fidelity** of the **transmission process** used by **skilled scribes**.

→ **Hebrew Scriptures**, the OT, were written from 1,400 BC to 400 BC.

→ **Early Jewish Scribes** copied the OT scriptures from 1,400 BC to 600 AD.

→ **Later Masoretic Scribes** copied the OT scriptures from 600 AD to 1000 AD.



OT Dead Sea Scrolls Timeline



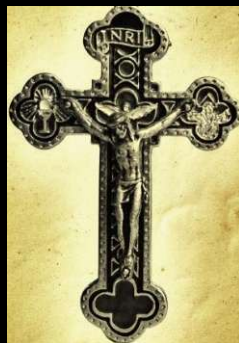
DEAD SEA SCROLLS DISCOVERED



ISAIAH



JESUS



MASORETIC O.T. TEXT



OUR BIBLE



c. 700BC

29 AD

69 AD

980 AD

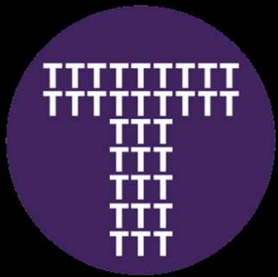
1947

TODAY



AD

2000 YEARS



ESSENE SCROLLS HIDDEN (QUMRAN)

OT Dead Sea Scrolls Timeline



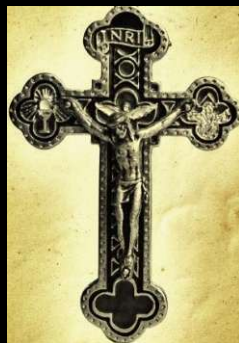
DEAD SEA SCROLLS DISCOVERED



ISAIAH



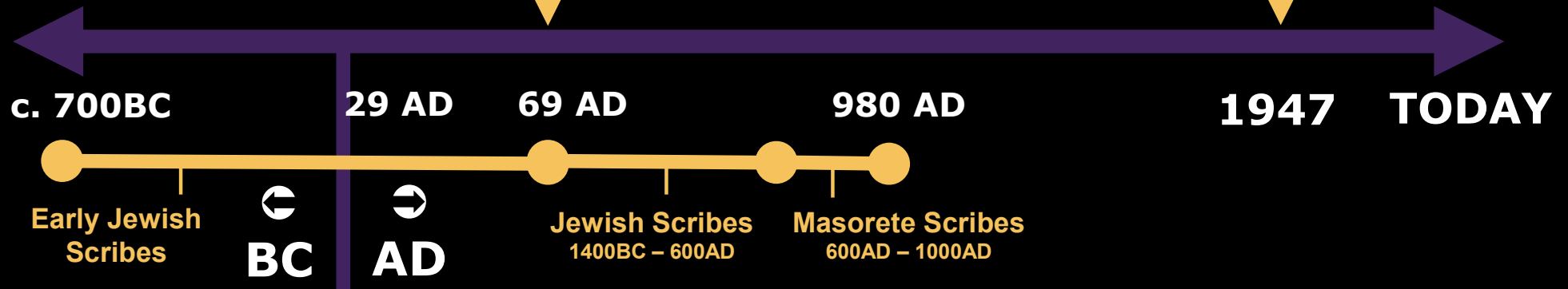
JESUS



MASORETIC
O.T. TEXT



OUR
BIBLE



Transmission

(New Testament Transmission)

The **veracity** of the New Testament
relies primarily on the

multiplicity of manuscripts/fragments

early dating of the manuscripts/fragments

low percentage of variations among the
manuscripts/fragments

Transmission

(New Testament Transmission)

	New Testament
Autograph Written	A.D. 50-90
Earliest Copy (after autograph)	Fragments: 30 yrs. Books: 100 yrs. NT: 250 yrs.
# Copies	24,000+
# Text Lines	20,000
# Lines in Question	40 of 20,000
Accuracy	99.8%

Transmission

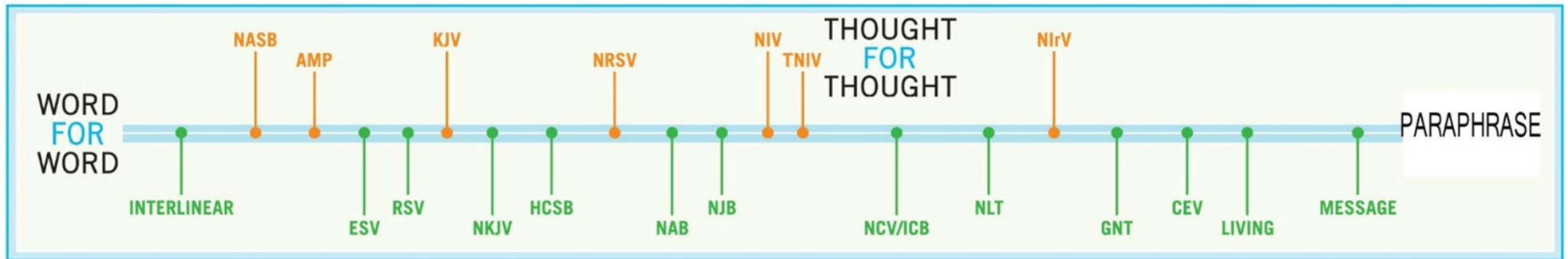
(New Testament Transmission)

	New Testament	Homer's Iliad
Autograph Written	A.D. 50-90	B.C. 900
Earliest Copy (after autograph)	Fragments: 30 yrs. Books: 100 yrs. NT: 250 yrs.	500 yrs.
# Copies	24,000+	600
# Text Lines	20,000	15,600
# Lines in Question	40 of 20,000	764 of 15,600
Accuracy	99.8%	95.1%

Translation

(Translation Continuum)

TRANSLATION CONTINUUM



This continuum shows how different Bible translations fit into the word-for-word and thought-for-thought translation philosophies.

Canonization

(Measuring Inspiration)

Canon is a way to **measure** the divine inspiration of an ancient manuscript.



Canonization

(Inspiration Recognized, Not Made)

The **Canon** of Scripture (66 books) was **recognized** as having divine authority.

They were **not made** authoritative by any person, group, or church.

Canonization

(Essential Criteria for Canonicity)

- (1) Prophetic and Apostolic **Origin**
of the Manuscripts
- (2) Historic and Doctrinal **Soundness**
of the Manuscripts
- (3) Wide **Acceptance** by the OT Jews
and the NT Church

Canonization

(Apocrypha Books / Deuterocanonical)

Tobit

Judith

Wisdom of Solomon

Ecclesiasticus (Sirach)

Baruch (incl. Letter to Jeremiah)

1 Maccabees

2 Maccabees

+ Greek Additions to Esther and Daniel