

Sermon – Friday, 20 August 2010
How Did the Bible Get Here

John 1:1

- What is the word of God
- What is the difference between the scriptures and the word of God.

2 Tim 3:16

- All scripture is God breathed and inspired
- So How Did the Bible Get Here
- There were 4 Steps

The Four Steps of How the Bible Got Here (show slide)

- Authorship
- Canonisation
- Copying
- Translation

Authorship

- 40 Authors
- 1500 years
- Complete Harmony with one another
- Show authorship slide

Canonisation

- Someone had to decide what really was scripture and what wasn't
- This is where the word canon comes from
- Canon means a ruler – something to measure and test something with.

Show Canonisation Slide

- Ezra was the person who compiled the Old Testament
- He pulled all of its scrolls into a collection
- How do we know he did it right?

The Road to Emmaus – Luke 24:13-27

- Jesus said (v27) that the Law and the Prophets
- V44-49 Jesus attests that the Old Testament is Scripture
- Jesus confirms that Ezra got it right

How was the New Testament Canonised

- The Apostles wrote many things
- For example 2 Peter 3:15-16
- Peter confirms that in addition to the Old Testament, that what Paul wrote was scripture
- We have Bible and historical backup for the majority of the scripture

Canonisation was completed

- Council of Carthage 397AD
- They considered who wrote the books
- They considered if the books were compatible with other scripture
- They agreed that the canon was complete at 27 books.

Step Three

- Copying
- There were no printing presses – each book was manually copied
- How do we know things didn't get changed – like a Chinese whisper

The Dead Sea Scrolls

- Show pictures
- Tell about the accuracy of the scrolls

Step Four

- Translation
- Differences in wording

Types of Translations

- Word for Word - NIV
- Meaning for Meaning - NLT
- Paraphrase – Good News

A Matter of Faith

- Our Trust is Placed in God
- God works in normal ways – For example **The Ten Commandments**
- Moses came down the hill with Tablets
- Nobody saw God write on the tablets – they trusted what Moses said.
- God uses people and so things seem normal.

And So God Used People

- He used people to write the Bible
- He used people to gather it together
- He used people to break it up into chapters and verses
- He used people to print it
- He used people to copy it and translate it into thousands of languages
- This is the Holy Scriptures

So God Does ask Us to Trust Him – To Believe that He Uses People

- But that is how the Bible Got Here
- To believe that the Bible is real is to trust God
- To trust God is to believe what He says in the Bible.