APOCRYPHA / ECCLESIASTICAL BOOKS

1 · Timeline Of Inclusion & Exclusion





Bible / Actor Timeline Count Survey Old Testament Apocrypha, only counted if part of the 15 deuterocanonical books (Psalm 151 and additions to Esther not counted as book; 1&2 Clement added). It is not always clear if Nehemiah & Ezra are counted as 1 or 2 books called Esdras. BC ~282-250 BC · Greek Pentateuch Apocrypha not yet written. The 70 elders translated **Source** (Septuagint, 70, LXX) only the Pentateuch (five books of the Torah / Law). 5 Books written during the completion of the Greek OT: ~300-140 BC Source (Letter of Jeremiah ~300 BC, Psalm 151 ~300-200 BC, Sirach ~180-175 BC, Tobit ~225-164 BC, Wisdom of · Greek Old Testament 22 + 0 Further, unknown translators amongst the Alexandrian Source ~250-140 BC (5x Septuagint + 17) Jews translated the remaining 17 books of the OT. What some coined 'Septuagintal Plus' (=Apocrypha) and many still erroneously consider integral part of the Septuagint, **Source** would not even be finished until 240 years after (!) the Greek OT had been fully translated in 140 BC. 1c. BC · Jews of Alexandria All groups except the Samaritans (and naturally certain Source sects) had the same canon, although not specified as and of Palestine such. 6 Books written after the completion of the Greek OT: **Source** 150-1 BC (2 Maccabees ~150-120 BC, 1 Maccabees ~135-103 BC, 1c. AD CHRISTOS, His disci-0 CHRISTOS and His disciples read and quoted from one ples and NT writers canon, from the Greek and Aramaic / Hebrew OT. IESOUS AD and the NT writers not even once quoted the Apocrypha, although there are hundreds of quotes and references to almost all of the canonical books of the OT. · Philo of Alexandria He quoted the OT extensively, but he never quoted Source 20 BC-40 AD (Hellenistic Jewish Phil.) No / Minor Influence Apocrypha included in the collection of biblical and Source 1c. AD · Dead Sea Scrolls 21 + 3(Written 3c. BC - 1c. AD) extra biblical books (3 books), but not written on Source the special parchment reserved for the Bible. · Apocalypse of Ezra Considered dozens of other books, but excluded <u>Source</u> after 70 AD 24 + 0 those upon a 'special revelation' from THEOS to consider only the 24 books (22 books +?). ~80 AD Apocrypha thoroughly rejected. He frequently used Josephus 22 + 0Josephus, Against Apion 1:8 (Roman-Jewish historian) the Greek OT. He specifically mentioned 22 OT books and also used the Greek OT 5500 BC timeline. ~90 AD · Council of Jamnia Some sources state that they did not recognize the <u>Source</u> Apocrypha, while others say that this council was **Source** not about the canon at all. 200 BC · Apocrypha (Part III / III) 15 4 Books finished after CHRISTOS (completing 15 books): - 100 AD (Prayer of Manasseh ~200 BC-50 AD, 4 Maccabees ~18-55 AD, Baruch ~200 BC-100 AD, 2 Esdras ~90-100 AD) Apocrypha not included. Rabbi Akiva (died 135 AD; 24 + 0 <u>Source</u> ~120-160 AD Proto-Masoretic Text (Basic text for most modern (39)the mastermind behind the OT manipulation and the translations such as AMP, heretical Talmud; hater of the Good Message; he pro-ESV, KJV, NASB, NIV, NLT ... claimedBar Kochba as 'messiah') was instrumental in For centuries erroneously drawing up the canon of the Tanakh. He condemned Source thought to be the original Hebrew text, and now only reluctantly being admitted the public-, but favored a private reading of the Apocrypha; he even made frequent use Sirach. by scholars). 24 + 0 2-4c AD · Tanakh / Talmud Wisdom of Sirach (Ben Sira) was now quoted several Source times in the Talmud and was closest to an inclusion in the canon. Considered as 'historically valuable's 1-2 Maccabees and Judith. Considered 'heretical': 3-4 Maccabees, Susanna, plus Enoch and Jubilees. (early 2c. AD) Bryennios List 22 Apocrypna not included. · Justin Martyr Apocrypha never mentioned in any of his works. - 160 AD (Apologist & Philosopher) · Melito Apocrypha not mentioned in his OT canon list. <u>Source</u> 170 AD 21 (Bishop of Sardis) · Christian Church Many Christians accepted Apocrypha / Ecclesiastical The Canon 1-3c. AD of Scripture, by F.F. Bruce Books as 'profitable for reading'. It also became a part of the liturgy in some churches. <u>Jerome</u> He saw the Christian canon as consisting of '22 books 240 AD Origen Adamantius penning<u>,</u> page 237-<u>238</u> (Scholar, Ascetic, Theologian) of the Hebrews' (he included the Epistle of Jeremiah), lus the Ecclesiastical books. But he used those apocryphal books indiscriminately with those of Scripture as sources for dogmatic proof texts, and cited as inspired / Scripture: Baruch, Judith, Maccabees (plural), see also the study Tobit, Wisdom (of Solomon). He also defended Bel and the Dragon, Sirach and Susanna. He only discriminated the Pseudepigrapha, which he called in fact 'Apocrypha' in the sense of being hidden / secret. ► see also Eusebius of Caesarea ~324 AD Apocrypha considered as 'profitable for reading', and 2 books considered as canonical. (Historian, Exegete) · Council of Nicaea No definition of the biblical canon, but the <u>Source</u> 325 AD (Ecumenical Council) book of Judith was considered inspired. ~350 AD · Cyril of Jerusalem (Theologian, Bishop) Apocrypha considered as 'profitable for reading', 22 + and 2 books considered as canonical. · Cheltenham Apocrypha considered canonical (4 books). ~360 AD 22 + (37)The list specifically mentions 22 OT books. Apocrypha considered as 'profitable for reading'. Judith, Tobith considered canonical by some. He quoted Baruch in one breath with Moses and Isaiah, quoted Wisdom and called Susanna 'blessed'. · Hilary of Poitiers ~360 AD 22 + 0 (Bishop, Catholic Doctor of the Church, Philosopher) (5) References to Baruch, Maccabees, <u>Susanna</u> · Lucifer of Cagliari <u>Source</u> ~360 AD (Catholic Bishop) <u>Source</u> (Catholic) ~360 AD **Gregory of Nazianzus** 0 Apocrypha rejected. He counted 22 OT books. But he (Archbishop, Theologian) taught from Baruch, Judith, Sirach and from Wisdom of Solomon, and treated it rather as Scripture. Apocrypha considered as 'profitable for reading', and 2 books considered as canonical. 22 OT books. ~363 AD · Council of Laodicea **22** + **2** see also the study 'Canon' ~367 AD · Athanasius of Alexan-Apocrypha considered as 'profitable for reading', 22 + 4 dria (Pope of Coptic Church) and 4 books considered as canonical. 22 OT books. He quoted 4 books as Scripture: Baruch, Judith, Sirach, Wisdom of Solomon. <u>Source</u> (Catholic) ~370 AD · Basil the Great (Catholic Doctor, Bishop, Theologian) 22 + 4 ~380 AD **Apostolic Canons** Apocrypha considered as 'profitable for reading', (Syrian Church Order) and 4 books considered as canonical. 22 OT books. **≥** see also 21 + 0 Apocrypha thoroughly rejected. ~380 AD · Amphilochius the study 'Canon' (Bishop) ~385 AD · Epiphanius 22 + Apocrypha considered as 'profitable for reading', (Bishop) (27)and 2 books considered as canonical. · Sinaiticus (Aleph) Apocrypha included (6 books), only part of <u>Source</u> ~350 AD Greek Old Testament the manuscript survived. (Alexandrian text-type) Vaticanus (B) 4th C. 39 + Apocrypha included (7 books). <u>Source</u> Greek Old Testament (Alexandrian text-type) Pope Damasus / 382 AD 39 + Apocrypha partly legalized as canonical, through Council of Rome his Council of Rome. Fully merged with biblical texts. Damasus then commissioned in 383 AD the Latin Vulgate edition of the Bible, which would prove instrumental in the fixation of the canon in the West. Augustine of Hippo The decisive link to legalize the Apocrypha as canonical 393 AD 39 + (3rd Catholic Doctor & for both 'Christians' and Roman Catholics, through his Council of Hippo. Most studies on the Canon intentionally conceal his role based on the significant conflict of interest. Augustine frequently drew from the apocryphal books in his writings. (He was also a former Manichaean, Amillennialist, followed the 7 Catholic sacraments, Genesis only myth, Infant Baptism, Purgatory, Ransom-Theorist, et al.). · Council of Carthage Summary of the Council of Hippo, reconfirmed 419 AD, 397 AD 39 + (and 419 AD) therefore Apocrypha formalized as canonical. Re-confirmation of the council of Hippo & Carthage, 405 AD · Pope Innocent I 39 + therefore Apocrypha formalized as canonical. 4-5th C. Jerome (of Stridon) Apocrypha rejected (personal position). But he called **Source** Baruch a prophet, quoted from Bel and the Dragon, (Confessor, Historian, (7)Catholic Priest, Secre-2 Maccabees, Sirach, Susannah, Tobit and Wisdom. **Source** tary to Pope Damasus, He encouraged churches to read Wisdom of Solomon Theologian) and Eccesiasticus for their edification. · Jerome's Vulgate **Source** Jerome had now submitted to the decree of Rome of 405 AD 39 + Latin Old Testament / Maso-Pope St Damasus who had commissioned the Vulgate. **Source** retic Text (Western text-type) He included 7 books as canonical. · Alexandrinus (A) 39 + Apocrypha included (10 books), merged. <u>The Canon</u> 5th C. of Scripture, by F.F. Bruce Greek Old Testament (Alexandrian text-type) ~590 AD · Pope Gregory the Great 39 + Considered Sirach, Tobit and Wisdom explicitly as **Source** Scripture. He probably accepted 7 books, with reser-'Macc.' vations on 1 Maccabees. He refers to the Apocrypha <u>'Tobit'</u> ~37-40 times in the same way as to Scripture. He did 'Wisdom' clearly -NOT- remove it from the codices. Apocrypha considered as canonical (7 books; disguised as content of the 'Apostolic Canons'). ~730 AD · John of Damascus Source 22 Bibl (Apologist, Monk, Priest) jo in Majority · Hugh of Saint Victor ~1130 AD 22 + 0 Apocrypha considered as 'profitable for reading'. (Mystic, Theologian) Source 22 + 12c. AD Glossa Ordinaria 0 Apocrypha considered as 'profitable for reading'. <u>credibility,</u> (Medieval Scholarly Bible) <u>numerous</u> ~1330 AD Nicholas of Lyra 39 + Apocrypha thoroughly rejected. nclusion (Franciscan, former Jew) · Council of Florence 39 Apocrypha included (7 books), merged. **Source** 1442 AD (Ecumenical Council) 22 + Apocrypha thoroughly rejected. **Source** ~1450 AD Antoninus of Florence (Dominican Friar, Archbishop) <u>Original</u> <u>Bible</u> Gutenberg Bible 39 Apocrypha included (10 books), fully merged. 1455 AD (First Mass-Produced Bible) **Source** 22 Apocrypha considered as 'profitable for reading'. ~1510 AD · Erasmus (Catholic Theologian, (39)He indicated an acceptance of a wide Christian canon. <u>Source</u> Philosopher) <u>Source</u> · Complutensian Polyglot 1517 AD Apocrypha included (7 books), separate section. (Franciscan) <u>Original</u> <u>Bible</u> 1524 AD · Zwingli's Zürich Bible 39 Apocrypha included, fully merged (some say separate (Reformed) section, but the original clearly shows it to be included in between-, not at the end of the OT books) <u>Original</u> <u>Bible</u> 1534 AD · Luther Bible 24 Apocrypha included (11 books), same weight as the (Augustinian) (39) books of Hebrews, James, Jude and Revelation. He badly disparaged the book of James. Also rejection **Source** of Esther, while he regarded 1 Maccabees and Judith as "not unworthy" to be reckoned among Holy Scrip-Works of Luther ture. He cited Sirach (191x) and Wisdom of Solomon; **Original** Apocrypha included (14 books), separate section. 1537 AD · Matthew's Bible 39 14 **Source** · Myles Coverdale Bible 39 Apocrypha included (12 books), separate section. 1538 AD (Preacher, Theologian) 1546 AD · Council of Trent 39 Apocrypha included (7 books), merged. **Source** (Roman Catholic) · Geneva Bible 12 Apocrypha included (12 books), separate section. <u>Original</u> <u>Bible</u> 1560 AD 39 · Belgic Confession 13 Rejected, but 13 books considered 'profitable for reading'. **Source** 1561 AD 39 (Augustinian-Calvinists) Bishop's Bible Apocrypha included (13 books), separate section. **Source** 1568 AD 39 13 1569 AD · Reina-Valera Bible 39 Apocrypha included (14 books), merged. Separate sec-14 (Spanish Bible) tion in second edition in 1602 AD, removed in 1862 AD. 13 1571 AD · 39 Articles 39 Rejected, but 13 books considered 'profitable for (Anglican) reading' and read in their churches until today. 39 1592 AD · Clementine Vulgate Apocrypha included (7 books), separate section. 1611 AD · King James Bible 39 Apocrypha included (14 books), separate section. **Source** 14 Source Apocrypha thoroughly rejected. Source 1647 AD · Westminster CoF 39 (Augustinian) **Source** 1851 AD · Lancelot Brenton LXX 39 15 Apocrypha included (15 books), separate section. Apocrypha excluded for reasons related to costs. The 1885 AD King James Bible 39 0 National Bible Society of Scotland had successfully petitioned in 1826 to not print anymore the Apocrypha. If it would not have proven less costly to produce the Bibles without it, we would most probably (!) still have the Apocrypha in our common Bibles today. Apocrypha included (14 books), separate section. 1979 AD · Good News Bible 39 + 14 (Reformed)



Conclusions

Summarizing now the studies 'Biblical Canon · Comparison of 28 Resources & Historians', 'Bible · Introduction to Non-Canonical Writings' and 'Septuagint · Biblical Proof for Superiority over Masoretic Texts', we can conclude the following facts:

1. The 'Apocrypha' should rather be designated 'Exclesionatical Books', because most are neither hidden on strictly heretical books and had been openly used in Jewish Synagogues and Christian churches. 2. The '70 (72) elders exclusively translated the Pentareuch, while other Jews translated the remaining 17 books of the Old Testament (Prophets and Writings) by about 140 BC, completing therefore 22 books (modern count 39). At the time the translation of the Greek OT had been finalized in 140 BC, only 5 apocryphal books were written. Il apocryphal books were completed until the time of CHRISTOS, while it took at least until 100 AD (2 Esdras possibly until 300 AD) until the Apocrypha Ecclesiastical Books were completed. 3. There is no evidence that the Alexandrian Jews ever promulgated a canon of Scripture. 4. It can be said with reasonable certainty that the Septuagint did not include the Apocrypha until the middle of the second century AD. CHRISTOS and His disciples, the New Testament in Itself, (the Apocalypse of Ezra), Josephus, Bryennios Isk, Justin Martyr and Mellito, all not mentioning or explicitly rejecting the Apocrypha are sources of too much of importance to be simply ignored. Even the authors of the Dead Sea Scrolls, who included Septuagint texts, intentionally wrote the Apocrypha no normal parthement and not on parchment reserved for the Bible. 5. The oldest-surviving nearly-complete manuscripts of the Greek OT including parts of the Apocrypha are from about 325–350 AD (about 600 years before the oldest Hebrow manuscript). We simply do not know at what point between the middle of the second century AD and the creation of the mega codices the Apocrypha had been included, and it is highly probable that the mega codices that contain the Greek Old Testament. 5. The complete Apocrypha is not found in any of the various codices that contain the Greek Old Testament. 6. The complete Apocrypha is not found in any of the various codices that contain the Greek Old Testament. 7. Although the Roman Catho	Canonical writings and Septuagnic Diolical Froot for Superiority over masoretic rexts, we can conclude the following facts.		
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> The Reformed Church should take the lead and acknowledge their complicity before THEOS and the universal church, namely to have been responsible for having included up to 95% of the OT Apocrypha into nearly all our Bibles, from the time of Zwingli (1524 AD) until the time the King James Version excluded it in 1885 AD. We as individual believers do not bear intergenerational guilt, but we have to take responsibility on an 'denominational' level, by openly reflecting and decidedly returning to THEOS' Word alone. By the appearance of the Apocrypha in the Good News Bible (1979, having involved at least 28 Reformed translators), it should be apparent that we are far from Sola Scriptura. Many popular Bible softwares in our day now include without any further orientation the Apocrypha and it is only a question of time until people become once again all too familiar with the Apocrypha.

