

The NT Canon

ἀφίσταται ἀφ' ἡμῶν· καὶ πησώσαν
τὸς αὐτὸν τοῖς ὀρμῶσι οὗ ταύτη τῶν
λαίμαρμονομοσταυ αὐτὸν ἕξ
πόμεται ἀπὸ τῶν αὐ
τομομοιοιοσῶν προσεγγήται, οὕτω
δόχομαι τὸν ἀρατὸν· καὶ οὕτω μὲν
αἴρον καὶ ἀγγροσῶν ἀποιμῶν
ξωαπτότη· ταῦτα μὲν οὐκ ἐπιτὼθεῖ
τοῦτω ἐγδύτο· τοῦ δ' ἀπὸ γηγομῶν οὐ
χῶμῶν οὐκ ἐπιτὼ ἀρχομῶν οὐκ ἔστω
πολερῶν καὶ δημοσθῶν ἀρατηγοῖς

	Irenaeus of Lyons c. AD130-200	Muratorian Canon AD170-210	Eusebius' EH 3.25 c. AD260-340	Athanasius' 39th Paschal letter AD367	Present Order
Matthew					Matthew
Mark					Mark
Luke					Luke
John					John
Acts					Acts
Romans					Romans
1 Corinthians					1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians					2 Corinthians
Galatians					Galatians
Ephesians					Ephesians
Philippians					Philippians
Colossians					Colossians
1 Thessalonians					1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians					2 Thessalonians
1 Timothy					1 Timothy
2 Timothy					2 Timothy
Titus					Titus
Philemon					Philemon
Hebrews					Hebrews
James			D		James
1 Peter					1 Peter
2 Peter			D		2 Peter
1 John					1 John
2 John			D		2 John
3 John			D		3 John
Jude			D		Jude
Revelation					Revelation

Wisdom of Solomon			
Apocalypse of Peter		S	
Shepherd of Hermas	**	S	*
Acts of Paul		S	
Epistle of Barnabas		S	
The Didache		S	*
Gospel according to the Hebrews		S	

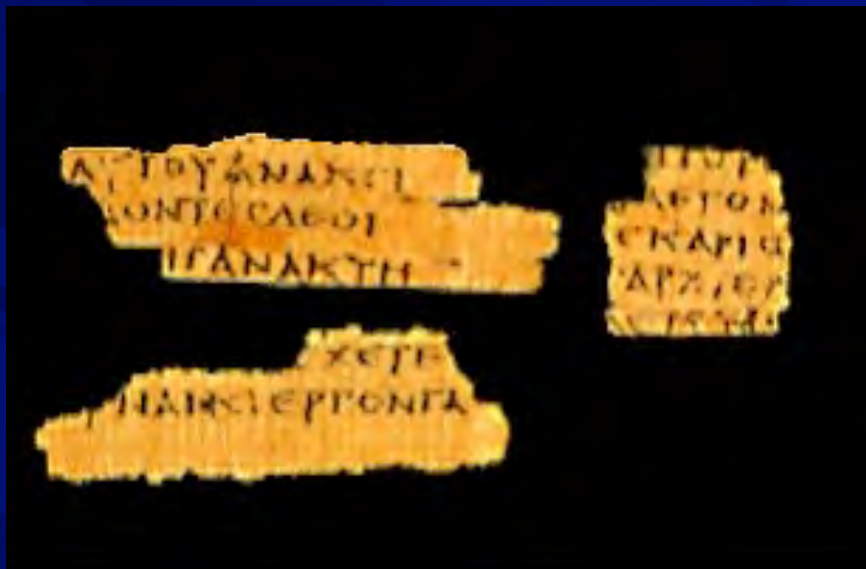
- Gospels
- Pauline Epistles, probably collected into a corpus c. AD 80-85
- 'Catholic' Epistles
- Disputed
- Apocryphal (selected works)
- S Spurious
- Permitted reading
- ** Permitted reading but not for public worship

NT Canonicity

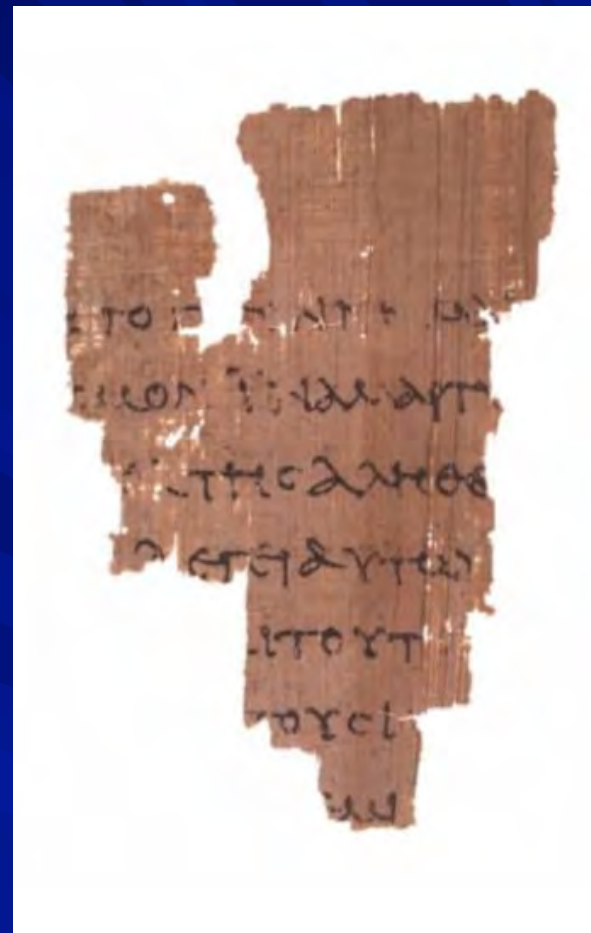
- Apostolic
- Accepted



Really Early Fragments!



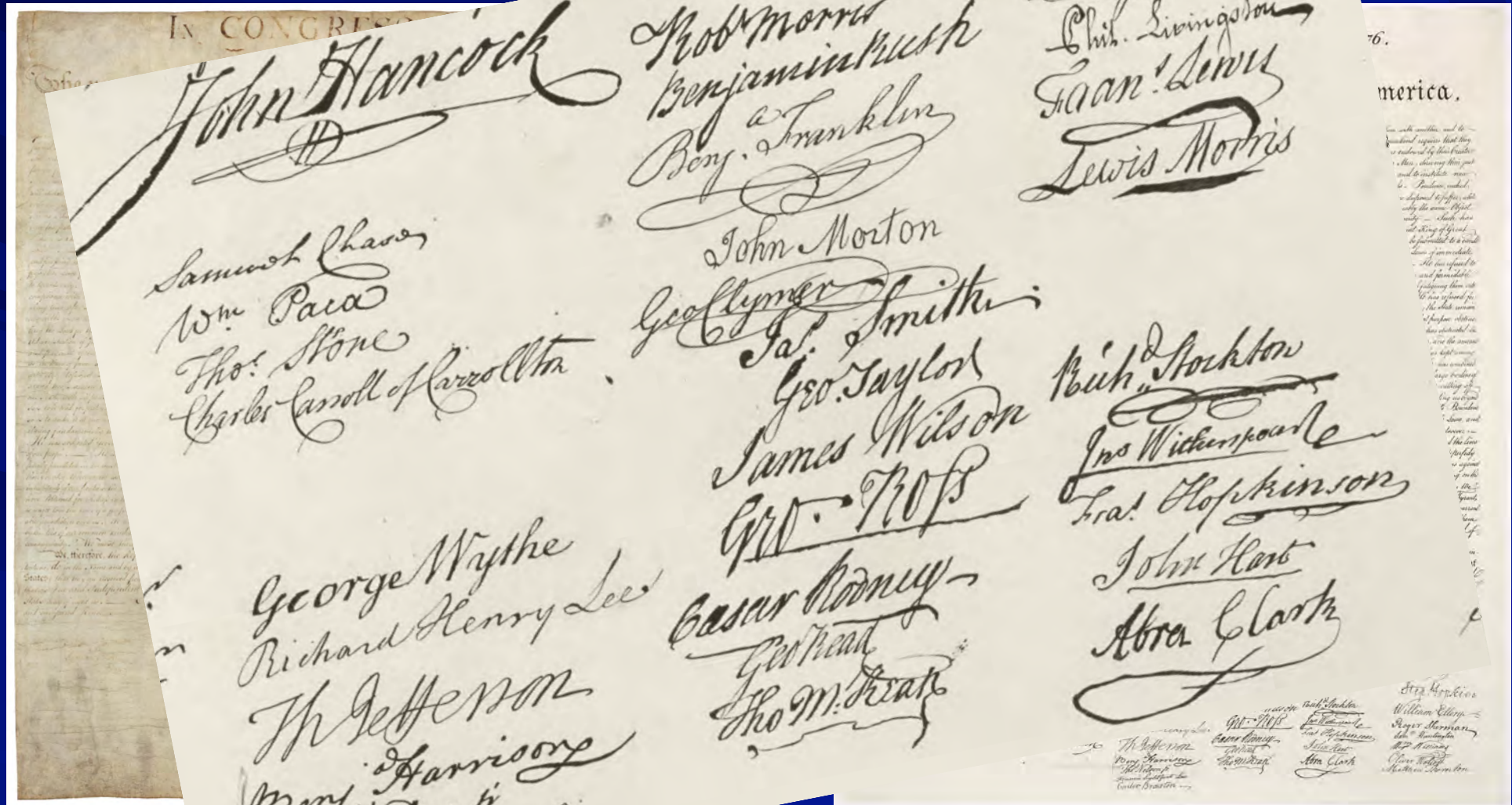
- Magdalen Fragment of Matthew
- AD 50-200



- John Rylands Fragment of John 18:31-33, 37-38
- AD 125

Why No Original NT B

?



- Original Declaration of Independence
- AD 1776

- Engraving of the Declaration by printer William J. Stone
- AD 1823

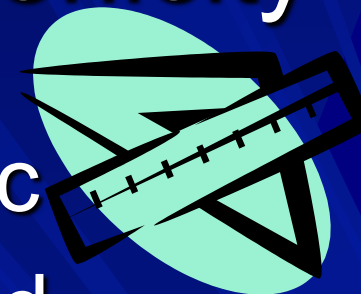
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Macedonia
Paul Wrote 1 Timothy
AD 62

For the Scripture says, "Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain," and "**The worker deserves his wages**" (1 Timothy 5:18).

Paul Called
Luke's Gospel
"Scripture"
within 5 years!

Caesarea
Luke Written
AD 57-59

Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for **the worker deserves his wages...** (Luke 10:7)



Rome

Peter Wrote 2 Peter

AD 64



Paul's Letters Written

AD 49-62



**Peter Also
Called Paul's
Letters
"Scripture"!**

"...Our dear brother **Paul also wrote to you** with the wisdom God gave him. He writes the same way in all his letters, speaking in them of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, **as they do the other Scriptures**, to their own destruction" (2 Peter 3:15-16)

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NT Canonicity



- Apostolic
- Accepted
- Doctrine

The New Testament Canon During the First Four Centuries 36

H. Wayne House

Acceptance of
the Four
Gospels Before
Nicaea

X= Citation
or allusion

O= Named
as authentic

Individuals **Canons** **Translations**

Pseudo-Barnabas (70-130)
Clement of Rome (95-97)
Polycarp (110-150)
Hermas (115-140)
Didache (120-150)
Papias (130-140)
Irenaeus (130-140)
Justin Martyr (150-202)
Origen (185-254)
Cyril of Jerusalem (315-386)
Marcion (140)
Muratonian (170)
Barococcio (206)
Apostolic (300)
Tatian Diatesseron (170)
Old Latin (150-170)
Old Syriac (200)

Matthew	X	X	X	X	X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Mark	X		X	X		O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Luke	X		X		X	O	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
John				X		O	O	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O

Gospel of
Thomas
AD 50-140

Gospel of
Judas
AD 170?

1st
Cent.

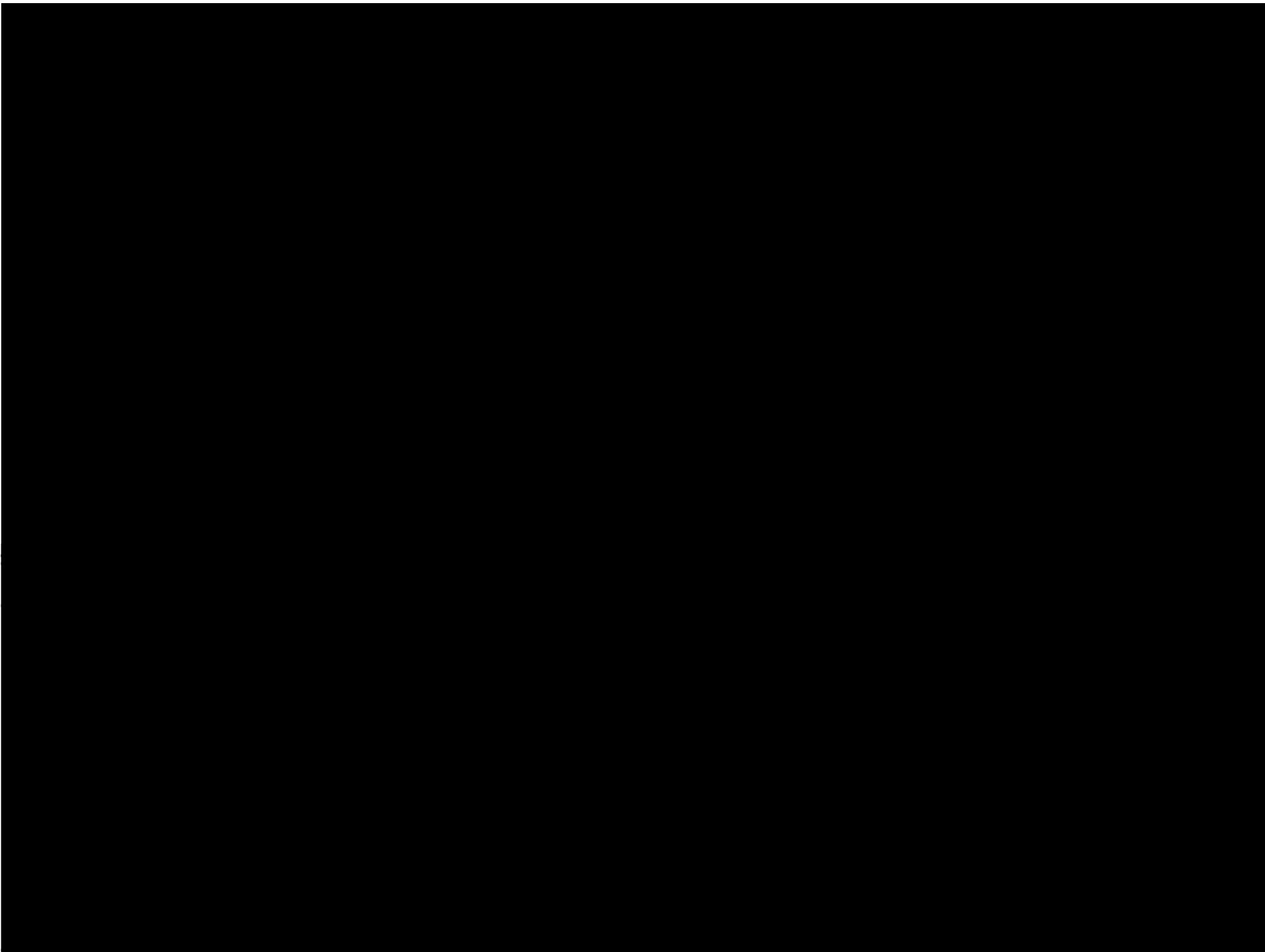
AD 325

Council of Nicaea

Extant Copies of Pagan vs. NT Writings

#	Author	When Written	Earliest Copy	Time Span	Number of Copies
6	Plato	347 BC	AD 900	1200 yrs	7
12	Catullus	54 BC	AD 1550	1600 yrs	3
14	Pliny	AD 113	AD 850	750 yrs	7

Josh McDowell, *Evidence That Demands a Verdict*, 40;
 John Grassmick, "NT Introduction," Dallas Seminary class notes, 160



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