

# The Living Word of God

## Session 2 The Canon of Scripture

### 1. The Old Testament

#### a. Article VI

##### **Of the Sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures for Salvation**

Holy Scripture containeth all things necessary to salvation: so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man, that it should be believed as an article of the Faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation. In the name of the Holy Scripture we do understand those canonical Books of the Old and New Testament, of whose authority was never any doubt in the Church.

##### ***Of the Names and Number of the Canonical Books***

Genesis, The First Book of Samuel, The Book of Esther, □ Exodus, The Second Book of Samuel, The Book of Job, □ Leviticus, The First Book of Kings, The Psalms, □ Numbers, The Second Book of Kings, The Proverbs, □ Deuteronomy, The First Book of Chronicles, Ecclesiastes or Preacher, □ Joshua, The Second Book of Chronicles, Cantica, or Songs of Solomon, □ Judges, The First Book of Esdras, Four Prophets the greater, □ Ruth, The Second Book of Esdras, Twelve Prophets the less.

And the other Books (as Hierome saith) the Church doth read for example of life and instruction of manners; but yet doth it not apply them to establish any doctrine; such are these following:

The Third Book of Esdras, The rest of the Book of Esther, □ The Fourth Book of Esdras, The Book of Wisdom, □ The Book of Tobias, Jesus the Son of Sirach, □ The Book of Judith, Baruch the Prophet, □ The Song of the Three Children, The Prayer of Manasses, □ The Story of Susanna, The First Book of Maccabees, □ Of Bel and the Dragon, The Second Book of Maccabees.

All the Books of the New Testament, as they are commonly received, we do receive, and account them Canonical. □

#### b. The Compilation of the Old Testament

##### i. Book of Generations (Genesis 5:1)

ii. Books of Moses

- Tables of the law
- Written with the finger of God (Exodus 31:18)

iii. The Law, the Prophets and the Writings (Luke 24:45)

iv. Daniels' reference to the 'books' (Daniel 9:2)

v. Nehemiah's compilation after Exile

Nehemiah...gathered together the books about the kings and the prophets, and the books of David and the letters of kings about sacred gifts. And in like manner Judas also gathered for us all those writings that had been scattered by reason of the war that befell and they are still with us.

2 Maccabees 2:13-14

vi. The Hebrew Scripture as Canon

- The end of prophecy
- The teaching of Jesus
- The teaching of the apostles

c. The Compilation of the New Testament

i. The words of Jesus—oral learning

ii. The words of the apostles (John 17; Ephesians 2:20)

iii. Clement (AD 90); Irenaeus (AD 130-200)

iv. Athanasius' Paschal Letter (AD 367)

d. The Testimony of Scripture

i. External witness (2 Timothy 3:16)

ii. Internal witness (1 Thessalonians 1:5; 2:13; 1 John 2:20-27)

iii. The power of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:4-5,14; 4:6)