

Here is the fulfillment, the consummation, here is the great thing they looked forward to. It would be strange indeed if we did not have an inspired correct dependable account and explanation of what it means to us. It would be natural to expect at NT. It would be natural to expect a NT would be written after the death of Christ because the death of Christ was the most important thing in the NT and it was not fully understood by the disciples until it happened.

Jesus told them repeatedly he would die, and be crucified, and raised again. But they did not fully understand. After He came back from his resurrection, he said, O fools and slow of heart not to believe all the prophets have spoken, ought not Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into his glory. He told them they should have understood from the OT. But they had not understood it even from His explanation.

So Christ said to them in John 14 and 16, he gave them pretty good ground to expect at NT. In Jn. 16:12-13 Jesus said, I have yet many things to say unto you but you cannot bear them now." They could not understand them yet. They had not had the crucifixion and resurrection. They had not had time to think over these things to get the real significance of them into their minds. Jesus said, I have many things to tell you, howbeit when the Spirit of truth is come He will guide you into all truth, and he shall not speak of himself for whatsoever he shall hear that shall he speak, and he will show you things to come. He will glorify me . . ." So he specifically told them there was much more he wanted them to know, and that the Holy Spirit would teach them after his resurrection.

In Jhn 14:26 we have a similar statement: The Comforter . . . whom the Father shall send in my name . . . He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance whatsoever I have said unto you." So Jesus said the Holy Spirit will bring to your remembrance what I've said to you. He's going to give you the explanation of these things; he's going to predict the future. All this the Holy Spirit is yet going to give to you.

He had given them in the OT a definite written record that they could depend on, free from error. These things are as important or more important than anything in the OT; it would be natural to think he's going to give them another testament equally dependable with the OT.

It would be a rather natural expectation that what he was going to do was that the Holy Spirit would lead various individuals to write books as had been done with the OT which would be given as the inspired word of God, free from error, taken over from these people but written by different people. Naturally there will be some disagreement among the people who receive them, and it would be the natural thing to think that 300 years later you'd have some people ~~would say~~ who would say, Paul is the great apostle. What he says is good, but these writings supposed to be from Peter, I don't think they're from Peter at all. Then others would say, Peter is the great Apostle; what he says is important, but these books of Paul don't belong in the NT. We don't have any proof he was an apostle actually.