

the people of God in the Christian Church leading them in the New Testament that they considered every one of these books to be the inspired Word of God. Since that time you have your Christian church split up into sects, you have your Greek Catholic, you have your Roman Catholic, you have your many protestant sects. Yet so far as I know every single one of them agrees with the rest that these are the books of the N.T. I don't know of any Christian group which says - Yes, we don't accept John's gospel, we accept all the rest or of any church which has as a part of its creed that Paul's epistles are inspired but Peter's are not. The Christian church as a whole accepts and the Christian Bible includes 27 books of the N.T. every one of them and no other. Now if the Christian church would change its mind and if they would add a few books and leave out some of these that wouldn't affect the matter. We have within a few centuries of the final writing a unimity on the part of the people of God. There may be individuals, there are individuals who are professing Christians who don't believe in the idea of inspiration at all. The Christian church as a whole and all the branches of it have agreed as to what these books are. People say Martin Luther didn't like the epistle of James and threw it out of the canon. That is absolutely false. Martin Luther liked Paul's writings much better than James'. Martin Luther translated the N.T. into German and he ~~omitted~~ included in it the epistle of James. He included exactly the books we have in our New Testament and no others. Martin Luther sent out edition after edition and printing after printing of the N.T. including exactly the books we have and no others. The Christian church may differ about the O.T. Some may say it ought to have more books in it, some might even say it should have less, though I don't know of any branch of the Christian church that does. That would not affect the O.T. The Old Testament was given to the Jews, they were the people of God to whom it was given. The Christian people received it as a collection from the Jews. For us as Christians, it is not the place to start to prove the books are inspired or to prove which books have been accepted, the place for us to start is what our Jesus Christ and his apostles think about it and our evidence is clear what Jesus Christ and his Apostles considered it as authoritative. Point 3 was there is no suggestion of any difference between Christ and the Jews as to the extent of the canon.

4. While the N.T. occasionally quotes non-canonical writings, it never refers to them as authoritative. <sup># 41</sup> It does not mean if the N.T. quotes a book that that is part of the inspired word of God any more than if I quote a book that I think that that book is part of