

was no book of the O.T. then, there were simply individual rolls, and each book and they would read Genesis. And they would read Deuteronomy, and they would read the Psalms, and then they would pick up a copy of the first Macabees, and they would say, is this part of the Bible, and the other Christians did not know. So there was a problem. And so in the early Christian church, converted ~~xxxx~~ from heathenism, knowing nothing about the O.T. their first attention naturally was given to the N.T. And they received the N.T. and they probably even then did not know what belonged in the N.T. But as they gradually learned what the books were of the N.T., that was their big interest, then, and when they became to take an interest in what was in the O.T., it was difficult to find out. And so we find in the first two or three or four centuries we find individuals going to look into ~~xxxxx~~ it. And they said, Christians have taken what the Jews accepted as true, that is the O.T. Now what are the books which the Jews have accepted. And so they went and they made inquiries into it. And everyone of these inquiries that was made came out with exactly the result which we have ~~today~~ today. But the rank and file of Christians did not know the results, and there the strange thing is that in our early Christian writings you will find them frequently quoting from the Apocrypha. In such a way as to lead you to think that they are authoritative books. But you ~~xx~~ will find the same men, when they go into the question and discuss it, will make clear that the books which they consider to be inspired are the books which the Jews accepted as inspired, which did not include the Apocrypha. You see, they did not have the material at hand for the precise information that we have today.

And that was one reason why Jerome was much interested. Because he was a scholar who went into the facts and got the material and he was very much concerned that people were confused over it, and he wanted to make it clear. But the confusion came up in this ~~xxxxxxx~~ way. And the confusion existed through the Middle Ages and most of the well-educated scholars and leaders of the church, at the time of the Council of Trent ~~were~~ were against the Apocrypha. But the people, ~~here~~ who were actively concerned with fighting the rising protestant movement felt, we have got to find some place for defense for the doctrine of purgatory.