

If you look at the facts they don't fit the theory. Some case it isn't as obvious as in other cases but when we look at the Word of God, there might be room for such a theory but they certainly couldn't get the facts from the Bible to support such an idea--there is absolutely no historical evidence from these two passages of Scripture that supports this theory.

F. The Completion of the Canon; when was the Canon completed is our next question. Josephus tells us that it was completed in the reign of Artaxerxes. It wouldn't seem to make much difference if it were finished at that exact time or not, but it does show us that their idea was that the O.T. Canon was completed quite some years back. Now there is a statement in the Talmud, "After the latter prophets, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachai, the Holy Spirit departed from Israel." This is an interesting statement which appears and just lends further evidence to this idea--Malachai is the last book of our Bible,--English, Latin but that is not the order in our Hebrew Bibles. If we note the I Maccabees, though not part of the Canon it does make a good piece of history--this book tells us in four different references that they didn't believe in inspired --I Macc. 4:46.