

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY



TYPES OF REVELATION

- General Revelation
- Special Revelation

GENERAL REVELATION

- Generally Available
- General Information

SPECIAL REVELATION

- God making Himself known with a clarity and fullness that surpasses general revelation.

INTRO TO SPECIAL REVELATION

- Jesus
- Scripture (The Bible)
- Particular Revelation

INERRANCY DEFINED

“Scripture is authoritative and infallible and inerrant in all that it means to assert and to affirm and to teach. It is up to us to determine exactly what those affirmations and assertions are.”

DIFFICULTIES WITH INERRANCY

1. Apparent Inconsistencies
2. Factual Mistakes

APPARENT INCONSISTENCIES

- When one book or author seems to be inconsistent with another book or author.
- Example: Judas' Death

JUDAS' DEATH

- Matthew 27:5-8
- Acts 1:18-19

And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is blood money." So they took counsel and bought with them the potter's field as a burial place for strangers. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him on whom a price had been set by some of the sons of Israel,

MATTHEW 27:5-8

ESV

(Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)

ACTS 1:8-19

ESV

FACTUAL MISTAKES

- Errors in Scripture
 - Example: Governor of Syria
 - Luke 2:1-2

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria.

LUKE 2:1-2

ESV

ARGUMENT FOR INERRANCY

- We should believe in biblical inerrancy because this is what Jesus believed about the Hebrew Bible.
- 2 Part Argument

1ST PART

1. Whatever God teaches is true.
2. Historical evidences, prophecies, and other evidences show that Jesus is God.
3. Therefore, whatever Jesus teaches is true.

2ND PART

1. Whatever Jesus teaches is true.
2. Jesus taught that the Scripture are the inerrant Word of God. (John 10:34-36)
3. Therefore, the Scriptures are the inerrant word of God.

Jesus answered them, “Is it not written in your Law, ‘I said, you are gods’? If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken— do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’?”

JOHN 10:34-36

ESV

DEDUCTIVE NOT INDUCTIVE

Inerrancy is not known because we have searched everything to know there is no error.

We infer it from Jesus' own attitude and teachings about the Hebrew texts.

APPROACH TO DIFFICULTIES

- There ARE difficulties
- We affirm inerrancy
- How do we approach it?

APPROACHES

- Try to resolve the difficulty
- Is this what the Bible is really teaching?
- Can you harmonize the inconsistencies?
- Hold truth in tension

RESOLVE THE DIFFICULTY

- Is is genre?
- These are not errors

IS THIS WHAT THE BIBLE IS TEACHING?

- Is it a matter of teaching or something ancillary or tribal?
- Three-decker cosmology?
- Cultural understanding?

HARMONIZE INCONSISTENCIES

- Stories from different points of view
- Different ways of showing the same thing
- Judas' death

HOLD TRUTH IN TENSION

- Just hold truths or beliefs without knowing how they can be reconciled.
- Not blind faith, just do not have all the facts.
- Examples: Sargon II, Quirinius

WHAT IF?

- What if we are fully convinced that a discrepancy is there and the Bible is in error?
- Only lose the 2nd argument's premise 2.
 - Weakest link.

CANONICITY

- If inspiration is true...
- Then what books are inspired
- What books are not inspired

CANONICITY

- Canon means *rule* or *standard*.
- Essentially the canon of Scripture is what inspired books are in the Bible.

OLD TESTAMENT

- Jesus and his apostles accepted the Jewish canon of the time.
- The Hebrew Bible that Jesus used is the same that Protestants call the Old Testament.

OLD TESTAMENT

- Masoretic Text- the Hebrew text of the Old Testament.
- Recognized by:
 - Jesus
 - Rabbinical Judaism

OLD TESTAMENT - APOCRYPHAL

- Recognized by RCC & Greek Orthodox
- Considered less than inspired.
- Not a part of any Protestant Bible

OLD TESTAMENT - DATES

Job: Considered earliest,
but date unknown

Genesis: 1445-1405 BC

Exodus: 1445-1405 BC

Leviticus: 1445-1405 BC

Numbers: 1445-1405 BC

Deuteronomy: 1445-1405
BC

Psalms: 1410-450 BC

Joshua: 1405-1385 BC

Judges: 1043 BC

Ruth 1030-1010 BC

Song of Songs: 971-965 BC

Proverbs: 971-686 BC

Ecclesiastes: 940-931 BC

OLD TESTAMENT - DATES

1 Samuel: 931-722 BC

2 Samuel: 931-722 BC

Obadiah: 850-840 BC

Joel: 835-796 BC

Jonah: 775 BC

Amos 750 BC

Hosea: 750-710 BC

Micah: 735-710 BC

Isaiah: 700-681 BC

Nahum: 650 BC

Zephaniah: 635-625 BC

Habakkuk: 615-605 BC

Ezekiel: 590-570 BC

Lamentations: 586 BC

Jeremiah: 586-570 BC

OLD TESTAMENT - DATES

1 Kings: 561-538 BC

2 Kings: 561-538 BC

Daniel: 536-530 BC

Haggai: 520 BC

Zechariah: 480-470 BC

Ezra: 457-444 BC

1 Chronicles: 450-430 BC

2 Chronicles: 450-430 BC

Esther: 450-331 BC

Malachi: 433-424 BC

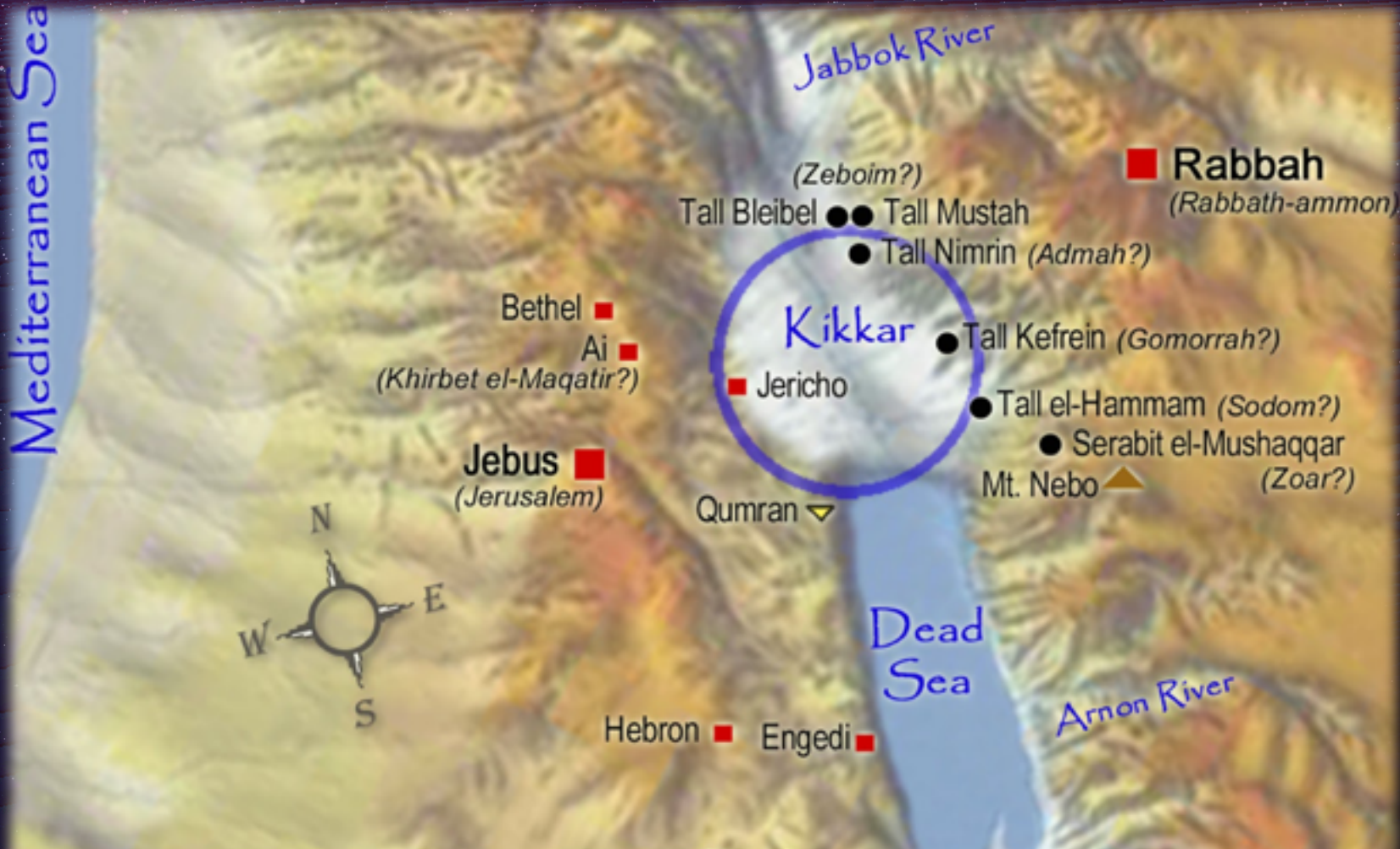
Nehemiah: 424-400 BC

JEWISH CANON

- Talmud
- Dead Sea Scrolls

DEAD SEA SCROLLS

- 1947
- Qumran
- Fragments of Every OT Book Found Except for Esther
- Entire Book of Isaiah
- Written Down By the Essenes
- ~~11~~ 12 Caves



Five Cities of the Plain

- Northern Location (MB destruction)
- ◆ Southern Location (EB destruction)
- Cities
- ▼ Archaeology Site
- ▲ Mountain

Masada ▼

Lisan ◆ Bab edh-Dhra (Sodom?)

Jebel Usdum (Mt. Sodom) ▲

Ghor ◆ es-Safi (Zoar?)

◆ Feifa (Admah?)





OT MANUSCRIPTS

Name	Original Composition	Date of Earliest Copy	Books
Dead Sea Scroll 1 (4Q Samuel-B)	10 th -9 th century BC	4 th -3 rd century BC	1 Samuel 16, 19, 21, 23
Rylands Papyrus 458	15 th or 13 th century BC	150 BC	Greek Deut 23-28
Nash Papyrus	15 th or 13 th century BC	150 BC- AD 68	Decalogue, Exodus 20 Deut 5:6-21
Peshitta	15 th or 13 th -4 th century BC	AD 100-200	Entire OT in Syriac

NEW TESTAMENT- DATES

James: AD 44-49

Galatians: AD 49-50

Mark: AD 50-60

Matthew: AD 50-60

1 Thessalonians: AD 51

2 Thessalonians: AD 51-52

1 Corinthians: AD 55

2 Corinthians: AD 55-56

Romans: AD 56

Luke: AD 60-61

Ephesians AD 60-62

Philippians AD 60-62

NEW TESTAMENT- DATES

Philemon: AD 60-62

Colossians: AD 60-62

Acts: AD 62

1 Timothy: AD 62-64

Titus: AD 62-64

1 Peter: AD 64-65

2 Timothy: AD 66-67

2 Peter: AD 67-68

Hebrews: AD 67-69

Jude: AD 68-70

John: AD 80-90

1 John: AD 90-95

2 John: AD 90-95

3 John: AD 90-95

Revelation: AD 94-96

NEW TESTAMENT CANON

➤ Criteria:

- Apostolicity- written by apostle or associate
- Antiquity- authored in generation of Christianity.
- Authenticity- historical tradition
- Ubiquity- acceptance and usage throughout known world
- Catholicity- consistency with known NT writings and creeds

NEW TESTAMENT CANON

- Why is the canon closed?
 - Based on the criteria
 - Deuteronomy 4:2, 12:32
 - Revelation 22:18
 - “Although such long ages have now gone by, no one has dared to add anything to them, to take away anything from them, or to change anything in them.” Josephus

GREEK MANUSCRIPTS

- Manuscript & Fragments
- 5,600+ Dating Between 30-300 Year of the Original Autographs

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GREEK MANUSCRIPTS

Name	Books	Original Autograph	Earliest Copy Date	Gap
John Rylands Fragment (P52)	John 18:31-33, 37-38	AD 85-100	AD 125	25-40 years
Chester Beatty Papyri (P45-47)	Parts of Matt, Mark, Luke, John, Pauline, Revelation	AD 50-100	AD 200-300	100-250 years
Bodmer Papyri (P66, 72, 75)	Parts of John, 1&2 Peter, Jude	AD 50-70	AD 175-250	105-200 years
Codex Vaticanus (B)	Most of the OT & Majority of NT	AD 50-100	AD 325	225-275 years
Codex Sinaiticus (a)	Complete NT with exception of a few verses (Mark 16, John 7&8) ½ LXX	AD 50-100	AD 350	250-300 years
Magdalen Papyrus	Matt 26:7-8, 10, 14-15	AD 40-65	AD 75-200	10-160 years

GREEK TRANSLATIONS (FOR COMPS)

Author	Work	Date	Earliest Copy	Gap	Copies
Plato	Dialogues	4 th Cent. BC	AD 900	1250 years	20
Homer	Iliad	9 th Cent. BC	400 BC	500 years	643
Herodotus	The Histories	484-425 BC	AD 900	1350 years	8
Aristotle	Assorted	4 th Cent. BC	AD 1100	1400 years	5
Julius Caesar	The Gallic Wars	58-44 BC	AD 900	950 years	10
Suetonius	The Twelve Caesars	AD 70-140	AD 950	900 years	8

GREEK TRANSLATIONS

- Septuagint- LXX
- Primary Translation of OT
- 3rd Century BC
- 72 Scholars- Ptolemy II Philedelphius
- Codex Sinaiticus-
 - 5th Century, found 1844, oldest complete NT

NT BOOKS

- They seemed to impose themselves upon the church.
- There are a lot that did not and are not a part of the Bible.
- Apocryphal Gospels, etc.

ULTIMATE CONCLUSION

- Scholars have been much more concerned about something being in the Bible that shouldn't.
- If God inspired it, it would be a part of it.

NEXT WEEK

- Worship Weekend!
- For Oct. 14th, Read:
 - Defenders 2-3- 1 & 2: Doctrine of God, pg. 3-17
(Infinite-Personal God, Infinite: Self-Existence)

QUESTIONS?

