

lion, this book should be accepted, this rejected, no individual influence was outstanding in it, but here was the unanimity of the Christian church, within two or three centuries, or four at the most after the writing of the last book, these are the authoritative books of the N. T. And so we have the two collections, the O. T. collection, the N. T. collection, the same process in both cases, Christ setting the seal of His approval upon this process, and authenticating in advance that process. Now, that being the case, imagine me holding up the English Bible, here it is. I don't have to say, Who.....8.....authoritative. If element wrote it, some think it isn't authoritative. I don't know who wrote it, therefore, I don't know whether it is authoritative or not. No, it is part of the N. T. It is part of this process. It is part of that upon which Jesus set His approval in advance. He is Jude. Was he an apostle? Here is Luke? Did Paul set the seal of his approval upon what Luke did? He nowhere says he did. We have no reason to know. I would say, Paul as an apostle was overseeing the general work of the others. He was much interested in what happened, but we have no official imprimatur about it. If we are to say, everything written by an apostle is authoritative, certainly everything written by an apostle is authoritative, the apostles were the authority. But was everything written by them intended of God to be preserved for future ages, inspired to be valuable for the future. If so, why did so few apostles write, and why were there so many then who wrote who weren't apostles. And why are there some books of the N. T. as of the Old, that we don't know who wrote them. If we have to go back, and check and try to see who wrote every book of the O. T. and N. T., before we can swear it is authoritative, we have about a third of the Bible that we'll never be sure whether 9¹..... But if we have a collection upon which Jesus set the seal of His approval, that these were the books given to the people of God, by men inspired of God for the purpose, intended to be authoritative, and thereby setting the seal of His approval upon a similar process for the N. T., which process took place, paralleling in a most remarkable way exactly what had taken place in the O. T. Then we have a certainty that these collections are correct. When I was in Seminary, the professor of Church History said, If one of Paul's lost epistle/s should be discovered, it would