

unanimity of belief as to what were the books that God had written.

I know some people today who say any book a prophet wrote is in the Bible. That's the way it was done." Well, they were all prophetic because prophet means one who speaks for God, but there were many false prophets too. Humanly speaking there ~~were~~ would have been great divisions with some saying this book is a true book and some saying that book is a true book. Some saying, This is a true prophet, and this is a false prophet. But you have a miracle in that the people of God within two centuries after the last book was written reached a unanimity on.

Then our Lord Jesus Christ gave the Apostles to understand He had other truths to give them but they were not ready to understand them, ~~They~~ before He had performed His death and resurrection and He said, The Spirit of truth will guide you into all truth. It is reasonable to consider that, I'm going to give you a NT to be added to your OT.

Another miracle occurred. Within two centuries after the last book of the NT was written, the Christians were unanimous in their recognition that these 27 books are the books that God had given us and there has been no sizeable group of orthodox Christians that has differed on saying that any book should be added to these books. That any book existing is part of the NT. God worked a miracle.

Some will say, Yes but the Roman Catholics have said that the so-called Apocryphal books are a part of the Bible. Yes, they have said that every since about 1570. I forget the exact date. But in earlier dates we have statements by popes and leaders of the church that these other books were not inspired books. Anyway the OT was given to the Jews, the people of God. The NT was given to the Christians. The Jews reached this unanimity, we don't know how. The Christians had a similar process, we don't know how it happened. We don't know how God led, but we know that there was this unanimity and that the other books were regarded as either bad books, or good books but not inspired books. So we have our third great miracle in giving us this Bible, this collection of inspired books.

In addition to that, there are two great works of providence. Of those two great works of providence God has chosen not to work a miracle as He did with those first three. But He has caused providentially that there would be a wonderful development, not a absolute development as in the case of the three miracles.

The first of these is the preservation. What good would these books be to us today, what ~~good~~ good would it do, somebody says, to believe that these books were inerrant in the original documents but nobody has the original documents. They have all disappeared! What good is it for us to believe that? God has caused a wonderful providence that the books in the course of copying and recopying and recopying and recopying would be preserved with an accuracy that cannot be paralleled with other books. They have not been preserved without errors in the copying. I defy any one of you to a book of any size as the Bible and make a copy of it and have there be no mistake in it.