



What Does It Mean That Something Is ...

# EXTRABIBLICAL?

**ROCC Equipping Class**  
**March 6, 13, 20**

# “EXTRABIBLICAL”

1. Information, content, knowledge, or literary sources originating from outside of the Bible, and ...
2. Which are intended to address God, enlighten Scripture, or aid in the practice and understanding of our faith.

# “EXTRABIBLICAL”

**NOT ...**

- Counter-Scriptural, Opposed - Quran
- Intentionally Secular or Heretical;  
John Grisham, DaVinci Code
- Inerrant or Superseding Bible Authority

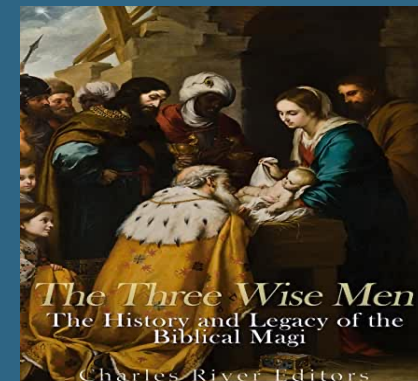
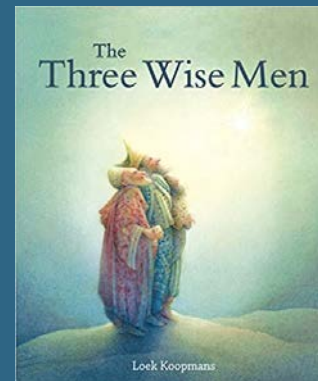
# “EXTRABIBLICAL”

- **Biblical:** Exodus, Amos, Romans, Jude
  - Canon of Scripture – 66 Books
- **Extrabiblical:** Pilgrims Progress, The Case for Christ, Knowing God, Tim Keller’s Commentary on Acts



# “EXTRABIBLICAL”

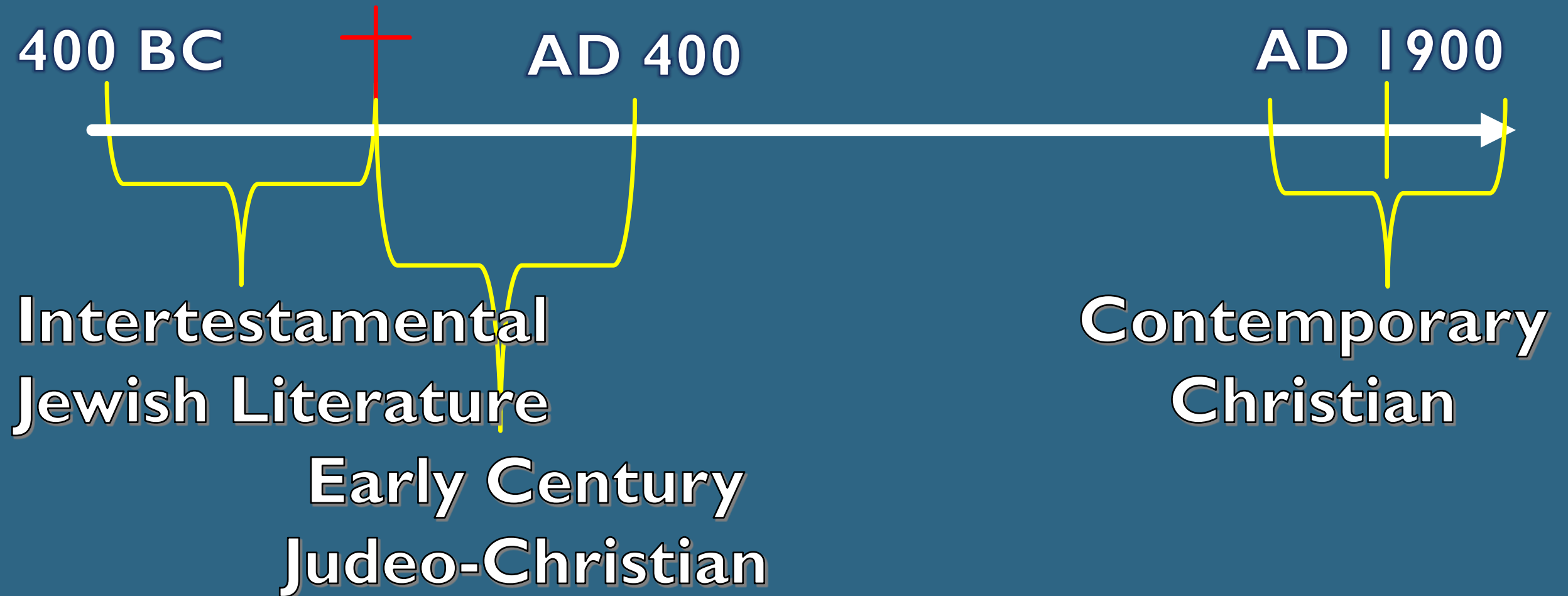
- **Biblical:** “Love your neighbor”
  - Matthew 22:37-39 / Mark 12:33 / James 2:8
- **Extrabiblical:** “The three wise men”
  - Oral Tradition
  - Books



# EXTRABIBLICAL? - WHY

- Deepen our Theology (Church History, Systematic, Practical, Exegetical)
- Expand our Study of Scripture
- Increase our Learning, Loving, Living
- Broaden our Worship

# EXTRABIBLICAL? - WHAT





**What Does It Mean That Something Is ...**

# **EXTRABIBLICAL?**

**Intertestamental Sources**  
**Week 1 of 3 - March 6, 2022**



# INTERTESTAMENTAL PERIOD

- The Final Events: Nehemiah 13
- The Final Prophecy: Malachi 3:1 / 4:2
- 400 Years: A Period in Which God is Silent, but God is Active!
- Greek (Hellenistic) / Romans





# EARLY LITERATURE

THE LIBRARY OF ALEXANDRIA  
275 BC – AD 270





# LIBRARY OF ALEXANDRIA

- King Ptolemy II - Philadelphus
- Employed over 100 Scholars
- 400,000 Scrolls (100,000 Books)
- Eratosthenes – Head of Library
- “Musaeum” – Home of Muses

# INTERTESTAMENTAL SOURCES

- Jewish Literature Flourished
- Religious, Historical, Cultural Insight
- Two Primary Collections
  1. **Pseudepigrapha**
  2. **Apocrypha**



# PSEUDEPIGRAPHA

- Sue – Da – Pig – Rapha
- Meaning “False Inscription”
- 50– 75 'ish (Mostly BC / Some AD)
- Uninspired, Though Some Referenced  
In Scripture

# PSEUDEPIGRAPHIA

- *Life of Adam and Eve (9.1)*

*Then Satan grew angry and transfigured himself into the brilliance of an angel*

- *2 Corinthians (11:14)*

*And wonder, for even Satan disguised himself as an angel of light*

# PSEUDEPIGRAPHA

- Jude 9 / The Assumption of Moses (non-extant)

*But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, 'The Lord rebuke you!'"*

# PSEUDEPIGRAPHIA

- Jude 14-15

*It was also about these men that Enoch, in the seventh generation from Adam, prophesied, saying, “Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones,<sup>15</sup> to execute judgment upon all.*



# PSEUDEPIGRAPHA

- The Book of Enoch (1:9)

*Behold, [God] shall arrive with ten million of the holy ones in order to execute judgment upon all. He will destroy the wicked ones and censure all flesh on account of everything that they have done.*

# EXTRABIBLICAL REFERENCES

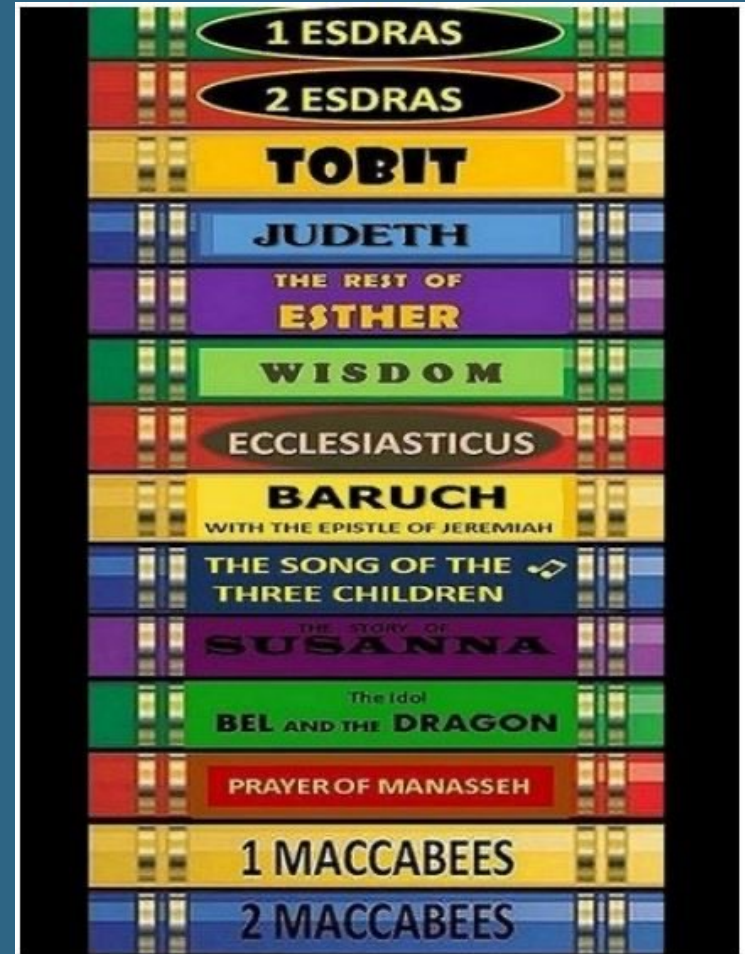
- Old Testament: *Book of the Wars of the Lord, Book of Jasher, Acts of Solomon, Annals of King David ...*
- New Testament: Cleanthes, Aratus, Menander, *Epimenides Paradox*, Jannes and Jambres, *The Bacchae ...*

# APOCRYPHA

- Origin – Alexandrian Jews (Aristeas)
- LXX (Septuagint) OT in Greek
- Not Found in Hebrew Text
- Wide Variety of Genres

# APOCRYPHA

- Historical
- Apocalyptic
- Wisdom
- Novel / Fiction





# APOCRYPHA

- Stories: Susannah, Judith, Baruch, Bel and the Dragon
- History: Maccabean Revolt, Origin of Pharisees / Sadducees, Hannukah
- Ethical Thinking: Tobit, Sirach
- Wisdom: Of Solomon

# APOCRYPHA

- Palestinian Jews Rejected Apocrypha
- Allusions in NT, but not as Scripture:

*“There is no partiality with God.”*

- Romans 2:11

*“For he is a God of justice, who knows no favorites.”*

- Sirach 35:12

# APOCRYPHA - CHRISTIANITY

- Jerome Rejected / Augustine Accepted
  - Prologue (Vulgate) – *“Just as the church reads the books of ... but does not receive them among the canonical Scriptures”*
  - Prologue (Vulgate) – *“I repeat what the Jews say against ... are not contained in the Hebrew Bible”*

# APOCRYPHA - CHRISTIANITY

- Jerome Rejected / Augustine Accepted
- Always in Old Testament (Important)
- Reformation Position: Luther / Others
  - Clearly Articulated Non-Inspiration
  - Advised Association with Bible



# APOCRYPHA - CHRISTIANITY

*“useful and good for reading”* – Luther

*“commend them for having much that is true and useful”* – Zwingli / Calvin

*“read for example of life and instruction of manners”* – 39 Articles / Wesley

# APOCRYPHA - CHRISTIANITY

*“... nonetheless, as books proceeding from godly men they were received to be read for the advancement and furtherance of the knowledge of history and for the instruction of godly manners.”* – Geneva Bible

# APOCRYPHA - CHRISTIANITY

- Jerome Rejected / Augustine Accepted
- Always in Old Testament
- Reformation Position: Luther / Others
- Council of Trent – AD 1545 cf
  - Deuterocanonical, “Second Canon”

# CAUTION: DOCTRINAL IMPACT

*He sent twelve thousand drachms of silver to Jerusalem for sacrifice to be offered for the sins of the dead, thinking well and religiously concerning the resurrection (for if he had not hoped that they that were slain should rise again, it would have seemed superfluous and vain to pray for the dead).*



# APOCRYPHA - INFLUENCE

*And because he considered they who had fallen asleep with godliness, had great grace laid up for them. It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins.*

– 2 Maccabees 12:43-46

# APOCRYPHA

## Jewish Tanakh

24 Core Books

## Protestant Old Testament

39 Core Books

## Catholic Old Testament

39 Core Books

with additions to Daniel & Esther

TOBIT

SIRACH

JUDITH

BARUCH

1-2 MACCABEES

WISDOM

## Orthodox Old Testament

39 Core Books

with additions to Daniel & Esther,  
Psalm 151 & Prayer of Manasseh

TOBIT

SIRACH

JUDITH

BARUCH

1-2 MACCABEES

WISDOM

1-2 ESDRAS

3 MACCABEES

## Ethiopian Old Testament

40 Core Books

with additions to Daniel & Esther,  
Psalm 151 & Prayer of Manasseh

TOBIT

SIRACH

JUDITH

BARUCH

WISDOM

1-2 ESDRAS

# APOCRYPHA

- All English Bibles 16<sup>th</sup> c. (\*)
- King James pre-1666 (original 1611)
- NAB (New American Bible)
- RSV, NRSV (Roman Catholic Bible)
- Orthodox Bibles

# APOCRYPHA – WHAT TO DO?

- Read Them
  - As Stand-Alone Titles / Genres
  - As Important to Context
  - As 1<sup>st</sup> Century Christians
  - As Equipped Theologians

# APOCRYPHA – WHAT TO DO?

- Read Them
  - As Extrabiblical, Uninspired Works
  - As Pre-Messiah Works
  - As Gracious Brothers & Sisters
  - As Critical Thinkers



# APOCRYPHA - INFLUENCE

*When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments..*

– 2 Timothy 4:13



**What Does It Mean That Something Is ...**

# **EXTRABIBLICAL?**

**Early Century Sources**  
**Week 2 of 3 - March 13, 2022**