

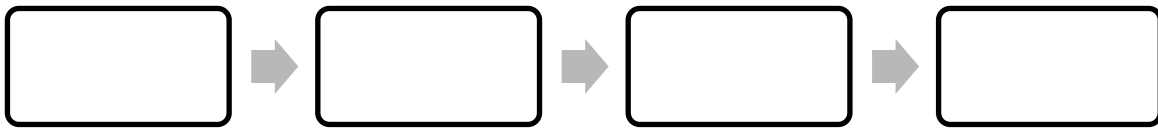
**The question of OT Canonization**

How do we know that Malachi 4:6 is the end of the "Prophets" and the close of the OT? When the Bible books were written, they were composed over the course of about 1,500 years. There were about 40 different authors, and they wrote in three different regions of the world. How can we know that what we have is what God inspired?

**Men did not decide or determine the Canon**

Some people believe that the choice of which books would be included in the canon was determined by human judgment or criteria. But that is not the case. Believers \_\_\_\_\_ they did not \_\_\_\_\_ which books belong in the Scripture.

**The 39 books of the OT are not the only books the ancient Jews wrote**



1. The books that we have in the OT are not the only books the ancient Jews wrote.
2. The qualification for what was included in the Bible was not merely who the author was.

**There are other ancient writings of the Jews which are preserved that are not included in the Bible** There are two major sets of these writings. These are preserved but not included in our Bible

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (hidden or secret books)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (spurious or false books)

**Why are the Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha not included in our Bible?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ of those books have ever been accepted by the \_\_\_\_\_ as inspired.
2. The New Testament \_\_\_\_\_ from the Apocrypha
3. Some of those Apocryphal books contain \_\_\_\_\_ that is \_\_\_\_\_ to the rest of Scripture.
4. The Apocrypha was never received by orthodox \_\_\_\_\_ in the Christian Church.

**Why do we have the present 39 books in the OT?**

1. These are the books that \_\_\_\_\_ to be God's word.
2. These are the books that the \_\_\_\_\_ considered inspired.
3. Have you ever noticed all the \_\_\_\_\_ that have been fulfilled in the OT
4. There are approximately 250 \_\_\_\_\_ of the OT in the NT and more than 900 \_\_\_\_\_ to OT texts.