

NEW TESTAMENT APOCRYPHA

or, the Non-Canonical Books

After the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and the close of the first century, many writings have appeared over the centuries attempting to add revelation to the work of Jesus and his apostles. Some claim to be inspired, others are considered heretical because of their Gnostic writing. These books were rejected by the canonizing agencies as being part of the inspired New Testament. Many people today still give credence to these and use them to teach things contrary (or in addition) to the established books of the New Testament.

I have attempted to list these writings, although I am sure it is not exhaustive, to show how many strange books exist. From these books people have gotten certain strange ideas (though not scriptural), such as; to what happened in the early life (boyhood) of Jesus, a false record of Jesus' intimate relationship with Mary Magdalene, Jesus' life on earth after the crucifixion (that he did not really die on the cross), and that Judas was secretly carrying out the Saviour's will when he sold him for silver. Lots of people want to get on the New Testament "bandwagon."

You see, anybody can write anything and claim it is inspired by God or his apostles. Even today we have Mormon and Catholic writings claiming to be equal with scripture. But we accept *only* the 27 canonized New Testament books and the 39 Old Testament books as God-inspired writings. All else is fallible. As for these apocryphal writings, I seriously doubt they hold any profit for the Bible-believer.

However, for reference sake, and to show how ridiculous it would be to maintain a library of these books (many contradicting others) and use them for some kind of resource for truth; I list them here:

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| 1. Gospel According to the Hebrews | 12. Infancy Gospel of Matthew (Gospel of Pseudo-Matthew) | 24. Gospel of Judas (also called the Gospel of Judas Iscariot) |
| 2. Apocalypse of John in the East | 13. Syriac Infancy Gospel | 25. Gospel of Mary |
| 3. Gospel of Peter | 14. History of Joseph | 26. Gospel of Philip |
| 4. Gospel of Thomas | 15. Life of John the Baptist | 27. Greek Gospel of the Egyptians |
| 5. Gospel of Nicodemus (also called the Acts of Pilate) | 16. Gospel of Marcion | 28. Coptic Gospel of the Egyptians |
| 6. Gospel of Bartholomew | 17. Gospel of Mani | 29. The Sophia of Jesus Christ |
| 7. Questions of Bartholomew | 18. Gospel of Apelles | 30. Epistle of Eugnostos |
| 8. Resurrection of Jesus Christ (according to Bartholomew) | 19. Gospel of Bardesanes | 31. Apocalypse of Paul |
| 9. Aethiopic Apocalypse of Enoch | 20. Gospel of Basilides | 32. Coptic Apocalypse of Paul |
| 10. Third Epistle to the Corinthians | 21. Apocryphon of James (also called the Secret Book of James) | 33. Gospel of Truth |
| 11. Infancy Gospel of James (Protoevangelium of James) | 22. Book of Thomas the Contender | 34. Apocalypse of Peter |
| | 23. Dialogue of the Saviour | 35. Gnostic Apocalypse of Peter |
| | | 36. Pistis Sophia |

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| 37. Second Treatise of the Great Seth (Sethians worshipped Seth and thought Jesus was his re-incarnation) | 58. Epistle of Ignatius to the Smyrnaeans | 75. Cave of Treasures (also called the Treasure) |
| 38. Apocryphon of John (also called the Secret Gospel of John) | 59. Epistle of Ignatius to the Trallians | 76. Clementine Literature |
| 39. Trimorphic Protennoia | 60. Epistle of Polycarp to the Philippians | 77. Didache |
| 40. Acts of Andrew | 61. Epistle to Diognetus | 78. Liturgy of Saint James |
| 41. Acts of Barnabas | 62. Epistle to the Laodiceans (in the name of Paul) | 79. Penitence of Origen |
| 42. Acts of John | 63. Epistle to Seneca the Younger (in the name of Paul) | 80. Prayer of Paul |
| 43. Acts of the Martyrs | 64. Third Epistle to the Corinthians | 81. Sentences of Sextus |
| 44. Acts of Paul | 65. Apocalypse of Paul | 82. Physiologus |
| 45. Acts of Paul and Thecla | 66. Apocalypse of Peter | 83. Unknown Berlin Gospel (also called the Gospel of the Saviour) |
| 46. Acts of Peter | 67. Apocalypse of Pseudo-Methodius | 84. Naassene Fragment |
| 47. Acts of Peter and Andrew | 68. Apocalypse of Thomas (also called the Revelation of Thomas) | 85. Favyum Fragment |
| 48. Acts of Peter and Paul | 69. Apocalypse of Stephen (also called the Revelation of Stephen) | 86. Secret Gospel of Mark |
| 49. Acts of Peter and the Twelve | 70. First Apocalypse of James (also called the First Revelation of James) | 87. Oxyrhynchus Gospels |
| 50. Acts of Philip | 71. The Shepherd of Hermas | 88. Egerton Gospels |
| 51. Acts of Pilate | 72. Apostolic Constitutions (church regulations asserted by the apostles) | 89. Gospel of Eve |
| 52. Acts of Thomas | 73. Book of Nepos | 90. Gospel of the Four Heavenly Realms |
| 53. Acts of Timothy | 74. Canons of the Apostles | 91. Gospel of Matthias |
| 54. Acts of Xanthippe, Polyxena, and Rebecca | | 92. Gospel of Perfection |
| 55. Epistle of Barnabas | | 93. Gospel of the Seventy |
| 56. Epistles of Clement | | 94. Gospel of Thaddaeus |
| 57. Epistle of the Corinthians to Paul | | 95. Gospel of the Twelve |
| | | 96. Memoria Apostolorum |
| | | 97. <i>Over 50 Texts describing the fate of Mary</i> |