

Questions Posed for Study

Question: Why have some historic books been omitted from the Bible?

‘There’re Not Inspired’

(Colossians 4:16)

Intro: It would be difficult to fully answer this question without going into the history of the King James Bible and how God used these translators to translate the Bible we have today. Suffice it to say, they did not take their responsibility lightly making sure the Holy Spirit of God was heavily relied upon. Seeing there were so many manuscripts available, making sure which ones were truly inspired of God and which ones were anything but inspired was a monumental task requiring a lot of prayer and very careful studying.

Vast numbers of people over this last century have quickly embraced many of the new versions without regard to the character of the translators and what they believed, didn’t believe, and for that matter whether they brought their lives into alignment with what the Bible teaches. The new versions (other) are more incentivized by money than they are concerned about accuracy to the oldest and best manuscripts. Many of today’s translations used manuscripts that been rejected because they didn’t meet the criteria of divine inspiration.

The Catholic Bible has around 73 books in their Douay-Rheimes and several between the O.T. & N. T. which no one in their right mind would accept them as being inspired by God. There is so much information out there about the Bibles history and how we got to the King James Version of the Bible, the typical individual will not take the time to investigate God’s divine inspiration in making sure we have every word God knows we need in order to be thoroughly furnished unto all good works. **“That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” II Timothy 3:17.** So, under the divine guidance of God, the 47 translators of the KJV Bible, those books lacking divine inspiration were excluded.

I. The _____ epistle? – Colossians 4:16.

A. The Apostle Paul makes it _____ that he wrote a letter from Laodicea, and yet we find no such epistle in the Bible.

1. On the other hand, as mentioned, the Catholic Bible contains a number of books such as, I & II Esdras, Bell, Tobias, Judith etc., which are not found in the KJV of the Bible.
2. Which begs the question why? The answer lies in understanding how the Bible came about.

a. From the beginning, the Bible was divinely _____, God _____, over a period of fifteen hundred years to about forty men over that period of time. **(II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:21)**

b. As letters were circulated to the churches, some were _____ as being non-inspired. **(Galatians 1:6 – 9)**

c. It is absolutely _____ to understand that it was God's people, through the divine guidance of the Holy Spirit, who determined which letters were valid and which ones were false. **(John 16:13)**

d. The Catholic church _____ to accept manuscripts and letters that mainstream early churches rejected.

B. So, in **Colossians 4:16**, Paul mentions a letter that he wrote from Laodicea which was not _____ by God, which is undoubtedly why it is not included or was not included in the Bible. **“And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the *epistle* from Laodicea.**

1. We know that God _____ to Himself the preservation of the Bible He wants us to have, to know and live by, because man left to himself would never do so.
2. **Psalm 12:6 & 7; 33:11; 100:5; 105:8 – 10; 111:7 & 8; 117:2; 119:89, 152, 160; Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 5:18; I Timothy 6:14** to name a few.