Canonicity - Old Testament

Volume 4 - Unit 10

I. Definition

- A. Greek kanon Hebrew aq neh
- B. Athanasius c. 350 A.D.

II. The Masoretic Text - 24 Books, 3 Divisions

A. The Law (5)

- 1. Genesis
- 2. Exodus
- 3. Leviticus
- 4. Numbers
- 5. Deuteronomy

B. The Prophets (8)

- 1. The former prophets (4) a. Joshua b. Judges c. Samuel d. Kings
- 2. The latter prophets (4)
 - a. Major (3)

(1) Isaiah

(2) Jeremiah

(3) Ezekiel

b. Minor (1)

Hosea through Malachi (the book of the 12)

C. The Writings (11)

1.Poetical (3)

a. Psalms

b. Proverbs

c. Job

2. Five Rolls/Scrolls (5)

a. Song of Solomon

b. Ruth

c. Lamentations

d. Ecclesiastes

e. Esther

3. Historical (3)

a. Daniel

b. Ezra-Nehemiah

c. Chronicles

(Josephus: 22 - combined Jeremiah -Lamentations, Judges-Ruth.)

III. When Collected?

A. Complete At Least a Century Before Christ.

B. New Testament Evidence of 3-Part Canon Complete in Time of Christ

1. Luke 24:44

2. Matthew 7:12

3. Matthew 23:35 (Luke 11:51)

4. II Corinthians 3:14

C. Josephus (c. A.D. 90) Mentions 3-Fold Division.

D. Confirmation at Jewish Council of Jamnia (c. 90 A.D.)

E. Apocrypha Excluded

1. Never recognized in Hebrew scriptures (in some 4th century LXX manuscripts).

2. Not quoted in New Testament.

3. Content

4. Christ

IV. Ultimate Authority - Christ

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Luke 24:44 – "And He said unto them, These are the words which I spoke unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, anal in the psalms, concerning me."