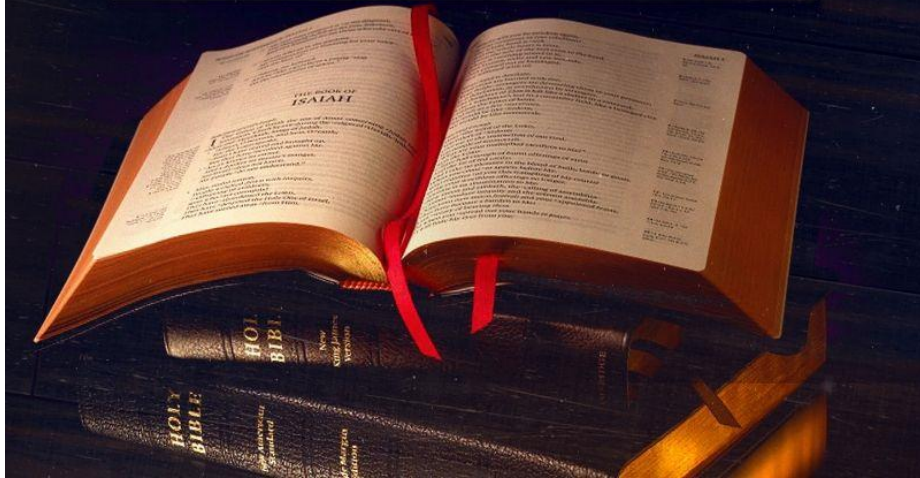


# MAKING SENSE OF THE BIBLE



For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.

Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:3-10a  
NRSV

## “The Reliability of the New Testament”

September 27, 2019

We have been \_\_\_\_\_ by God with the greatest story of all time: the story of Jesus and His love!

God's Story has given us a new story! #1Cfridays

### Which books made it into the New Testament and why?

“canonization.” The process by which certain books are considered to be \_\_\_\_\_.

A brief history as to how the New Testament came to be:

1) \_\_\_\_\_, the Word of God, stepped into the scene.

Jesus didn't write any books or letters. His life and His words were the \_\_\_\_\_.

2) Paul's Letters

Shortly after his death, Paul's letters were copied and \_\_\_\_\_ to different churches. They are the oldest documents of the NT.

3) “The Gospels Emerge as Scripture”

The first Gospel written (believed to be \_\_\_\_\_) was written ~40 years after the resurrection of Jesus.

4) The New Testament Emerges – Second Century

5) The New Testament Finalized – Third and Fourth Century

Criteria for inclusion in the NT:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

### Can we trust the Gospel accounts and letters of the New Testament?

Mark: He was an \_\_\_\_\_ for Peter in Rome and possibly a witness of Jesus' arrest.

Luke: He “investigated everything carefully” for an \_\_\_\_\_ account.

John: He was an \_\_\_\_\_ (1st John 1:1-2).

What's your story? How has the good news of Jesus changed your life?

**Action Steps:** 1) Share your story with \_\_\_\_\_ who doesn't go to church. 2) Read one of the Gospels by the end of the year.