

Study Guide for "How We Got the Bible" #3

-Video Presentation by Mike Wilson

Fill in the blanks using the words found on the back page.

1. The Old Testament was already completed _____ years before the New Testament period began.
2. In Luke 24:44, Jesus referred to three sections of the Hebrew Old Testament as "the _____ of Moses, and the _____, and the _____".
3. Very soon in early church history, we see _____ of copies of New Testament books in a codex, especially the four _____ and the _____ of Paul.
4. By the _____ century, the whole Bible, both Old and New Testaments were collected in one codex.
5. Examples of these collections include the Codex _____ and the Codex _____.
6. By the end of the 2nd century A.D., the Muratorian _____ recognized 22 of the 27 New Testament books that we recognize today. This shows us that there was widespread _____ about the core of New Testament books from a very early time.
7. Papyrus _____ is part of a codex that dates from the first half of the second century and is an example of a collection of _____ epistles.
8. This video seeks to answer _____, people who doubt the reliability of the transmission process and who say that there are major mistakes in the manuscripts that exist today.
9. Bart Ehrman, a skeptic, says "we have only _____ copies", and the "vast majority of these" are _____ from the originals in "thousands of ways".
10. Bart Ehrman says the _____ of the early Christian centuries were amateurs, "inclined to _____" the texts they copied.

11. Actual evidence shows that there are nearly _____ Greek manuscripts in which only very _____ textual variants exist.
12. None of those variations changed one _____/teaching that the New Testament represents. Most are _____ or _____ variations.
13. We have only 5 manuscripts of the writings of _____, a famous Roman poet, 9 manuscripts of the Jewish historian, _____, 33 manuscripts of the Roman historian, _____, and 251 manuscripts from the writings of _____.
14. Except for the New Testament, the ancient writing with the most manuscripts would be Homer's "Illiad" with close to _____ manuscripts.
15. The New Testament is by far the best _____ work of its kind.
16. In addition to almost 6,000 Greek manuscripts, there are between 15,000 to 20,000 manuscripts in other _____, 10,000 in Latin.
17. There is a wealth of abundance from which to _____ recreate the original New Testament text.
18. We have _____ original autographed copies of the plays of Shakespeare which were written only four hundred years ago, yet no one would question who wrote those plays.
19. _____ copies make a stronger case for authenticity.
20. Earliest scribes operated with a _____ for Biblical _____ that very few people in the religious world have today.
21. Earliest manuscripts are raw and _____. This means they are just _____.
22. With what principle did early New Testament scribes operate? (Revelation 22:18-19)

23. Tell how Jewish scribal editors reviewed a copy of scripture. _____

24. Early Christians like _____ said, "every notion which is without divine scripture, however admirable it may appear to some, is not _____ because it is foreign to _____."

25. The Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered in 1947, contained a copy of _____ that dated from about 150 B.C., a _____ years earlier than the oldest Jewish scroll of Isaiah they had at the time. The two scrolls were the same.

26. Name 5 witnesses to the original text of the Bible that are used to reconstruct a master text:

- Thousands of Hebrew _____ manuscripts
- Six thousand _____ New Testament manuscripts
- The _____ Sea Scrolls
- Early _____ of the Bible into other languages
- _____ of scripture from early Church Fathers

27. Not only can the original Old and New Testaments be _____ virtually exactly as they were, but any appreciable minor changes, which are mostly _____ and _____, are not going to affect the _____ of the text.

28. The idea that autographed originals of New Testament books had a much longer shelf-life than is normally thought possible is supported by _____, who speaks of "authentic _____" of Paul still in existence in A.D. 190.

29. It is possible, even likely, that autographed originals still _____ when some of the 2nd century copies, that we have today, were produced.

30. It was standard procedure to _____ sacred names. The scribes had standardized formulas, and they are in _____ the manuscripts. This shows how careful they were when they made copies.

31. Even Bart Ehrman, one of the world's leading Biblical skeptics, admitted that the original N.T. text can be _____ with "very few points of disagreement".

Words for fill-in the blank sentences:

agreement	Old Testament	Greek	reconstructed
documented	Canon	Scripture	doctrine
abbreviate	Virgil	Isaiah	one thousand
authority	Josephus	words	multiple
epistles	Law	fourth	writings
languages	different	Psalms	46
all	Tacitus	six thousand	grammar
scribes	existed	minor	spelling
error-riddend	four hundred	Dead	quotations
thousand	Paul's	Sinaiticus	Vaticanus
Prophets	Gospels	translations	collations
Julius Caesar	unembellished	skeptics	holy
zero	Origen	grammar	respect
accurately	meaning	Tertullian	alter
replicated			spelling

See Scott for a copy of the answers.