

005.The Bible is the Unique Word of God
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Adult Catechism Class 2018



Part 1: Section 1

I believe –
“We Believe”

Chapter 2:

God Comes to Meet Man

Article 3: Sacred Scripture

St. Joseph Freinademetz



I. Introduction

The Holy Bible, The Word of God?!



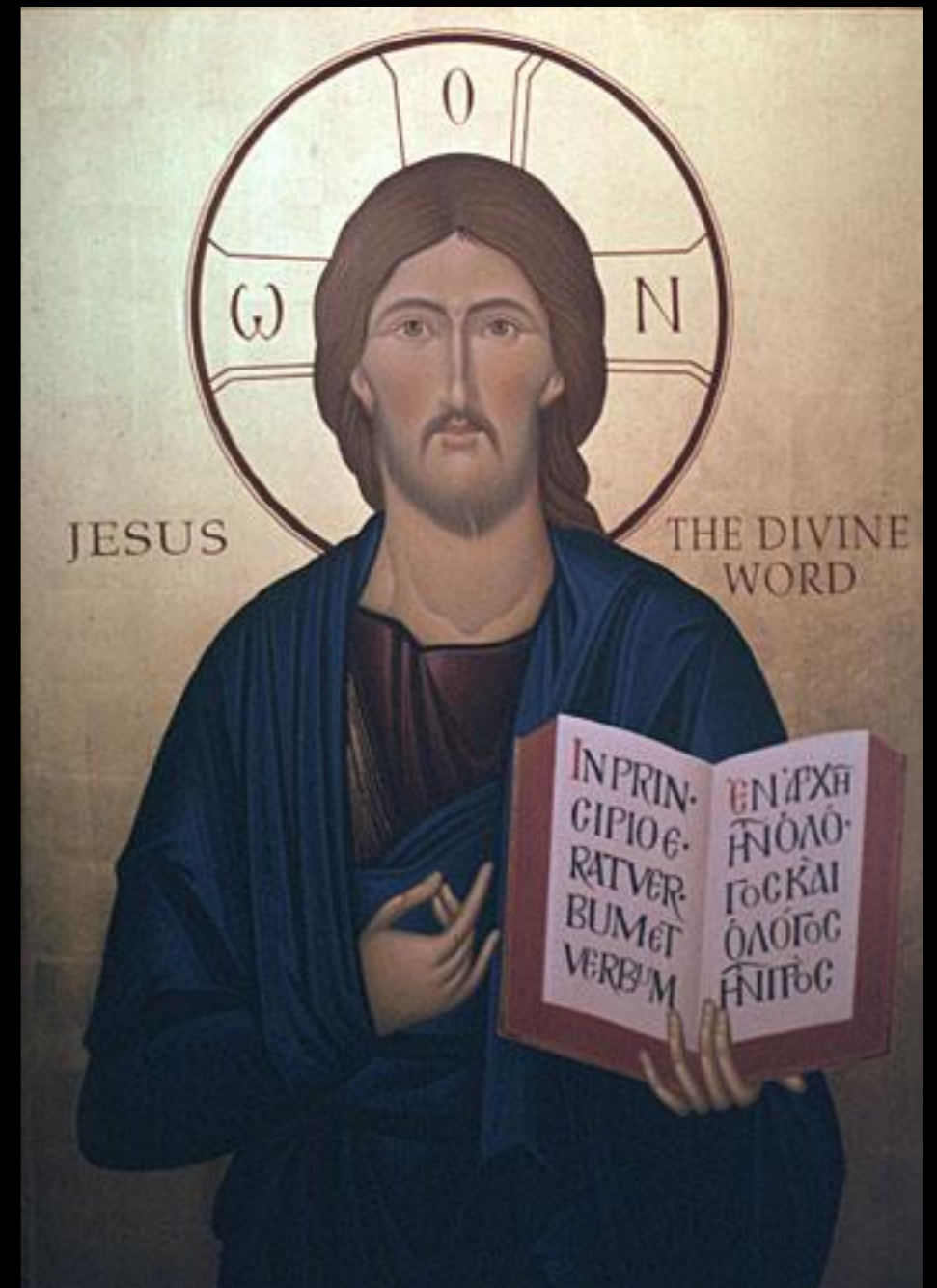
The Holy Bible

is not only a book

The Holy Bible is:

- The Living Word
- A growing life
- A continuity in life
- Relying on hope

The Holy Bible is Jesus Christ



BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT - 39 Books

LAW - 5

GENESIS
EXODUS
LEVITICUS
NUMBERS
DEUTERONOMY

POETRY - 5

JOB
PSALMS
PROVERBS
ECCLESIASTES
SONG OF SOLOMON

MAJOR PROPHETS - 5

ISAIAH
JEREMIAH
LAMENTATIONS
EZEKIEL
DANIEL

HISTORY - 12

JOSHUA
JUDGES
RUTH
1 SAMUEL
2 SAMUEL
1 KINGS
2 KINGS
1 CHRONICLES
2 CHRONICLES
EZRA
NEHEMIAH
ESTHER

MINOR PROPHETS - 12

HOSEA
JOEL
AMOS
OBADIAH
JONAH
MICAH
NAHUM
HABAKKUK
ZEPHANIAH
HAGGAI
ZECHARIAH
MALACHI

NEW TESTAMENT - 27 Books

GOSPELS-4

MATTHEW
MARK
LUKE
JOHN

PAUL'S LETTERS TO FRIENDS - 4

1 TIMOTHY
2 TIMOTHY
TITUS
PHILEMON

HISTORY - 1

ACTS

PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES - 9

ROMANS
1 CORINTHIANS
2 CORINTHIANS
GALATIANS
EPHESIANS
PHILIPPIANS
COLOSSIANS
1 THESSALONIANS
2 THESSALONIANS

GENERAL LETTERS - 9

HEBREWS
JAMES
1 PETER
2 PETER
1 JOHN
2 JOHN
3 JOHN
JUDE
REVELATION

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.

He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

(Hebrews 1:1-3)



HOW IS THE BIBLE ALL ABOUT JESUS?

Know the Bible #BIBLE

All Sacred Scripture is but one book, and this one book is Christ, "because all divine Scripture speaks of Christ, and all divine Scripture is fulfilled in Christ" (CCC134)

II. Why is there a Bible?



But these are written so that **you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah**, the Son of God, and that **through believing you may have life in his name.**

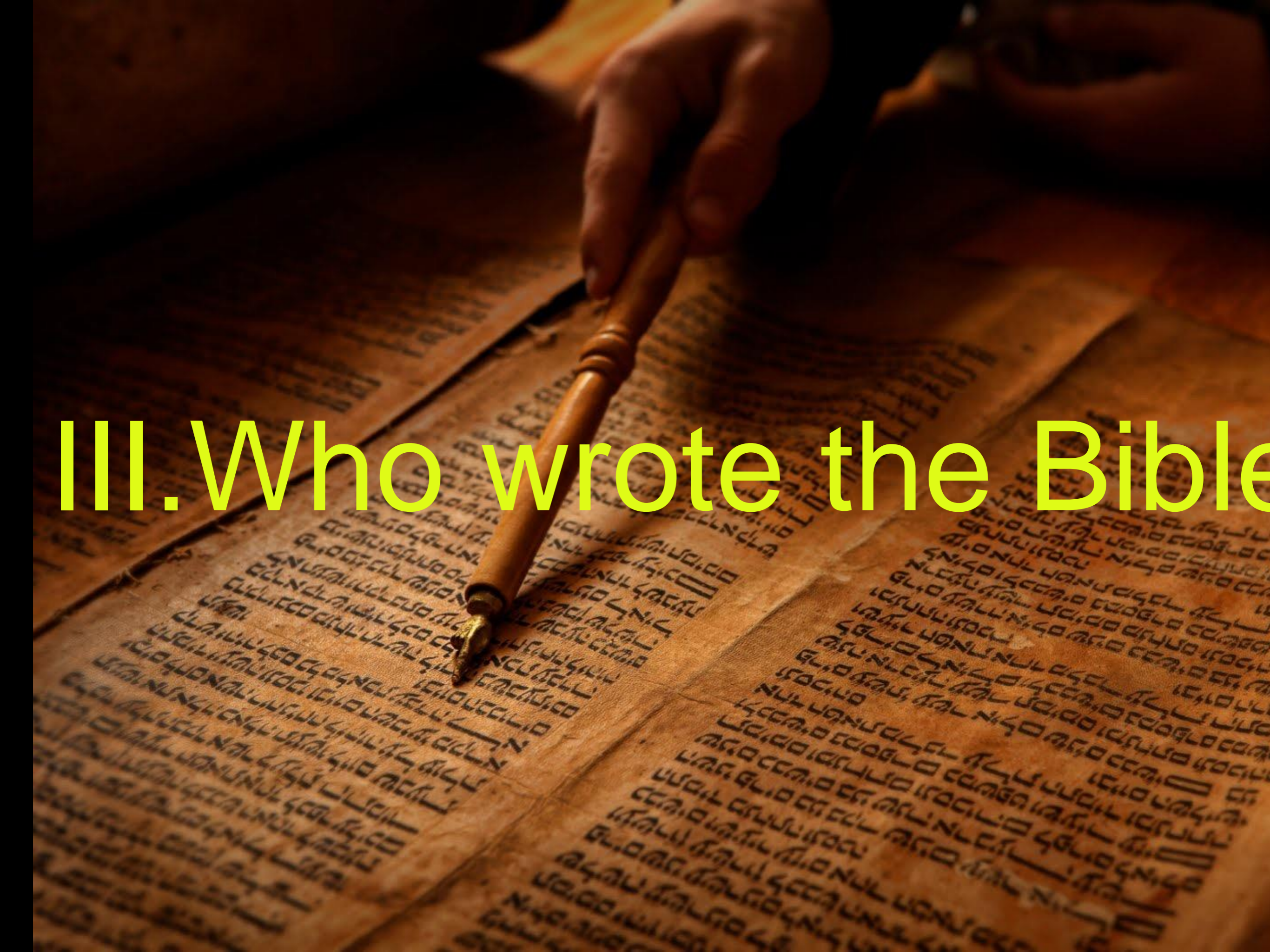
(John 20:31)



Jesus Messiah,
Name above all names,
Blessed Redeemer,
Emmanuel,



But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that **everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.** (2 Timothy 3:14-17)



III. Who wrote the Bible

1. The 3 Kinds of Transmission of Divine Revelation

1. The Apostolic Tradition:

- *orally* "by the apostles who handed on, by the spoken word of their preaching, by the example they gave, by the institutions they established, what they themselves had received - whether from the lips of Christ, from his way of life and his works, or whether they had learned it at the prompting of the Holy Spirit" (CCC 76A)





2. The Written Gospels

in writing "by those apostles and other men associated with the apostles who, under the inspiration of the same Holy Spirit, committed the message of salvation to writing" (CCC 76A)

- This is the Holy Bible

3. The Magisterium of the Church

Mindful of Christ's words to his apostles: "He who hears you, hears me", the faithful receive with docility the teachings and directives that their pastors give them in different forms.

(CCC 87)

Today we will learn about

2. The Written Gospels – The Bible



First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, **because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God (2 Peter 1: 20-21)**

2. Who is the author of the Bible?





- God is the author of Sacred Scripture.
- "The divinely revealed realities, which are contained and presented in the text of Sacred Scripture, **have been written down under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.**
(CCC 105)

A+B+C=The
Holy Bible

- A. God inspired the human authors of the sacred books.
- B. To compose the sacred books, God chose certain men who, all the while he employed them in this task, made full use of their own faculties and powers so that, though he acted in them and by them, it was as true authors that they consigned to writing whatever he wanted written, and no more.
- C. And through their life experiences
- (CCC 106)

E.g., Hosea

3. Sacred Scripture –The Word of God –God



In order to reveal himself to men, in the
condescension of his goodness God speaks to them in
human words (ccc 101)



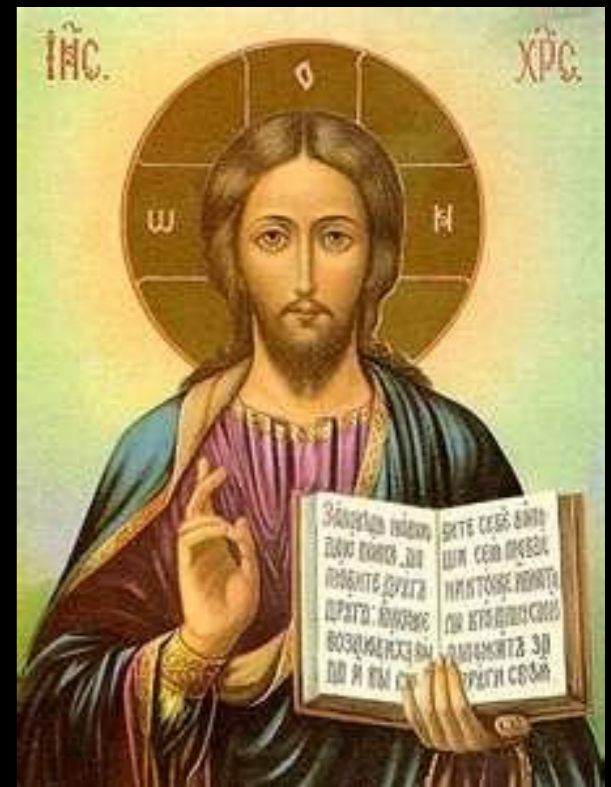
This is the
Sacred Scripture

St. Augustine's Commentary of Psalms:

You recall that one and the same Word of God extends throughout Scripture, that it is one and the same Utterance that resounds in the mouths of all the sacred writers, since he who was in the beginning God with God has no need of separate syllables; for he is not subject to time

(CCC 102b)

For this reason, the Church has always venerated the Scriptures as she venerates the Lord's Body. She never ceases to present to the faithful the bread of life, taken from the one table of God's Word and Christ's Body (CCC 103)

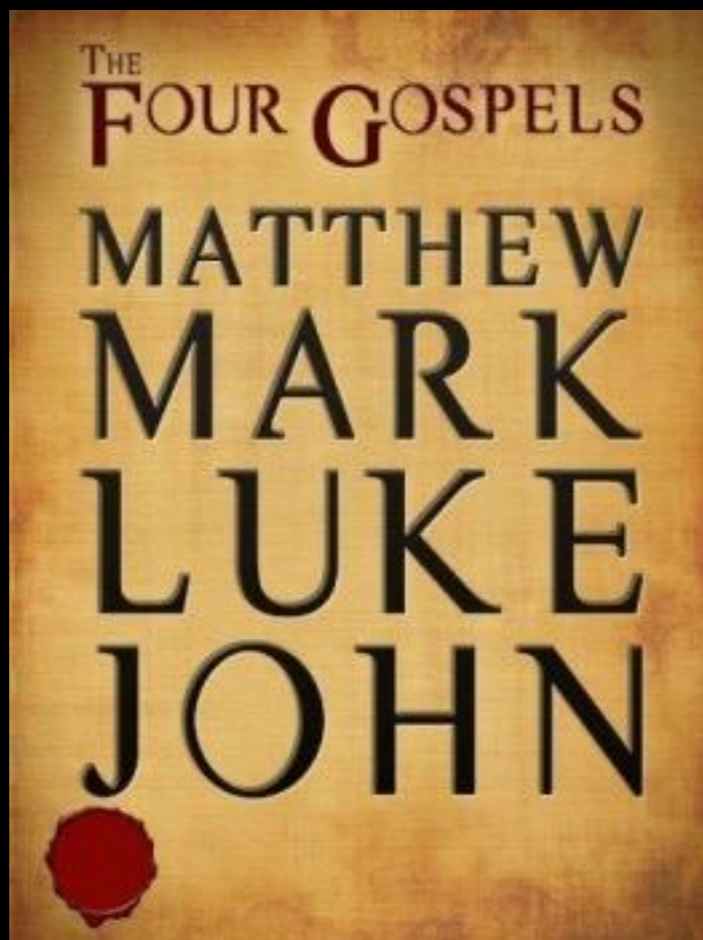


4. The Biblical Canon



- It was by the apostolic Tradition that the Church discerned which writings are to be included in the list of the sacred books. This complete list is called the canon of Scripture. It includes 46 books for the Old Testament (45 if we count Jeremiah and Lamentations as one) and 27 for the New.
- The Old Testament is the covenant that God established with the Israelites in Mount Sinai.
- The New Testament refers to Jesus' salvation for humanity and the eternal covenant that he established with all mankind.
- The New Testament is a fulfillment of the Old.

The Gospel is the center of the whole Bible, because it is about the Incarnation of God's words. It is also an important testimony of our Savior's life and teachings.



This is the Sacred
Scripture

Biblical apocrypha



The Penitent Thief

—— Jesus as a young Child

—— The Gospel of Nicodemus

IV. The Interpretation of the Sacred Scripture





Everyone can interpret the Sacred Scripture

In Sacred Scripture, God speaks to man in a human way.

To interpret Scripture correctly, the reader must be attentive to what the human authors truly wanted to affirm, and to what God wanted to reveal to us by their words.

(CCC 109)

Literary Genres

- In order to discover *the sacred authors' intention*, the reader must take into account the conditions of their time and culture, the literary genres in use at that time, and the modes of feeling, speaking and narrating then current.
- "For the fact is that truth is differently presented and expressed in the various types of historical writing, in prophetic and poetical texts, and in other forms of literary expression

(CCC 110)



Be especially attentive "to the **content**
and unity of the whole Scripture".
(CCC 112)

Read the Scripture within "the living Tradition of the whole Church"

Be especially attentive "to the content and unity of the whole Scripture".

(CCC 112)

V. The Sacred Scripture in the Life of a Person



The most important is to live
out the Word of God

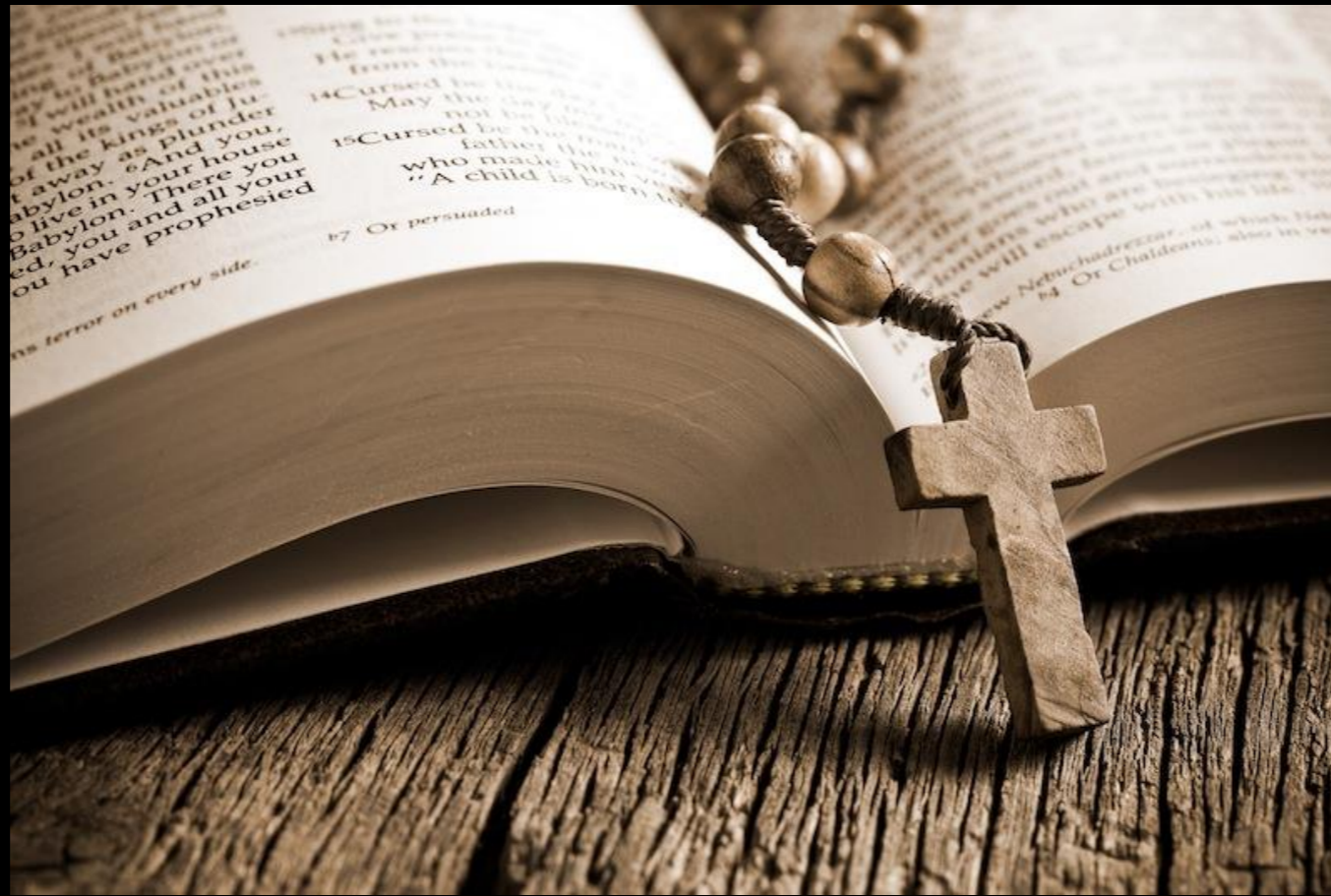
5.1 I have experienced the Word, I preach the Word



For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

(2 Peter 1: 16-20)

So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God
(2 Peter 1: 16-20)



Everyone understands God differently

Everyone experience God and speak about God differently

God is different in everyone's hearts

God leads different people in your life



The Word of God is In Us:
The Integration of Heart & Mind

5.2 Faith and Proclamation



The Word of God is very close to you,
He is in your words,
He is in your heart.

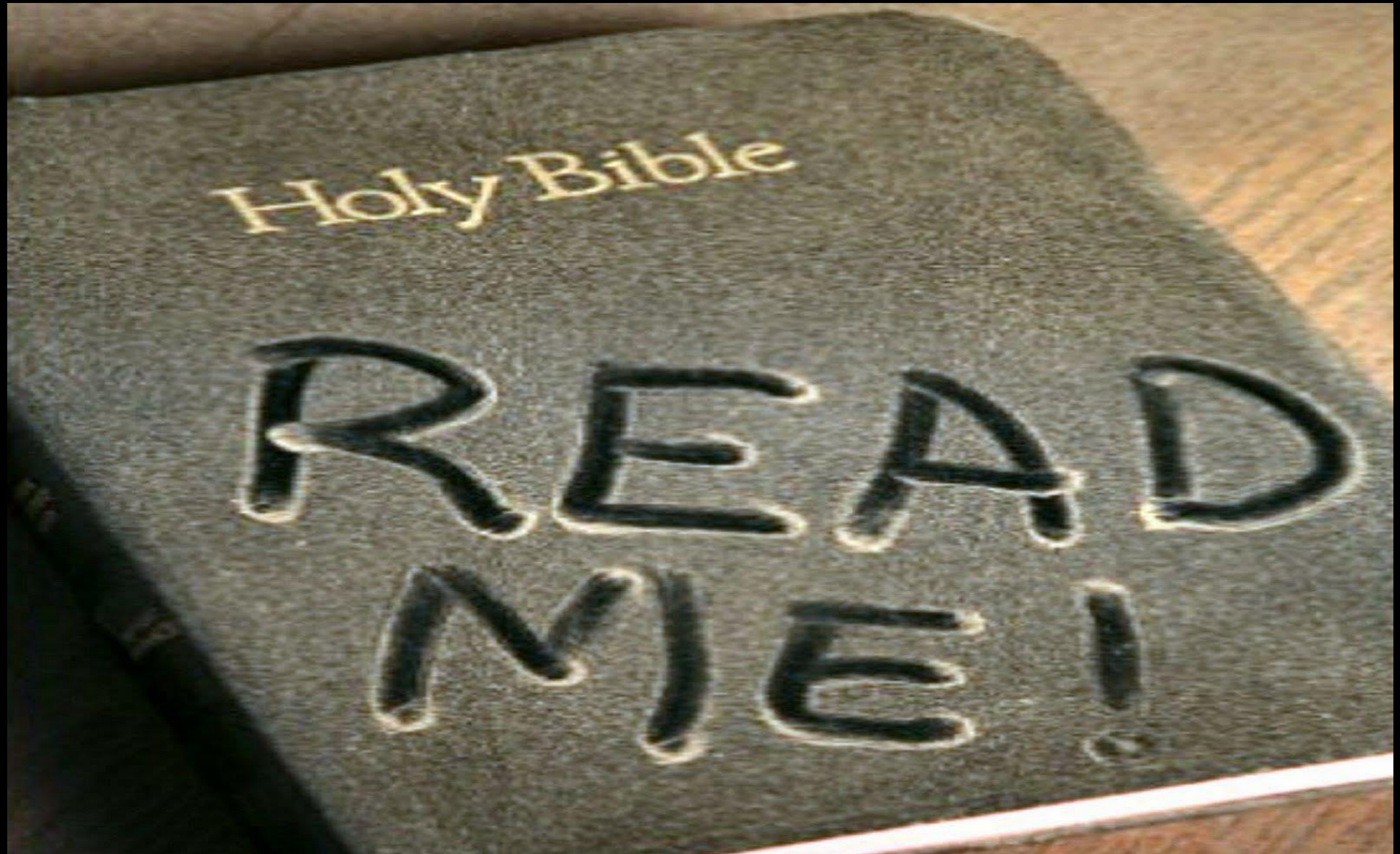
This refers to the “proclamation of our
faith.”

(Romans 10:6)

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent?

(Romans 10:14)

5.3 The uses of the Sacred Scripture



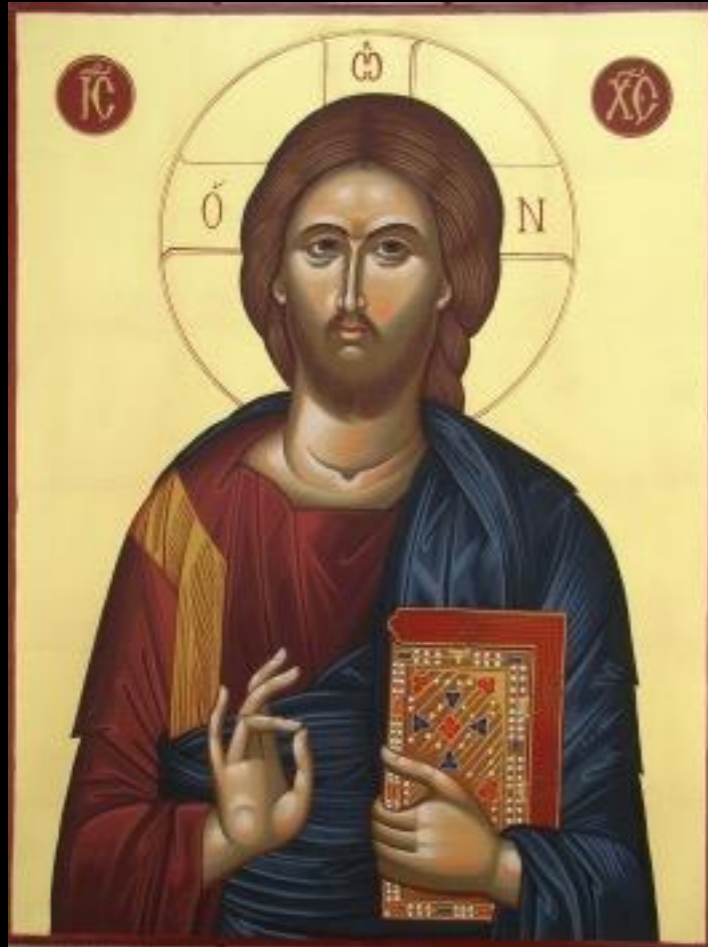
The study of the sacred page should be the very soul of sacred theology.

The ministry of the Word, too - **pastoral preaching, catechetics and all forms of Christian instruction**, among which the liturgical homily should hold pride of place - is healthily nourished and thrives in holiness through the Word of Scripture.

(CCC 132)

The most important is to
live out the Word of God

VI. Sharing



1. Before you learnt about the Sacred Scripture, what did you think it is?
2. Which bible verse do you like the most? Why do you like this verse? How does it relate to your personal story?

