

**The Masoretic Text** [MT] - a body of manuscripts. The critic takes the MT and tries to find the original. There are over 6,000 manuscripts in the MT [600-100 CE]

**Masorah** - Notes on the side of the Torah. [shows how to pass on the text/tradition].

**Masoretes** - Biblical scholars. They tell you how to read the text and what the notations, symbols and accents mean.

**Sofer** - Jewish Scribes. They can write Torah scrolls

**Torah** - In Judaism, it is the inspired word of God revealed through Moses. In Hebrew, Torah means teaching, instruction or law. It is made up of the five books of Moses, also known as the "law of Moses," or the Pentateuch [Greek].

- Genesis
- Exodus
- Leviticus
- Numbers
- Deuteronomy

**Halakha** - [Hebrew]-Jewish law or "the path"...historically Judaism makes no distinction between religious and non religious life and Halakha served to enforce civil and religious law.

**Tanakh** - the Hebrew term for the Hebrew Bible. It is made up of three parts:

- Torah
- Prophets
- Writings

**Mishnah** - the oral law of the Jewish people.

**Talmud** - records of rabbinical discussions regarding the Jewish laws, customs, history and ethics. It is the oral tradition and it is not inspired.

**Canonical** - a book inspired by God for religious practice or doctrine, used by the Jews as authority and is binding upon Jewish people for generations. The Bible is inspired canonical. {in other words, how it is put into practice} By the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> century, the Torah was canonized. Canonization is a gradual process where text becomes authoritative.

**Canon** - "rule", measurement," an "authorization."

**Principles of the Canonization process: NT**

- Apostolic Authority-relationship to the Apostles
- Right teaching- proto-orthodoxy, believes that ALL text was inspired [correct worship, theology and doctrine...connected to the Roman Empire]

- Wide use

**Apocrypha** - books that did not make it into the canon of the Hebrew Bible.

**Inspired text** - How it was written down.

**BCE or CE** - "Before the Common Era" or "Common Era," which have replaced the Latin term anno Domini [Year of the Lord], abbreviated A.D., and "Before Christ," abbreviated B.C. BCE and CE [in small caps] are now the accepted "common" abbreviations for dating: Examples: An exile from Judah took place in the 6<sup>th</sup> cent. BCE. The destruction of Jerusalem occurred in 70 CE.

**Pericope** - a small, self-contained unit of scripture. It is not necessarily a verse or chapter but a unit that makes sense for interpretive purposes, structurally or in terms of a paragraph theme.

***Translation Theory:***

Ancient Greek & Hebrew Manuscripts → Edited Greek or Hebrew Text → Modern Language translation

**Septuagint [LXX]** - first translation of the Hebrew Bible into Greek, which later became the OT based on its canon. It is the Kone Greek version of the OT in stages between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> Century BC in Alexandria.

**Vulgate** - [Early 5<sup>th</sup> century was the work of Jerome, commissioned by Pope Damasus in 351 to make revisions of old Latin translations. Its OT was the first Latin version to be translated directly from the Tanakh. It became the official published Latin translation of the Bible for the Roman Catholic Church.

The King James-[aka Authorized Version of the bible] is an English translation of the Christian bible which was first published in 1611. The NT was translated from the Textus Receptus [Latin for received text] from the Greek text, while the OT was translated from the Masoretic [Hebrew] text. And the Apocrypha was translated from the Septuagint.

**Solar Scripture** - Scripture alone is authoritative and God's written word is authentic and clear to the reader and interpreter and stands as the final authority for Christian doctrine.

**Biblical inerrancy** - is the doctrinal position that in its original form, the bible is without error. [complete accuracy of the scripture]..including the historical and scientific parts.

**Biblical Infallibility** - [limited inerrancy] the bible is inerrant on issues of faith and practice but not on history and science.