

*Irenaeus, Hippolytus, Novatian*

What do we need to know about Irenaeus and his origins? How did the apostles, according to Irenaeus, come to their knowledge?

How does he use Acts of the Apostles to refute the Marcionites?

Like Irenaeus, Hippolytus of Rome wrote in what language? How do Hippolytus and Irenaeus treat the various epistles of Peter, John, James, Jude?

What is remarkable about Novatian's work?

*Tertullian, Cyprian, and Others*

What is a Montanist? How did that "heresy" affect Tertullian's reading of the New Testament?

What does *diatheke* mean? What does *instrumentum* mean? *testamentum*? Why do these words matter?

What are Tertullian's main contributions to settling the canon?

Where is Scillium, and who were its martyrs? What is significant about its collection of letters and its New Testament?

*The Alexandrian Fathers*

How did Clement differ significantly from Tertullian? Who was his mentor? How was Clement influenced by Gnosticism? What does Clement mean by "scripture"? by "Christian writings"?

What does Origen list among "undisputed" books of the NT? Which amongst the "disputed"? What problems does Origen find with the catholic epistles and those other epistles associated with these authors?

What conclusions does Dionysius draw about the Gospel of John, 1 John, and Revelation? Why is that significant?

*Eusebius of Caesarea*

When did Eusebius live? What do we remember in particular about his ecclesiastical history? (Please note Bruce's footnote on p. 197.)

What do we gain from Eusebius's three categories—*acknowledged, disputed, and spurious*? How was Eusebius inconsistent in treating Revelation? Whom does he regard as the author? Why?

What gospels and acts does Eusebius reject outright? Why? Be specific.

What is docetism? Why is it heretical? How does docetism lead us to read, say, Jesus's trials and his crucifixion?

What gnostic hymn derives from Leucius's *Acts of John*? Is it important?

Why did Constantine order 50 Bibles? And why are they important to the canon's history? Which NT books appeared in those copies?

By the way, when did God demand that we capitalize *God* and *Bible*?

Note the irony Bruce points out at top of p. 204 concerning Christianity and Roman government.

What were the early uncials? The three main ones? What differences do we find in inclusions and order?

### *Athanasius and After*

Who was Athanasius? Why is he especially important to the Alexandrian church? To the NT canon? To the Council at Nicea? He is the first writer to do what precisely? And where is the apocrypha? Please note Athanasius's order for NT books.

Who was Cyril, and what did he include in his canon? What are the two gospels of Thomas?

Who was Gregory of Nazianzus? What is unusual about his presentation of canonical inclusions?

St. John Chrysostom first used the phrase "the books = ta biblia) of the OT and NT together (the two books). Then what happened to the Greek word for book?

What is the Peshitta? And what is in it?

The Eastern Orthodox church accepts 27 books in the NT—as listed by Athanasius. Yet the church allows no lectionary readings from the Apocalypse. Might we have done well to follow this practice?