

The Apocryphal Books: Tobit, Judith, Wisdom, Ecclesiasticus, 1&2 Maccabees, Baruch, Greek additions to Esther and Daniel

Bible	Roman Catholic Church
<p>Luke 24:44 "And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">✦</p> <p>Romans 3:1-2 "What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">✦</p> <p>Psalms 19:8-9 "The statutes of the LORD <i>are</i> right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD <i>is</i> pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the LORD <i>is</i> clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD <i>are</i> true and righteous altogether." c.f. Heb. 6:18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">✦</p> <p>John 17:17 "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."</p>	<p>"But if any one receive not, as sacred and canonical, the said books entire with all their parts, as they have been used to be read in the Catholic Church, and as they are contained in the old Latin vulgate edition; and knowingly and deliberately contemn the traditions aforesaid; let him be anathema."</p> <p>Decree of the Council of Trent, <i>De Canonis Scripturis, Fourth Session</i>. C.f. Council of Carthage, circa A.D. 397 in <i>Codex Canonum Ecclesiae Africanae</i>. Also see the Council of Rome, circa A.D. 382 purportedly preserved by an anonymous scholar in DECRETUM GELASIANUM DE LIBRIS RECIPIENDIS ET NON RECIPIENDIS from A.D. 512.</p>

1) The Truth:

- (1) The Jewish church only allowed in Synagogue the 39 OT books as confirmed by Christ in their three categories in Luke 24:44, and later further confirmed by the Sanhedrin seated at Jabneh A.D. 90.
- (2) The Jewish church was entrusted with the oracles of God, and we receive this trusted deposit from them, so Romans 3:1-2, teaches us to receive them.
- (3) The New Testament never quotes from the Apocrypha, but only from the canonical oracles of God given to the Jewish church.
- (4) The Apocrypha was not written by the authority of prophets or apostles, which is a requirement, so Eph. 2:20, of canonical books.
 - (a) Instead they were written after Malachi when no prophets existed.
 - (b) They were written in Greek and not Hebrew as the rest of God's oracles given to the Jewish Church.
 - (c) Josephus attests to this truth "Tis true, our history hath been written since Artaxerxes very particularly; but hath not been esteemed of the like authority with the former by our forefathers; because there hath not been an exact succession of Prophets since that time." [*Against Apion 1.8*](#)

Sampling of Errors in the Apocryphal Books

Apocryphal Book	Error	Reference	Bible Contradiction
Tobit	The angel tells a lie. He first says that he is human Azariah, son of Ananias, and then that he is Rafael, angel of the Lord.	Compare Tobit 5:12 with Tobit 12:15	9th Commandment
Tobit	Angel gives magical direction to scare the devil away with smoke of a fish's liver.	Tobit 6:6	Matthew 17:21 "Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting."
Tobit	Angel claims oblation of prayers, belonging to Christ alone.	Tobit 12:12	1 Timothy 2:5
Judith	Celebrates the deed of Simeon, which the Bible curses.	Judith 9:2, 13	Genesis 49:5-7
Wisdom	Author lies saying he was king in Israel.	Wisdom 9:7-8. The author could not be Solomon because of references to Greek games established well after him, c.f. Wisdom 4:2 and to the Greek writing Pythagorean metempsychosis, written after him, c.f. Wisdom 8:19-20	9th Commandment
Wisdom	False history of the origin of idolatry	Wisdom 14:15-16	Prediluvian, Genesis 4:16-24, Postdiluvian: Genesis 10:25; 11:1-9
Ecclesiasticus	Attributes to Samuel what was done by a demon	Ecclesiasticus 46:20	1 Samuel 28:11, note the spirit impersonating Samuel rises up from the ground
Ecclesiasticus	Falsely speaks of Elijah's bodily return	Ecclesiasticus 48:10	Luke 1:17; Matthew 11:14
Baruch	Says he reads his book to Jeconiah 5 years after Jerusalem was destroyed, but Jeconiah was in prison and Baruch was in Egypt.	Baruch 1:1-4	Jeremiah 43:7

Baruch	Says there was an altar of the LORD, when it had been destroyed	Baruch 1:10	Jeremiah 52:13
1 Maccabees	Direct internal contradiction	1 Mac. 1:16 with 9:5,28 directly contradicts chapter 10	9th Commandment
2 Maccabees	Suicide is praised.	2 Mac. 14:42	6th Commandment
2 Maccabees	Will-worship is commended by praising a sacrifice for the dead.	2 Mac. 12:42	2nd Commandment
2 Maccabees	Author admits his fallible weakness in writing	2 Mac. 2:23-24; 15:39	2 Peter 1:21

FURTHER NOTES:

1. Where can we go to see a more complete list of errors?
 - a. You may peruse [William Green](#) (1825-1900), [William Cunningham](#) (1805-1861), [Edward Leigh](#) (1602-1671), and [William Whitaker](#) (1548-1595).
 - b. The most exhaustive lists are still locked up in the Latin: [John Rainold](#) (1549-1607), [Daniel Chamier](#) (1564-1621), among others.

2) Advantage for the Roman Catholic Church to hold this position against the Bible: First, many doctrines, such as purgatory, among others, are given support which cannot be found in the Bible. Secondly, the Bible is then weakened to need an outside authority to vindicate its divine authority. So the Roman Magisterium and the decree of Roman Councils then have their supreme authoritative purpose and an ecclesiastical unwritten tradition is given prominence.

3) Quick Examples of the consent of the Church Fathers with the Bible:

Church Father	Source	Protestant OT Canon Professed?	Year of our Lord
Melito, Bishop of Sardis	From Eusebius's Ecclesiastical History, Book 4, Chapter 26, page 164.	Yes, Apocrypha denied, but canon list omits Esther.	116
~30 Regional Bishops	60th Canon of the Synod of Laodicea "THESE are all the books of Old Testament appointed to be read: 1, Genesis of the world; 2, The Exodus from Egypt; 3, Leviticus; 4, Numbers; 5, Deuteronomy; 6, Joshua, the son of Nun; 7, Judges, Ruth; 8, Esther; 9, Of the Kings, First and Second; 10, Of the Kings, Third and Fourth; 11, Chronicles, First and Second; 12, Esdras, First and Second (Ezra and Nehemiah); 13, The Book of Psalms; 14, The Proverbs of Solomon; 15, Ecclesiastes; 16, The Song of Songs; 17, Job; 18, The Twelve Prophets; 19, Isaiah; 20, Jeremiah and Baruch, the Lamentations and the Epistle; 21, Ezekiel; 22, Daniel."	Yes, the 59th Canon restricts reading to only the canon, and the 60th Canon lists the canonical books to the exclusion of the Apocrypha; the 60th Canon of the Synod is disputed by Roman Catholic Scholars, but it doesn't matter because Cyril of Jerusalem concurred with this list during the same 4th century time period in his writings.	364
Epiphanius	<i>De Epicureis, Panarion</i>	Yes, " These are the 27 books given the Jews by God. " Pg. 28-29 (With 12 minor prophets counted as one book, and Jeremiah and Lamentations counted as one book)	374
Jerome	From the Vulgate's Hieronymi Prologus Galeatus	Yes	391
Athanasius?	Synopsis Scripturae Sacrae	Yes, "But aside from these there are moreover some other [Apocryphal] books with the Old Testament, which are not considered canonical, but which are only read to catechumens..."	If Ath. then c. 370 , If Ps. Ath., 6th Century

FURTHER NOTES: