



APOLOGETICS

BE PREPARED TO GIVE AN ANSWER

Session 3: “The Canon of the Bible”

Sunday, June 15, 2014

1. OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful

All: and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Leader: Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

All: And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts of the faithful,

grant that by the same Holy Spirit

we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations,
through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

2. REVIEW FROM LAST SESSION (“THE EUCHARIST”)

- a. When Jesus instituted the supper, he had not yet been crucified. How then was the Eucharist his crucified body and blood?
- b. If, as the Roman Catholic Church teaches, that the Eucharist Wine is the literal blood of Christ, then how is that not violating the Old Testament law against drinking the blood of any flesh (Lev. 17:14)?

3. DISCUSSION: “The Canon of the Bible”

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. CLOSING PRAYER

Website: www.olswahiawa.org

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Is the Bible’s table of contents part of the inspired text? Did the Bible fall from heaven preprinted and bound in a single volume? Does the Bible anywhere tell us which books belong in it?
2. How do we know which books are inspired and authoritative (and thus deserve to be included in the canon of the Bible)? Why is this an important question?
3. Luther held that a book belonged in the canon if it taught salvation by faith alone. Calvin said that the only way to know a book is inspired is by the internal witness of the Holy Spirit. Using standards like Luther’s and Calvin’s, what would prevent someone from rejecting huge portions of the Bible and rewriting the canon any way he liked?
4. Why did the Catholic Church chain Bibles in churches?
5. Why did the Catholic Church keep the Bible in Latin for so many years?
6. Why did the Catholic Church burn certain Bibles?
7. Why did the Catholic Church sometimes prohibit reading certain versions of the Bible?