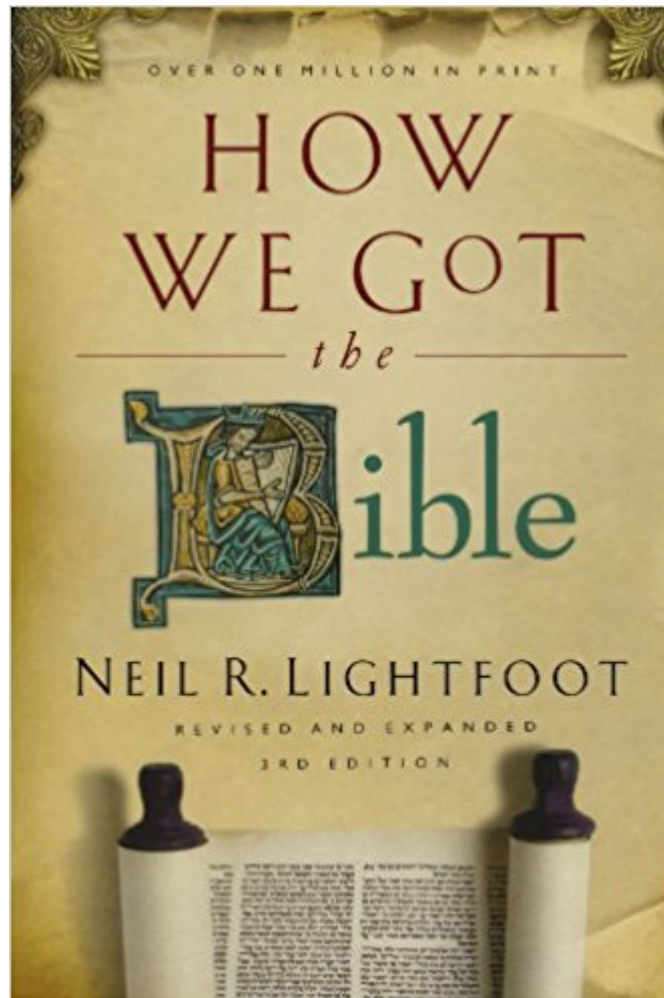




The book was found

How We Got The Bible



Synopsis

How We Got the Bible provides factual, accessible answers to questions such as How and when did the books of the Bible originate? In what sense are these books different from other books? How have these books been preserved and transmitted to us? Why do we have so many different translations of the Bible? A popular guide for Bible students, it has sold more than 1 million copies during its forty years in print. This trade paper edition of the well-loved classic offers readers an even more affordable way to learn about the development of the most important book in history.

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Customer Reviews

Find answers to key questions about the Bible. How accurate are modern translations such as the New International Version and the New Revised Standard Version? Why does the Roman Catholic Bible have more books than most Protestant Bibles? How can we be sure that the Biblical message has been accurately preserved through the centuries? How We Got the Bible, after more than forty years, has become a classic source of answers for these and other questions on how the Bible has come down to us. Now in this revised edition, you will find five new chapters covering the Septuagint, the Latin Vulgate, the Sinaitic Manuscript, the illuminated manuscripts, and more. Every chapter in this edition includes new material, followed by a brief summary and questions for discussion. Neil R. Lightfoot deals with technical issues in non-technical language, making this book a valuable tool for any reader. Back flap Neil R. Lightfoot (Ph.D., Duke University) serves as Frank Pack Distinguished Professor of New Testament at Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas. He is the author of

several books, including Everyone's Guide to Hebrews. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

How old are the earliest biblical manuscripts? How has the Bible been preserved and transmitted to us? Why do we have so many different translations of the Bible? How did early Christians decide which writings to include in the Bible? A classic for more than forty years, *How We Got the Bible* provides well-researched, accessible answers to many questions like these. Learn about the first materials used to write down the words of Scripture. Uncover the facts of some of history's most fascinating archaeological discoveries. Travel through history, from Jerome to Tyndale and beyond, as Neil R. Lightfoot discusses the origin, transmission, and translation of the Bible. Illustrations and review questions at the end of each chapter make this book ideal for either individual or group study. Concise and engaging, *How We Got the Bible* is a trusted resource for anyone who wants to know the story behind the most widely read book of all time. Neil R. Lightfoot serves as Frank Pack Distinguished Professor of New Testament at Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas. He is the author of several books, including *Everyone's Guide to Hebrews*.

Still useful, but old (3rd ed., 2003) and hardly any illustrations, just text. Newer award winner with many illustrations in color and at about the same level of detail (slightly less, but broader in scope): *How We Got the Bible* = Jones Timothy Paul. *How we Got the Bible*. (Rose Publishing, 2015). ISBN-13: 978-1628622164. Christian Book of the Year Award, 2016 (Bible Reference). A book that is more in depth is Wegner's *The Journey from Texts to Translations: The Origin and Development of the Bible*.

THE BEST quick reference on exactly how we got the Bible, just like it says. Friends at Ivy League schools swear by this book. Later, some of the Bruce Metzger titles will provide more detail but this is THE BOOK to give to the seeker wanting to know if we can trust accurate transmission of the biblical texts. I've summarized "How We Got the Bible" here: VeganGod.org/Bible - that page used info from this book and elsewhere to give you the world's quickest but most persuasive argument whose conclusion is this: We have what they writers intended us to have. It's up to you to believe the claims or not.

This is a great place to start to begin to study the topic of textual criticism. It is easily readable and understandable while also providing lots of information. He covers not just the NT transmission but

also the OT. Also helpful is an overview of more modern translations, how we got them, and their strengths and weaknesses. Wish Kindle version included pictures.

Very excellent study. It is deep enough with all of the technical "text criticism" discussions but yet is explained simple enough for a layman to understand how this critical element is for the of gaining confidence that the Bible we have today is accurate to the original manuscripts.

I thought this was a great book that encouraged my faith in the Bible as truly being God's Word. I found it easy to read, not too didactic. There were some long parts about different manuscripts & types of parchments, but they were clearly presented. The author showed an amazing familiarity with the fascinating history of how the Christian faith has translated & preserved the copies of the books of the Bible throughout time. Perhaps the most compelling part was learning that the version of the Bible we have today is still very accurate & has NOT varied significantly since the days of the Apostles. I was also impressed that the Bible, unlike any other ancient collection of writings, has literally thousands of copies of fragments to back up our present day version. The uniqueness of the Bible shines in this book, so much so that the Author Himself, is undoubtedly seen as being involved in the miraculous preservation of His revelation to mankind. I recommend this book!

Excellent source for understanding history of the Bible and how we arrived at the final composite of books. Author gives full discussion from earliest translations from Alexandria and Egypt through the Dead Sea Scrolls and modern discoveries.. Explains the "Lost Books" and why they are not included. Written as a class text that makes understanding follow logical progression. Recommend to anyone struggling with the challenge that Bible is only a book...it is the word of God.

For anyone who reads the bible this is an excellent resurce. Especially when talking with those who have little biblical knowledge. This will allow you to answer any questions about the authority of scripture. Not difficult to read but a little dry. This is a scholarly book written for the lay person. I borrowed the book and read it before I decided to have it in my library.

I've always wondered (and I'm sure many others have, too) how that Bible I'm always holding on Sunday morning got to be put together in the first place. But in this day and age of busy schedules who is really going to go to a library and do some exhaustive research on the subject? That's why you need to read this book, because the research is already done for you and presented in a way

that even the average person can understand it. You won't be inundated with technical words and jibberish. The book (this is a review of the SECOND edition) is neatly divided into 13 chapters, each little over 10 pages long. Makes for easy reading during your lunch break or whatever freetime you have in your day. And as if that wasn't simplistic enough, each chapter is ended by a summary, followed by some questions that would make this book great in a classroom environment. The chapters are as follows: 1) The Making of Ancient Books, 2) The Birth of the Bible, 3) Manuscripts of the New Testament, 4) Other Manuscripts and New Testament Witnesses, 5) The Text of the New Testament, 6) Significance of Textual Variations, 7) Restoring the New Testament Text, 8) The Text of the Old Testament, 9) The Canon of the Scriptures, 10) The Apocryphal Books, 11) The English Bible to 1611, 12) Recent Translations of the English Bible, 13) "My Words Will Not Pass Away". I found this book very helpful in answering my questions. Sure, it doesn't go very deep into any one subject, but that is not the point of this book. This book is only meant as a brief overview. If there is a specific aspect of the history of the Bible that you're interested in then you should look elsewhere. A good place to start would be by looking at the footnotes in this book (located at the BOTTOM of each page in the Second Edition, not at the end), where you will find many other references that the author used in preparing this book. This book does not get five stars only because this is the only book I have read on this subject, so I can not say that this is the most accurate or best book on this topic. Maybe there is a better one out there. But nonetheless, this is a good place to start and a good book to read.

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