How Did We Get The Bible?
HOLY
BIBLE
CONCORDANCE
The men who wrote the N.T.

• Matthew – Mt.
• Mark – Mk.
• John – Gospel of John, 1,2,3, John and Revelation
• Paul
• Romans – Hebrews (We are not sure who wrote Hebrews, but many believe it was Paul)
• James – Js.
• Peter – 1,2 Peter
• Jude – Jude
I. How did they know what to write?

- God told them
- They were guided by the Holy Spirit
• Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.
• For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

• God gave them the message he wanted them to write
2 Tim. 3:16

• All scripture is given by inspiration of God...
II. What kind of material did they write on?

1. Papyrus = a writing material made from the papyrus plant
Wikipedia.com

- Papyrus
Wikipedia.com

- Papyrus
- Copy of part of N.T.
They papyrus plant was pressed out and glued together to make a scroll.
Rev. 5:1 (NKJV)

- And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals.
- (These were probably papyrus)
Rev. 6:14

• And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together…
2. Parchment - vellum = animal skins specially prepared so they could be used to write on

Parchment was stronger than papyrus
Parchment in scroll form
2 Tim. 4:13

- The cloak (coat) that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, (scrolls) but especially the parchments (made of animal skins)
• The following pictures from www.schoyencollection.com/in dex.html
Parchment (leather) – Codex form
• They used a stylus and inkwell to write on the papyrus or parchment
Stylus

MS 5095/3
Qumran stylus with natural ink groove. Qumran, late 1st c. BC - 68 AD
MS 1655/2
Inkwell from the Scriptorium of the Dead Sea Scrolls,
Khirbet Qumran, before 68 AD
Copies of the N.T.

• We have none of the original letters of the N.T.

• However many copies were made of the original letters
III. What language was used in the N.T.?

- Greek
- How many of us can read Greek?
Οὕτως γὰρ ἠγάπησεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν κόσμον, ὥστε τὸν υἱὸν τὸν μονογενῆ ἔδωκεν, ἵνα πᾶς οἱ πιστεύων εἰς αὐτὸν μὴ ἀπόληται ἀλλ' ἔχῃ ζωὴν αἰώνιον.
Translations

• The N.T. had to be translated into other languages so people could read it

• Someone would read the Greek N.T. then write it in another language
Jn. 3:16

- 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
• John 3:16 (Spanish)

• "Porque de tal manera amo Dios al mundo, que ha dado a su Hijo unigenito, para que todo aquel que en el cree, no se pierda, mas tenga vida eterna."
Jn. 3:16 (Chinese)
IV. There are no doctrinal mistakes in accurate translations of the Bible
• John’s best friend loves to read books about the Bible.
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• “After all ancient copies of the Bible are compared, it is obvious that we have well over 99% of the original text that God inspired the writers to record”