

The Non-Canonical TEXT References of the Old and New Testaments

There are 29 References in the Old Testament to non-canonical texts ...

... and 6 References in the New Testament to non-canonical texts and some other unidentifiable fragments

Points to Note

1. Not all non-canonical texts (NCTs) are authentic in their authorship claims or dates of composition
2. Not all NCT's are heretical, some are grossly heretical and / or fanciful legends; others are partly so, others occasionally so and many others are perfectly Orthodox and sound in their teachings but nonetheless did not qualify for inclusion in the canon (standard collection) of Scripture.
3. The criteria used by the Church for inclusion or exclusion in the canon of Scripture was not limited to issues of erroneous doctrine but also the question of apostolic authenticity. Occasionally texts were included even though authorship was sometimes disputed (eg, the Letter to the Hebrews).
4. Orthodox non canonical texts are still used by the Church in the wider collection of books embraced in Holy Tradition.
5. Bearing in mind the Church's key role in defining the canon of Scripture, and based on the fact that the Apostles are the bedrock of authority in the Church and these writings were their own, the Church through the apostolic successors , (the bishops and also the approved teachers or Fathers of the Church), have every right to set the limits both of the data of revelation in the Bible and its interpretation. Within those limits, there is a catholic fulness that gives ample opportunity and scope for study and fresh application of biblical study in the Church.

I shall deal here only with texts linked to the New Testament and non-canonical texts where the latest estimated date of writing is 200 AD

New Testament Quotations, References and Allusions

- [Book of Enoch](#) (Jude 1:4, 1:6, 1:13, 1:14–15,^[22] 2 Peter 2:4; 3:13,^{[23][24]} and John 7:38 ^[25]).
- Book of Jasher (2 Timothy 3:8, 2 Samuel 1:18, Joshua 10:13^[11])
- [Epistle to the Laodiceans](#) ([Colossians](#) 4:16 "read the epistle from Laodicea")
- [Life of Adam and Eve](#) (2 Corinthians 11:14 "Satan as an angel of light", 12:2 "Third Heaven")^[26]
- A lost section of the [Assumption of Moses](#) (2 Timothy 3:8, Jude 9 "Michael.. body of Moses")
- [Martyrdom of Isaiah](#) (Hebrews 11:37 "they were sawn in two")

From Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Non-canonical_books_referenced_in_the_Bible

All links clickable (Ctrl-Click)

Non-Canonical and Other Texts with a final earliest date of 150 AD

only those texts are included here which have some substantial bearing on Christianity and where the work actually survives, (beyond fragments), rather than merely referenced by others

50-60	<u>1 Thessalonians</u>	Canonical Scripture
50-60	<u>Philippians</u>	Canonical Scripture
50-60	<u>Galatians</u>	Canonical Scripture
50-60	<u>1 Corinthians</u>	Canonical Scripture
50-60	<u>2 Corinthians</u>	Canonical Scripture
50-60	<u>Romans</u>	Canonical Scripture
50-60	<u>Philemon</u>	Canonical Scripture
50-80	<u>Colossians</u>	Canonical Scripture
50-95	<u>Letter to the Hebrews</u>	Canonical Scripture
50-120	<u>Didache</u>	Orthodox but extra canonical
50-140	<u>Gospel of Thomas</u>	Gnostic - heretical
50-150	<u>Apocalypse of Adam</u>	Gnostic - heretical
65-80	<u>Gospel of Mark</u>	Canonical Scripture
70-100	<u>Epistle of James</u>	Canonical Scripture
70-160	<u>Gospel of Peter</u>	Docetic - heretical
70-160	<u>Secret Mark</u>	Gnostic - heretical
80-100	<u>2 Thessalonians</u>	Canonical Scripture
80-100	<u>Ephesians</u>	Canonical Scripture
80-100	<u>Gospel of Matthew</u>	Canonical Scripture
80-110	<u>1 Peter</u>	Canonical Scripture
80-120	<u>Epistle of Barnabas</u>	Orthodox but extra canonical
80-130	<u>Gospel of Luke</u>	Canonical Scripture
80-130	<u>Acts of the Apostles</u>	Canonical Scripture
80-140	<u>1 Clement</u>	Orthodox: Pope Clement to Corinth
90-95	<u>Revelation</u>	Canonical Scripture
90-120	<u>Gospel of John</u>	Canonical Scripture
90-120	<u>1 John</u>	Canonical Scripture
90-120	<u>2 John</u>	Canonical Scripture
90-120	<u>3 John</u>	Canonical Scripture
90-120	<u>Epistle of Jude</u>	Canonical Scripture
100-150	<u>1 Timothy</u>	Canonical Scripture
100-150	<u>2 Timothy</u>	Canonical Scripture
100-150	<u>Titus</u>	Canonical Scripture
100-150	<u>Secret Book of James</u>	Gnostic - heretical
100-160	<u>Gospel of the Nazoreans</u>	A Judaizing reworking of St Matthew's Gospel
100-160	<u>Shepherd of Hermas</u>	Valued but suspect on account of its adoptionist Christology
100-160	<u>2 Peter</u>	Canonical Scripture

100-200	<u>Gospel of Eve</u>	Gnostic - heretical
101-220	<u>Book of Elchasai</u>	Gnostic - heretical
105-115	<u>Ignatius of Antioch</u>	Orthodox - Patristic
110-140	<u>Polycarp to the Philippians</u>	Orthodox - Hieromartyr
120-130	<u>Quadratus of Athens</u>	Orthodox – one of the Seventy
120-130	<u>Apology of Aristides</u>	Orthodox - Apologist
120-140	<u>Basilides</u>	Gnostic - heretical
120-140	<u>Naassene Fragment</u>	Gnostic - heretical
120-160	<u>Valentinus</u>	Gnostic - heretical
120-180	<u>Apocryphon of John</u>	Gnostic - heretical
120-180	<u>Gospel of Mary</u>	Gnostic - heretical
120-180	<u>Dialogue of the Saviour</u>	Gnostic - heretical
120-180	<u>Gospel of the Saviour</u>	Gnostic - heretical
120-180	<u>2nd Apocalypse of James</u>	Gnostic - heretical
120-180	<u>Trimorphic Protennoia</u>	Docetic - heretical
120-180	<u>Gospel of Perfection</u>	Gnostic - heretical
130-140	<u>Marcion</u>	OT God not the true God – heretical
130-160	<u>Epiphanes On Righteousness</u>	Gnostic - heretical
130-160	<u>Ophite Diagrams</u>	Gnostic - heretical
130-160	<u>2 Clement</u>	Not by St Clement – dubious value
130-170	<u>Gospel of Judas</u>	Gnostic - heretical
130-200	<u>Epistle of Mathetes to Diognetus</u>	Orthodox - Apologist
140-150	<u>Epistula Apostolorum</u>	Mostly Orthodox – Against Docetism and Gnosticism
140-160	<u>Ptolemy</u>	Gnostic - heretical
140-170	<u>Protoevangelium of James</u>	Orthodox but extra canonical
140-170	<u>Infancy Gospel of Thomas</u>	Neo-Gnostic fantasies of the miracles of the boy Jesus: parallels in the Qu’ran (the clay birds legend)
140-180	<u>Gospel of Truth</u>	Gnostic - heretical
150-160	<u>Martyrdom of Polycarp</u>	Orthodox but extra canonical
150-160	<u>Justin Martyr</u>	Orthodox but extra canonical
150-180	<u>Excerpts of Theodotus</u>	Gnostic - heretical
150-180	<u>Heracleon</u>	Gnostic- heretical
150-200	<u>Interpretation of Knowledge</u>	Gnostic - heretical
150-200	<u>Testimony of Truth</u>	Gnostic - heretical
150-200	<u>Acts of Peter</u>	Gnostic - heretical
150-200	<u>Acts of John</u>	Docetic - heretical
150-200	<u>Acts of Paul</u>	Fanciful stories, used by the heretical Manichaeans
150-200	<u>Acts of Andrew</u>	Jesus not mentioned as an historical figure, barely Christian - heretical

From: <http://earlychristianwritings.com>

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