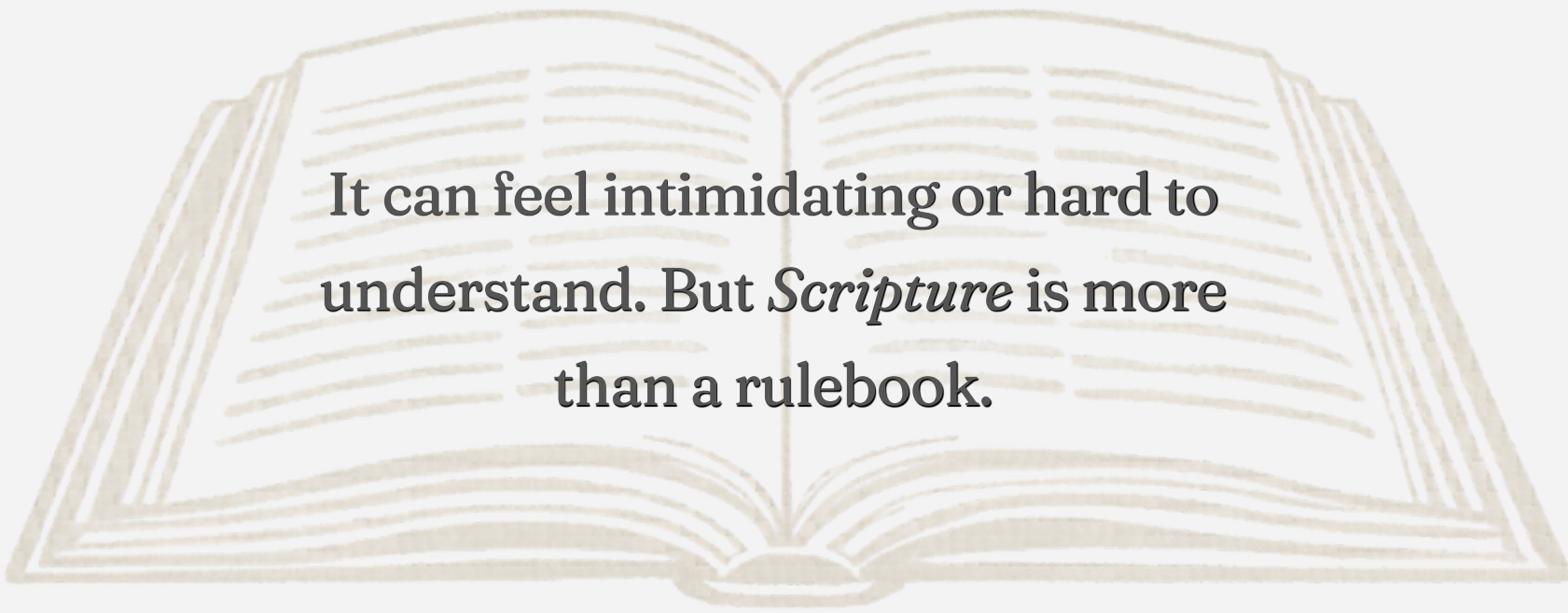


What *actually* is the Bible?



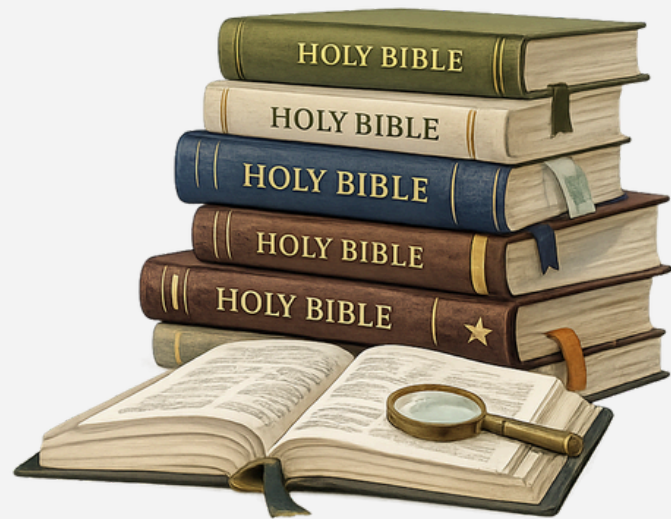
It can feel intimidating or hard to understand. But *Scripture* is more than a rulebook.

Swipe for 4 quick truths.

Save this post for your next Bible Study!

1. A Library of Texts

The Bible is not a single book but a library. It is a collection of **66 books** written by about **40 authors** over 1,500 years.



2. God's Revelation

The Bible is one of the primary ways God reveals Himself to the world. As 2 Timothy 3:16 says, all Scripture is God-breathed.



3. A Unified Story

Even though it was written by many authors, it tells one unified story: Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration.



4. A Living Word

Hebrews 4:12 tells us the Word of God is alive and active. This isn't just ink on a page, it's living, breathing truth that transforms us.



The Bible Is More Than a Book.

Want to dive deeper? Join Bible teacher Michael Gunnin for our FREE 5-session study exploring the biggest questions about Scripture.



Screenshot, press and hold QR code or simply scan to access the free digital bundle!



Save this post for your next Bible Study!

Where did we get the Bible from?

The Bible didn't just fall from the sky in the format we have today. **It has a history.** And understanding that history can give us greater confidence in it as God's Word—and even deepen our desire to read it.



Swipe for 3 phases.

1. Composition

Old Testament: approximately 1400–430 BC

New Testament: approximately 40–90 AD

God gave His Word through prophets,
shepherds, poets, and apostles writing in
real history.



*The Bible was divinely given
and humanly composed.*

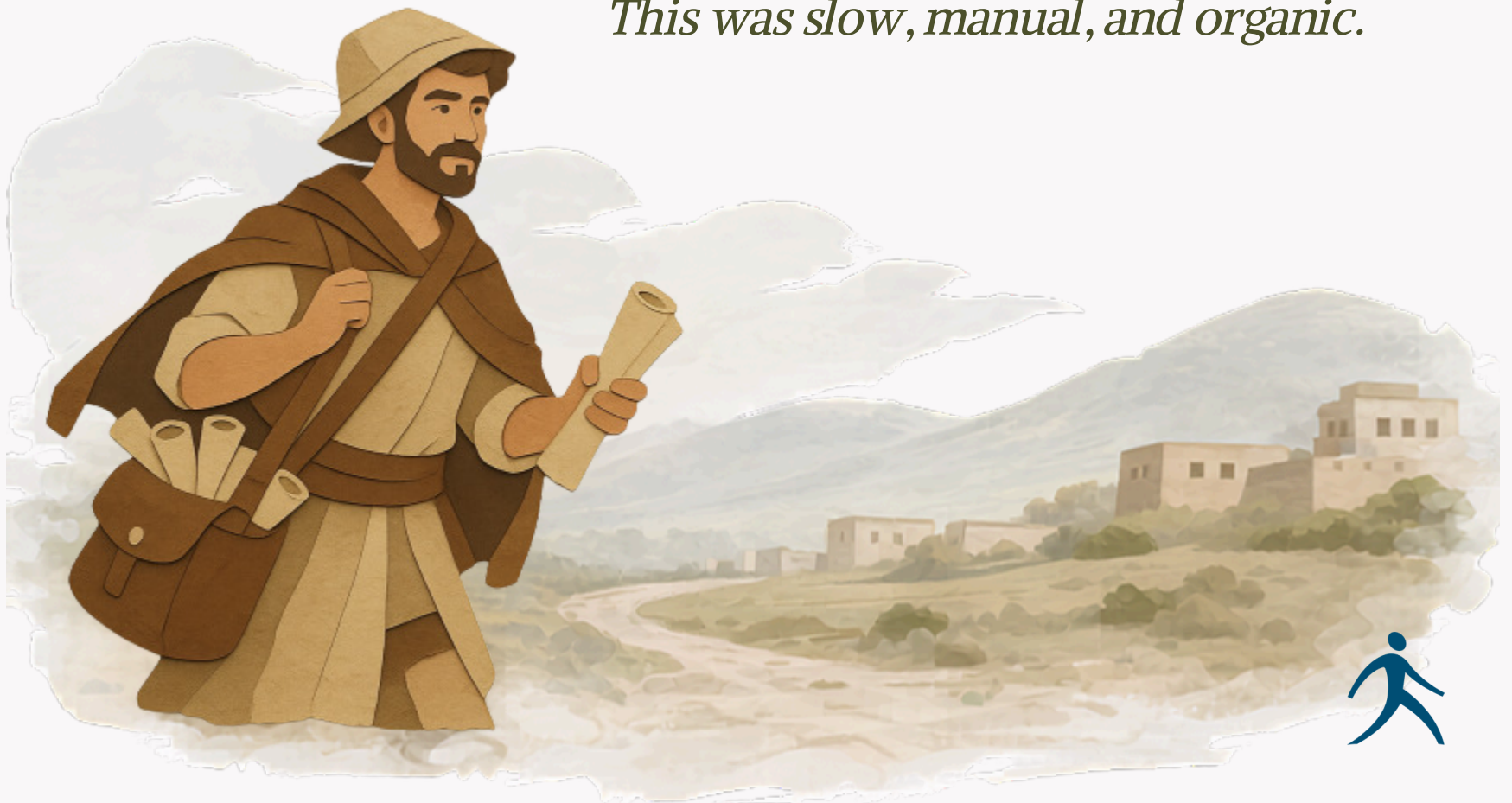


2. Circulation

After the books were written, they were *circulated* among the people of God.

In the New **Testament** era, letters were written by apostles, then hand-delivered, and the teachings were shared across regions.

This was slow, manual, and organic.



3. Canonization



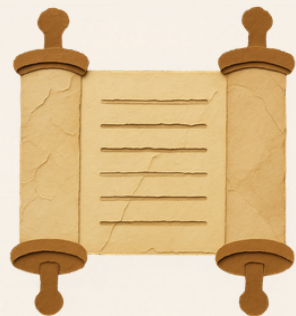
“Canon” means *standard or measuring rod*. It refers to the recognized list of 66 books that make up God’s Word.



How was it recognized?

Old Testament (39 books)

Settled by Jesus’ time and used by Him as authority.



New Testament (27 books)

Formalized by the 4th century using 3 tests:



- ✓ Apostolic connection
- ✓ Doctrinal consistency
- ✓ Widespread use

*The church did not give the Bible authority;
it recognized the authority God had already given it.*

How were the books recognized?

The early church used **three key tests**:



Was it **written by** or **connected to the apostles**?



Did it **agree with accepted doctrine**?



Was it **widely used** by the church?

The church did not give the Bible authority *God had already given it.*



Why does this matter?

God worked through human history, real people,
and real circumstances to reverse what He
wanted us to have.

Even in the messiness of it all, God accomplished His
purpose.

The Bible we have is the authoritative, God-breathed
Word of God.



The Bible is *more than a book*.

Want to dive deeper? Explore our FREE 5-session study,
More Than a Book. Five Big Bible Questions.

Download the study guide and
follow the 40-day *Bible reading* plan.



Save this post for your next Bible study.