

Witness Kit Class 6:
How do we know they
put the right books into
the Bible? The approved
list and how it formed.

Not so long ago, behind the Iron Curtain of communism

The secret press, often copying books and articles by hand, distributed literary and religious works. The copies were rare and treasured. They were passed from hand to hand, so that one copy reached numerous individuals.

- An underground church might have only one Bible, but individuals would copy passages by hand and pass them around.

Under such circumstances,

it was important to know which sources were trustworthy.

Under such circumstances, it was important to know about the person handing you a document.

- ❑ Was he a bona fide believer?
- ❑ Was he an *agent provocateur* for the secret police?

Under persecution, it was vital to know which people were sincere.

- The presence of the Holy Spirit to guide was tremendously important. A clear conscience was, therefore, also extremely important.
- To have the guidance of the Holy Spirit, one must have a clear conscience. We must search to understand how to do that during the easy times so that we will be able to do so in the difficult times.

The Christians in the first 300 years

Faced similar challenges.

- ❑ Their religion was illegal.
- ❑ They faced death for practicing it openly.
- ❑ They relied on strings of testimony to validate documents—especially strings of testimony reaching back to the apostles.

So How Did the Books in the New Testament Get There?

How was the decision made to include or reject a certain document?

- We know that the original wording of the books is at least 99% correct,
- But how do we know the books themselves are the correct ones?
- Today's lecture will bring information from some outside sources.

The Canon=the List of Books in the Bible: How did the books in the Bible get there?

- Those sources are ***Sketches from Church History***, Houghton, The Banner of Truth Trust, 1995,
- ***The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus***, Habermas and Licona, Kregel Publications, 2004, p277-278, and
- ***Reinventing Jesus***, Komoszewski, Sawyer, and Wallace, Kregel Publications, 2006.
- (If you find this set of slides is too simple, this link should take you to even more information. <http://www.apologetics315.com/2012/07/lectures-on-canon-by-michael-j-kruger.html>)

Everyone can gain confidence in the New Testament books

Important Facts

by learning important historical facts.

1. **The setting in the Roman Empire—with its transportation and communication systems**
2. **The history of collecting the documents**
3. **The criteria for inclusion in the New Testament.**

The Canon of Scripture, or the List of Books

The Hebrew Scriptures were written between 1400 BC and 300 BC, and no new ones were added for the last 2300 years. The selection process took place long ago. Jesus Christ **validated** the Old Testament Hebrew selection of books by category in the gospels.—Luke 16:31, Luke 24:44-48.

The Greek Scriptures are more recent, being written between 50 AD and 100 AD, 1900 plus years ago. Today's focus is the New Testament Greek Canon.

Facts about the Historical Setting

- The church began to grow all over the Roman Empire long before the New Testament part of the Bible was collected into one book.
- It grew because the apostles and early missionaries carried the news of Jesus' resurrection everywhere they went. (Thus, we should be happy to do the same thing.)
- The "Peace of Rome" made travel possible.
- The Empire stretched from India to Britain, and covered North Africa. Roman roads were everywhere. It was a rare point in history, in which huge portions of the planet were accessible to travelers.

The Apostles Carried the Message long distances.

- Bartholomew went to India and Armenia.
- Thomas went as far east as Iran and India—to the edge of the empire and beyond.
- John went to Turkey and Patmos.
- Paul and his fellow missionaries went to Turkey, Greece, Macedonia, and Rome.
- Matthew went to Egypt.
- Peter and John Mark went to Rome.

PAX ROMANA



Because the Roman empire had an enforced peace,

- travel was made relatively easy by ship or on Roman roads and bridges. The roads and bridges were built to last, and some still stand today.
- This made possible the sending of letters and documents to various places around the empire.

PAX ROMANA: The Codex

▣ At first, the documents were on **scrolls**, which were limited in size. The invention of the **codex**, or **book form**, allowed bigger documents to be collected into one copy.

▣ Scrolls were only easy to handle if they were about the size of the Gospel According to Luke.

PAX ROMANA: The Codex

Christians needed to keep the books of the Bible together in one large book.

▣ The codex form was invented a bit earlier than the Christian era, but the codex was actually made popular by the spread of Christianity.

PAX ROMANA

- Church leaders had relative freedom to travel for church conferences on those same Roman roads.
- Travel took place well before Christianity was made a legal religion, but was even more true once **legalization** took place in **313 AD**.
- Churches in England were sending ministers to conferences in France (Gaul) by the year 314 AD.

PAX ROMANA: Legalization

Emperor Galerius, a severe persecutor, died in 311. Constantine had vied with him for power from **306 to 311**. Constantine became sole western emperor in **312**, although he did not consolidate his rule over the entire empire until **324**.

□ **Constantine decreed toleration for Christianity in 313, in the Edict of Milan**. He had probably made a commitment to Christ at that time. He preached sermons.

□ His mother Helena was a strong Christian.

More about Constantine...

In 311, civil war continued after the death of Galerius.

According to Eusebius (reporting *Constantine's description* of the event later in life), during this civil war, Constantine saw a vision of the cross, with the words, “In this sign, conquer.” He won that battle to consolidate his power in the west, but not in the east.

He attributed his political success to his conversion to Christianity, although he delayed his baptism.

More about Constantine...

- He had met Eusebius, bishop of Caesarea, in his youth.
- His permanent capital was in the east—Constantinople, now called Istanbul.
- Rome was also a capital. So was Trier, in present day Germany.
- A statue of him during his lifetime showed him holding up a cross with this inscription, “By this saving sign I have delivered your city from the tyrant and restored liberty to the Senate and people of Rome.” --*Encyclopedia Britannica*, 1987.

More about Constantine...

- Constantine called the Council of Nicaea in 325, although he was not baptized until 337.
- He was more interested in harmony than doctrinal purity in regard to the Council of Nicaea.

The importance of a good Mom:

- His mother started churches around the empire, including a large “Romanesque” cathedral – the oldest church in Germany in Trier – where Constantine had his northern capital.
- At first the church met in her palace there, and then Constantine built St. Peter’s in 326 AD. His Basilica—throne room—in Trier is the largest intact Roman structure outside Rome. Today, it houses the first Lutheran church in the area.

PAX ROMANA—Before legalization of Christianity

The Roman Empire was a terrible, violent, wicked tyranny. The price of PAX ROMANA was very high. In spite of that, and in spite of official persecution, the Roman Peace facilitated the spread of Christianity.

The power of the Holy Spirit plus ease of travel plus Christian commitment trumped persecution.

Roman Soldiers Carried the Message

- Roman soldiers went everywhere in the empire. In Rome, the Apostle Paul was imprisoned with a Roman soldier guarding him 24 hours per day 7 days per week. (Acts 28:16-31, Philippians 1:13, 2 Timothy 2:9)
- Roman soldiers planted churches in England, and the locals carried the gospel into the wilds of the British isles, where even the Roman soldiers were afraid to go, according to Tertullian writing in 200 AD.

Historical Setting

- By the fall of the Roman empire around 400 AD, according to Augustine's book, CITY OF GOD, Christianity had reached some of the barbarians from present day Germany who destroyed the Empire.
- The barbarians respected Christianity enough to allow people who took refuge in churches to survive.
- Thus Christianity survived the fall of the Roman empire, while the pagan religion of Rome did not.

A Detail about England

- The church in England grew before the papacy became official church policy.
- After the fall of the Roman Empire, England was isolated from the rest of Europe.
- Later, missionaries from the Roman Catholic church came to England and the indigenous church joined that communion.

Everyone can gain confidence in the New Testament

Important Facts

by learning important historical facts.

1. The setting in the Roman Empire with its transportation and communication systems
2. **The history of collecting the documents**
3. The criteria for inclusion in the New Testament.

Church to Church circulation of letters

- The first documents in our Bible to be circulated among the churches were probably Paul's letters, beginning to be written in the AD 50s, **within about 20 years' time from the resurrection**, so they are very early sources indeed. The New Testament contains instructions to circulate the letters, such as **Colossians 4:16**.
- They contain portions of even earlier sources, such as hymns and creeds used in the earliest churches.
- Sources: REINVENTING JESUS, J. Ed. Komoszewski, M. James Sawyer, and Daniel B. Wallace, Kregel Publications, 2006. FABRICATING JESUS by Craig A. Evans, IVP Books 2006. and REASONABLE FAITH, by W.L.Craig

Colossians 4:16

- **16** Now when this epistle is read among you, see that it is read also in the church of the Laodiceans, and that you likewise read the epistle from Laodicea. (NKJV)

Apostolic Approval

- The canon was not so much determined as it was discovered and collected. The letters and gospels accepted by the church were the ones that have **apostolic approval**, and thus were considered authoritative.
- **Peter validates Paul's letters in II Peter 3:15-16, including them with "the rest of the Scriptures," in spite of their difficulty.**

II Peter 3:15-16

- ¹⁵ and consider *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation--as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, ¹⁶ as also in **all his epistles**, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable *people* twist to their own destruction, as *they do* also **the rest of the Scriptures**. 2 Peter 3:15-16 (NKJV)

Apostolic Approval

- Because Luke traveled with the Apostle Paul and served as historian of their journeys, his work has Paul's approval. He is the only Gentile author of Scripture, and he described how he wrote based on eyewitness testimony, in the introduction to Luke and Acts.
- John Mark wrote his Gospel from the Apostle Peter's remembrances, according to Papias, who lived from 60AD to 130AD, preserved in quotes from the 200s.
- Matthew was himself an Apostle.

The Gospels

- **The gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke date to the AD 60s, with a possible Hebrew or Aramaic collection of Jesus' sayings written by Matthew dating somewhat earlier, according to Papias who's work was quoted in the AD 200's. (source Blomberg, in *Reasonable Faith* by Craig, 2nd ed., Crossway 1994.)**
- We discussed the dates of those gospels in the previous lesson.
- **The latest of the New Testament writings are the Apostle John's works dating to 95 AD.**

Do the Scriptures Hint of the Time Before the Gospels were available? ...

- Yes, in 2 Thessalonians 2:15, **“So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you were taught, whether by word of mouth or by letter from us.”**
- Had the gospels been available when Paul wrote this letter, he would probably have mentioned them.

The Shape of the Documents

- All these documents were passed around the churches in the early years as separate scrolls.
- The Codex, or book form, was adopted by churches for documents in the AD 100's, according to the *American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*.
- The codex form allowed the New Testament to be collected into one book. In fact, the churches' need for larger books was credited with popularizing the codex form, (according to Greenlee, referenced in McDowell.)

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The early churches had three requirements

for deciding if a book belonged in the canon.

1. The book had to have **approval from an apostle AND an early date.** If a book was known to have been written after the time of the apostles, it was rejected. If it was written using a pseudonym, it was rejected.
2. It had to be orthodox, **in agreement with known truth about Jesus Christ** as taught by the early missionaries.
3. It had to have **universality** – to apply to all people everywhere and to be effective for all individuals.

Motivation to Define the List

A heretic named Marcion in **140 AD** made a collection of New Testament documents, before the common use of the codex.

(He was a Docetist who leaned toward Gnosticism, and he edited some of the books to fit his perspective.)

It is clear that he would have included some of the Gnostic gospels if they had been written by that time, since they were in line with his beliefs.

His collection demonstrates that the Gnostic gospels were **later** documents, and that the true gospels were **early**.)

Motivation to Settle the Issue

- 140 AD is very close to the time of writing – within the lifetimes of people who knew the Apostle John in Turkey.
- Marcion's early collection both validates the early date of the New Testament writings and invalidates the claims of the Gnostic gospels.
- (It is likely that approved clusters of books were already circulating, but Marcion also needed a response.)
- The church leaders realized they needed to put a list of good copies together to counter Marcion's errors in his doctored copies.

First Official List:

- The first known official list dates to AD 150-200, called the **Muratorian canon**.
- It included the four gospels, Paul's 13 letters, Jude, Revelation, I John, and either 2 or 3 John, or both. So **21 or 22 of the 27** books in our New Testament were known as true accounts by the mid AD 100's.
- This list left out Hebrews, I and 2 Peter, James, and possibly one of John's letters.
- This means there existed a rather complete list of the canon very early.

The First List Revealed the Process

The Muratorian canon had a helpful **three part list of secondary books**, giving a perspective on how decisions were made.

1. One disputed book – the Apocalypse of Peter.
2. Some edifying but not authoritative books, such as THE SHEPHERD OF HERMAS. These were acceptable for lighter reading, but were too late to be apostolic.
3. Some heretical books which were to be rejected.

“The Age of a Work WAS a determining factor in canonicity.”

- ANY book written after the time of the apostles was rejected.
- As time went on and as memories of the age of certain books died out, canonical claims were made for some of the second century documents.
- But in the earliest lists, these books were absent (in Marcion’s list) or were explicitly rejected (in the Muratorian canon) as being recent works and therefore non-apostolic.” –

A Second Early List: Irenaeus'

Irenaeus' list is very important because of its early date, and because of his direct connection to the apostles. In **AD 180** he was bishop of Gaul – present day France. His teacher was Polycarp, whose teacher was the Apostle John. Polycarp was martyred at a very old age. He was from present day Turkey.

This list gives an idea of the ease of travel during Roman times.

Irenaeus' list:

Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans,
1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians,
Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2
Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, 1 Peter,
1 John, Revelation

His omissions: Philemon, 2 Peter,
Hebrews, 2 & 3 John, James, and Jude—
all very short letters except for Hebrews.

Completion of the List:

- **Eusebius of Caesarea, AD 260-340**, recognized **22 of the 27** books in the New Testament, including **Hebrews**. His work drew on earlier beliefs of **Origen** and **Clement of Rome**.
- **Clement of Rome, AD 30-100**, ordained bishop by the Apostle Peter.
- **Origen AD 185-254**, an early defender of the faith and prolific writer and scholar, and translator of the Hebrew Scriptures. He compared the Hebrew and Septuagint manuscripts.

Completion of the List:

- Athanasius, in AD 367 accepted the **27 books of the present canon**.
- **Legalization** of Christianity took place in **313 AD**. The entire present Canon was established within 54 years, and was substantially established long before legalization of the religion.
- None have been added since that time. In the East—the Byzantine Empire—some church leaders disputed some of this list for a while longer.

Completion of the List:

- By the time of **Augustine in AD 393**, and by the same time that **Jerome** translated the New Testament into **Latin**, the canon was closed at 27 books. Augustine lived through the fall of the Western Roman Empire.
- The canon closed by consensus, **NOT** by decree.

List Accepted throughout the West

- Scholar Bruce Metzger says, *“What is really remarkable...a high degree of unanimity regarding the greater part of the New Testament canon was attained within the first two centuries among the very diverse and scattered congregations not only throughout the Mediterranean world, but also over an area extending from Britain to Mesopotamia.”*

The Persecution Effect:

- The churches experienced persecution to the death until the reign of Constantine the Great and the Edict of Milan in AD 313.
- The majority of the New Testament canon was settled **while Christians were being persecuted**. Nobody wanted to die for possession of a spurious document. They had strong motivation to get the list right.

Jesus Christ said,

*“If you abide (**STAY**) in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine, and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”--John 8:31b-32*

Homework Class 6 Set 1

Read Job 38:10-11 and verse 16, and Proverbs 8:28-29.

- According to Job 38:10-11, who decided how to make the ocean water level constant?
- What did God know about the oceans in verse 16 of that chapter, that Job had never seen?
- In Proverbs 8:28-29, who decided to make the springs in the oceans fixed, and who decided the ocean boundaries? Do you think Job understood the implications of underwater springs on ocean boundaries?

Homework Class 6 Set 1

- In modern times, we understand that the rain water that soaks into the soil makes its way back to the oceans through underwater springs.
- For the ocean water level to be constant, the amount of water evaporated from the ocean has to equal the amount returned to the ocean via rivers, and via underwater springs,
- and the total ice in the polar ice caps must stay constant over the year, with more ice near the South pole in the Northern hemisphere's summer, and more ice near the north pole in the Northern hemisphere's winter.

Homework Class 6 Set 1

- Do you think Job understood the implications of the moon's influence on the seasons in maintaining the ice in the polar ice caps, and therefore influencing the levels of water in the oceans?
- From the comments about making the moon for the seasons in Psalm 104:19, and the frozen ocean water talked about in Job 38:30, did God understand these things? Notice that one of the themes of this chapter is God's wisdom for holding ocean levels steady, in Job 38:8-10, 16-17, and 29-30.

Homework Class 6 Set 1

- Notice also in Psalm 104:5-9, the mountains rose and the valleys sank down in a process that set the boundaries of the oceans. If the world were smooth, it would be a water world, because enough water exists on the surface to cover the entire surface in that case, according to *The Case for a Creator*, by Lee Strobel. Here we see another scientific truth, hidden in the poetry of Scripture—a truth that was not understood by human beings until thousands of years later. It is fascinating that these truths are scattered through ancient passages, yet are accurate to the facts, and reveal a perspective from outside earth.

Homework Class 6 Set 1

- Read Josh McDowell's *The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict* chapter 5, regarding evidence that Jesus really lived and died as the Bible says. Secular authorities from the early centuries after Jesus' life on earth were often hostile to His followers. This was the era of Roman Empire's persecution of Christians. Nevertheless, all of them treated His life as historical fact. Make and fill in a table with brief quotes from some of them about the facts of His life as they knew them, as shown on the next slide.

Homework Class 6 Set 1

Author & “Claim to Fame”	Location & Date	What he said about Jesus’ life
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- Cornelius Tacitus
- Lucian of Samosata
- Suetonius
- Pliny the Younger
- Trajan
- Thallus
- Phlegon
- Mara Bar-Serapion

None of these writers doubted Jesus’ existence, even though they were not His followers, and some were persecutors.

Homework Class 6 Set 1

In section 1B on page 123, how did the Babylonian Talmud validate Jesus' existence and facts about His life?

How is the designation of Jesus as "Ben Pantere" a veiled reference to common knowledge of His virgin birth? He was called Jesus *Ben Ha-Parthenos*, or Jesus Son of the Virgin by His early followers. This is a combination of both Hebrew and Greek terms, since the Greek word, *Parthenos*, was quite specific for virgin, more than the equivalent Hebrew word. *Ben* means son in Hebrew, and *ha* is the word for the. If *parthenos* is written in Hebrew letters without vowel markings, as was the method at that time, the *pantere* designation is formed by switching two of the letters (and dropping the final consonant) as a sort of play on words. (The letters written *th* in English would have been formed with only one letter in the Hebrew and Greek, and final syllables of Greek names changed with noun inflections or word usage.) A similar play on words may have been used for Bar-Kokhba's name around the same time period. Bar-Kokhba was leader in the second Jewish revolt against Rome in AD 132. (Described in Yigael Yadin's *Bar Kokhba, The Rediscovery of the Legendary Hero of the Second Jewish Revolt Against Rome*, Random House, 1971)

Homework Class 6 Set 1

- Please be aware that the early skepticism of the Jewish authorities about Jesus' Divinity is NO EXCUSE for anti-Semitism now. In the first place, even though they were wrong in their actions in securing capital punishment for Him, Jesus' death took place because He laid down His life for us, willingly suffering in our place, because He loves both us and them. In John 10:17-18, Jesus said **no one took His life from Him** -- that *He had authority from the Father to lay it down and to take it up again!* Only those specific individuals who took action against Him were responsible for that specific sin, (Ezekiel 18:20-23) and He was willing to forgive even the Roman soldiers who nailed His hands and feet to the cross, as well as everyone who mistakenly took part in those proceedings—Luke 23:34.

Homework Class 6 Set 1

- The apostle Peter held out forgiveness to the very people who made those decisions in the early chapters of the book of Acts. (Acts 2:36-39, Acts 4:8-12, Acts 6:7) Surely, Jesus is grieved and horrified by the anti-Semitism of the church in the past, and it must not ever happen again. The Jews are Jesus' family, and we are His family, too, and all of us are one human family, so we have a bond of kinship that should never be broken. Ephesians 2:11-22 says that Jesus tore down the wall that had previously divided us. We have no right to build the wall back. The answer to skepticism about Jesus' identity is gently and respectfully, speaking the truth with love, to make the evidence available to those who will seek it, and to leave the outcome with God.

Homework Class 6 Set 1

Between AD 132 and 167, where did the Roman named Justin Martyr say to look for the record of Jesus' birthplace?

Complete the table of early Christian testimonies about Jesus' life.

Author & Claim to Fame & Date	Testimony about Jesus' Life
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- Clement of Rome
- Ignatius
- Quadratus
- Aristides
- Justin Martyr

Homework Class 6 Set 2

Read Job 38:31-33.

What is the overall topic of these verses?

- According to this passage, what exerts rule over the earth?
- According to this line of reasoning, why would one expect the universe to be in motion according to physical laws?

Homework Class 6 Set 2

- Read Chapter 6 in THE NEW EVIDENCE THAT DEMANDS A VERDICT regarding Jesus' claims to Deity. The validity of Christianity hinges on the identity of Jesus Christ. One purpose of this chapter is to discover evidence in the New Testament for **Jesus' understanding of His identity**. If Jesus is, in fact, God in human flesh, we owe Him allegiance, and understanding His perspective is one of the most important tasks each individual must accomplish. If He is God-with-us, we would expect Him to let us know that in the historical record of His life.
- What is the evidence of His trial regarding His belief of His identity? How strong is this evidence?

Homework Class 6 Set 2

- Read the following passages: John 5:23-24, John 8:19, and John 14:1,8-9. Explain how these passages are a claim to Deity.
- Read Matthew 4:10 and Luke 4:8. When Jesus accepted worship in the following passages, John 9:35-39, Matthew 8:2, Matthew 14:33, John 20:27-29, Jesus was proclaiming His identity as God-with-us. Only God is worthy of worship. How do these passages – Acts 10:25-26, Revelation 19:10, Acts 14:8-18—support the idea that Jesus was claiming Deity when He accepted worship?

Homework Class 6 Set 2

- Jesus' Deity was accepted by many of the people around Him. What are some of the phrases the Apostle Peter used to describe Jesus' Deity in Matthew 16:15-17, Acts 2:36, 2 Peter 1:1?
- How did Thomas describe Jesus in John 20:28?
- How did Paul describe Jesus in Titus 2:13, Colossians 1:15-17, Romans 9:5, Philippians 2:6-11, and Colossians 2:9?

Homework Class 6 Set 2

- How did John describe Jesus in John 1:1, 14 and 1 John 5:20?
- How did the author of Hebrews describe Jesus in Hebrews 1:3 and 8?
- Jesus claimed to forgive sins, to be the future Judge of sins, and He raised people from the dead. How do these claims relate to His identity? How is the office of Messiah presented in Isaiah 11:1-5 and following verses, and in Isaiah 53: 8-12?

Homework Class 6 Set 3

- Read Hebrews 11:3. What does this say objects are made of?
- Read Chapter 7 in *The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict*.
- Look at the chart on page 158. Briefly try to write the logical steps found in the chart.
- How does the power to change lives relate to the question of Jesus' identity?
- What are some of the broad cultural benefits of Christianity as listed on page 156?

Homework Class 6 Set 1

- Was Jesus a liar who knowingly perpetrated a hoax? Read Mark 14:61-64, and John 19:7, and John 16:16-33, Matthew 26:2, Mark 10:33-34. Did Jesus expect His answer at trial about His Deity to bring about His condemnation? Would a knowing imposter be likely to choose death by crucifixion in that manner? Remember that the victim suffocated only when too exhausted to pull his body up for air against the grating of the nails in his hands and feet.

Homework Class 6 Set 3

- Does the evidence in the New Testament support the idea that Jesus was deluded into Messianic belief about Himself?
- How did Jesus reveal His sanity in the following passages, in which His enemies were trying to trap Him into saying something incriminating? Tell what the trap was, and how Jesus escaped the trap in each case.
- Matthew 22:23-33

Homework Class 6 Set 3

Tell what the trap was, and how Jesus escaped the trap in each case.

- Matthew 22: 15-22
- John 8: 1-11
- How did Jesus turn the tables on His questioners in Mark 12:26-27 and Mark 12:35-37?
- Did Jesus exhibit a logical disconnect consistent with insanity in any of these situations?

Homework Class 6 Set 3

- Did Jesus' enemies exhibit a logical disconnect in John 11:1-53 and 12:9-11, when they decided a good course of action would be to kill Lazarus, who had very publicly been raised from the dead at his own funeral, in front of many witnesses?
- Did Jesus' trials show Him accused of insanity, in John 18:12-23, 28-38, Matthew 26:57-68 and 27:11-14, Mark 14:53-65 and 15:1-5, and Luke 22: 63-71 and 23:1-21?

Homework Class 6 Set 3

- What logic did Gamaliel use in trying to determine if Jesus was from God? This event occurred after the resurrection, in Acts 5:29-39?
- Would you describe Christianity as meeting Gamaliel's test as of now?
- Did anyone argue at that meeting with Gamaliel by accusing Jesus of being crazy?
- What three evidences did Peter Kreeft list that refute the idea of lunacy on Jesus' part, on page 161?

Homework Class 6 Set 3

- If Jesus is not a liar or a lunatic, what possibility is left?
- What does that imply as His right to demand from us on an individual basis?
- All this work so far has been rather theoretical. It is possible to read the entire Bible in one year by reading 3 chapters in the Old Testament and 1 chapter in the New Testament each day. Now would be a good time to start.