

## **The Story of the Bible Part 4**

Understanding the story of how we got the Bible is almost as important as the stories in the Bible because knowing the story of the Bible is the backstory for the stories in the Bible.

The story of the Bible actually begins on Easter - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

Gentiles became enamored with Jesus and the Jewish scriptures - The Old Testament

### **The Apostle Paul**

*I am the least of the apostles. -- Letter written by Paul*

When God decided to spread the message of Jesus to the Gentiles he picked this man who was once a killer of Christians.

Regardless of what you've done, regardless of where you've been and regardless of what you've done to other people, there is room in the kingdom for you.

### **Why Paul is important to the Story of the Bible**

**Paul wrote some of it**

**Paul explains the relationship between the parts of the Bible.**

Read the Old Testament for inspiration and motivation but not application.

Take your application cues from Jesus new covenant command.

*A new command I am giving you, as I have loved you, you are to love one another. And by that unique kind of love, the entire world will know that you are my follower. -- Jesus, shortly before His crucifixion*

*In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Jesus Christ who took on the form of a servant, who never powered up, even though he was God in a body.*

*Be kind and compassionate to one another and forgive each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

*You are not your own. You've been bought with a price so therefore, here's what you should do. Honor God with your bodies.*

**Paul authenticated, in a way nobody else could the reason we have the Bible. And that's the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.**

The Apostle Paul was a real person.

Year 55 AD Paul writes 1 Corinthians

Year 52 AD Paul had started a church in Corinth

Year 49 AD Paul had visited Jerusalem and Jesus' Apostles

Year 40 AD Paul had visited Jerusalem and Jesus' Apostles

Year 37 AD Paul is converted to Christianity

*Now brothers and sisters I want to remind you of the good news that I preached to you three years ago when I was physically with you. For what I received, I passed on to you. As of first importance that Christ died for our sins according to the Scripture and that he was buried. And that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures and that he appeared to Cephas.*

*And then he appeared to the twelve.*

*And he appeared to more than 500 of the brothers and sisters.*

*Most of the people who've seen Jesus alive are still living, though some have fallen asleep.*

When somebody predicts their own death and resurrection and pulls it off you just go with whatever that person says.

*Christ died for our sin and was buried, he rose from the dead and was seen. -- Christian Creed*

The Biblia - The Bible.

The Bible, as fabulous as it is, did not create Christianity. Christianity is the result of an event that launched a movement that produced texts that were collected and protected and bound into a book. Christianity is the result of an event, the resurrection of Jesus.

The most important question

Do you have peace with the God who sent His Son into this world, to die and pay for your sins, so that you could have what Jesus promised, eternal life and a relationship with your Father in heaven?