

Bible Sunday and the Bible

- Who wrote this book?
Some say Queen Victoria and some say Queen Elizabeth I – but why is this a mistaken question in the first place?
- Open your Bible at the Table of Contents.

What do you make of the well-known rhyme:

“The New is in the Old concealed.
The Old is in the New revealed”?

- When Neil Armstrong stepped onto the moon, the President of the United States said in a broadcast, “This is the most important event in the history of mankind.”

Was it?

- Read Ezra 9:13-end. Empathize with the atavistic hopeless anguish of Ezra.

Read St. John’s First Epistle (not St. John’s Gospel) 1.8 – 2.2

What did St. John know that Ezra did not know?



Background

The books of the Old Testament, and their order, were settled by refugee Jewish rabbis at the Council of Jamnia, held just after Jerusalem had fallen to the Romans in A.D. 70.

The Canon of the whole Bible was settled by the Council of Carthage in A.D. 396. The Old Testament was taken over respectfully and without alteration from the Council of Jamnia (above).

The books of the New Testament were sifted out from many others. The principle of selection was that the chosen books had to have been written by somebody who had authentically known Jesus Christ.

The flow of the Bible leads up to the climactic summary:

“Jesus Christ – the meaning, the centre and the purpose of life.”