

a unit, showing their approval of it as it stood. They never gave the slightest suggestion that they had a question as to whether the Jews had left out anything, or included anything. Those books which were accepted by the people of God at that time as true and inspired, our Lord Jesus Christ affirmed ^{them} as the Word of the Holy God. The seal of the Lord Jesus Christ and His apostles upon the Old Testament is the reason why we accept these books as the inspired Word of God.

It strikes me, that in setting the ~~seal~~ seal of His approval upon these books, our Lord did something even ^{more} than that. When we note the fact, we must ~~do~~ consider the possibility, at least, that He approved not merely the result of the process, but actually the process itself. That is to say, our Lord approved of the fact that the people, to whom the Old Testament had been given, in the course of time came to reach a unanimity of opinion as to which books were included in it. This unanimity of opinion, brought about in the providence of God by the people of God ~~to~~ to whom the Old Testament was given, Jesus Christ approves. Did He perhaps, by so doing, approve in advance a similar process to take place in connection with the New Testament?

It is interesting to note that this is exactly what happened in the case of the New Testament. Some of the books were written by men who had ~~not~~ known Jesus Christ in the flesh. Many of them were written by a man who ~~had~~ had not ~~known~~ known Him in the flesh. Some of them were written by men of high education, ~~and~~ and others by simple fishermen. Some of the writers were included in the company of the twelve apostles, and others of them were not so included. We do not even know ~~if~~ who wrote the book of Hebrews. The early church received these books from the men who wrote them, as part of the Word of God and intended to be accepted as authoritative. As time went on, those parts of the Christian church which had ~~the parts of~~ certain ~~of~~ ~~of~~ books, shared them with others. They were thus spread about throughout the Christian church. After a very few centuries, we find that the people of the Christian church were agreed regarding most of the books of the New Testament. There were a few concerning which there was still doubt, ~~some~~ some thinking they were part of the Word of God, and some thinking that they were not. However, it was not many