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If the question is asked, "Have the teachings of incripturated revelation been un-
cruptedly preserved.", the answer is YES. And that is able to be inductively studied and analyzed.

The question of preservation is tricky. It goes back to the point at which the first copy of the original was made - or the second or third copies, however many there might have been, which were made from the original. Since we do not have the originals today, how do we know that any of the copies which we do have, actually preserve the teachings of the original un-
corrupted?

This is where a study of patristics, church history, and historical theology comes in. We do have a chain of witnesses going right back to the apostles, including the apostle John, who says they saw the books (Polygarp, l.c.g.). This does not prove that they saw the books in the churches, but that is not the point. The point is that we have a body of believers going back to apostolic times who could check the first