

A Christian is one who has accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, who is grateful to Him for having died on the cross for his salvation, and who is anxious to follow where his Master leads. If one is a true Christian he is ready to declare that whatever Jesus believed is normative for him. If we can find what Jesus thought about the Old Testament, this should settle the matter for all true Christians.

2. Jesus considered the Old Testament as God's Word, free from error, and dependable in all things.

Even considering the New Testament books simply as sources giving us evidence about the views of people in the first century A.D., and leaving out of consideration for the present any question of their inspiration or inerrancy, one cannot avoid reaching the conclusion that these books witness clearly to the fact that Jesus Christ considered the Old Testament as the Word of God, free from error, and authoritative. He often appealed to it in such a way as to show that He had no doubt about the matter. He strongly criticized the people of His day for "making the word of God of none effect through your tradition." He sharply distinguished between anything added to the Word of God, and what is actually contained in it. He criticized the religious leaders of His day for many things, but He never made the slightest suggestion that they might be in error as to which books belonged in the category of inspired Scripture.

3. Christ and the apostles considered the Old Testament as a definite unit the extent of which is clearly fixed.

The Old Testament was never published as one book in Christ's day. Ordinarily it was on twenty-two separate scrolls. These scrolls were not even numbered in any fixed order. Yet the Lord Jesus Christ referred to them by terms which lump them all together into one book, generally calling the entire group of books "the law and the prophets" or simply "the Scriptures." From the way the terms are used it