

of the sage from Japan--it would prove absolutely nothing about what the man in China knew about this sage in Japan: there is a reason why the American does it this way but it doesn't prove anything concerning what you might find in books in China or Japan. On the other hand if we found what would be the authoritative writings of Confucius and started in Section I, II, III, etc., if we bought this book in China we would say that this undoubtedly is the way that these writings have been preserved and we would think that most likely unless we found something to prove it to the contrary. We noticed that the MSS were kept in rolls before the time of the Christian era. At any time that we know the Jews had the LXX before the Christians they had the literature in rolls, and not in books. Read statement of Kenyon from Brit. Museum--greatest authority on ancient papyri--he mentions that no books of Homer found thus far, not more than two books are found on one roll. That shows the situation before we had books since it would take too long to unroll it. Thus you would have about 12 rolls for the Illiad. Therefore it was already in Christian times that anyone thought of putting these books in our form of book instead of keeping them in a roll. Before that time there are two possibilities--either they didn't use boxes and if that were the case we have no reason in world to think that the Alex. Jews had one table to keep all the inspired books and then on other tables they kept all other profane literature. In a course of a year there would be nothing to keep the rolls from getting mixed up, if they didn't have a box. Read from Swete--maybe found in the same form as the Greek Bible passed into keeping of the church--literature was mostly papyrus and the form was that of the roll and these rolls were kept in boxes, and there was nothing to keep Tobit from being place right along with Esther etc. etc. A great scholar would not be deceived by the mixture of heterogeneous rolls which might seriously mislead ordinary readers and start a false tradition in an unlettered community such as the Christian society of the first century." The great mass of the early Christians were not well-educated. We do not have any right to put any blame or credit on the Jews of Alexandria for the books which we find in our MSS. There are no copies of the LXX which have been preserved from others than Christians and the time goes right back to beginning of binding of books in that period. It doesn't prove anything as to how the Jews would have put it before, since it was before the time that Jews were putting anything--it wasn't long after the beginning of the Christian era that the Jews stopped using the LXX altogether. The Talmud makes the statement that there were two bad days in the history of Israel--the making of the golden calf and also the translation