

is enough for the Christian and if He didn't hold it to be God's word that settles it for the Christian. He is our authority, and it is not any council, bishop or synod that declares what is God's Word. The church could go completely wrong on the atonement or some other great doctrine, but that wouldn't affect us--it is not our authority but Christ is. What did Christ do about it? He set His seal of approval upon those books which had come to be accepted universally among the Jews as the O.T. It is of tremendous importance for the Canon of the N.T. what books have been received by the Christian church as the authoritative Word of God, when these books were given and Christ in principal set His seal of approval and we find within a few centuries among the people of God a complete unanimity of what books should be included. These are the N.T. books and no others, and no matter the denomination they take the same books on what should comprise the N.T. Various groups which we don't consider Christian churches may differ but the Christian churches are unanimous on what books should be in the N.T. Now Christ's attitude on the O.T. relates not to the Christian church but to the Jews. The O.T. was given to the Jews who were ~~where~~ people of God. The Christians received it from the Jews and therefore the authority of Christ attaches to the O.T. as held by the Jews and the Christian church could be absolutely wrong in leaving out some of the books or adding thereto and that would not prove a single thing. It is the attitude of Christ that is important. The question then is what were the books received by the Jews as authoritative. We have already seen that. Now it is of secondary importance but one of considerable importance if we find a book that has consistently been held by the Christian Church as authoritative--if we found that seven additional books had been held, we would have a pretty tough problem. It would indeed be strange if the Christian church had been in error on this matter right along. It would certainly raise a very serious problem. There is no evidence as far as I know of any council, any bishop, any pope or leader of a Christian church has officially at any time declared that any book of the O.T. was not a part of the Word of God. There are those who say that Martin Luther cast out the Ep. of James from the N.T. Of course that is not true. He included it in his lists and translation. He declared his absolute allegiance to every Word of the Bible though there were other books that he liked better than James.

3. Individual men at some time or other have been mistaken in their attitude about