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# *Words of Truth*

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## **Do We Have All Of The Scriptures Ever Written Available To Us?**

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I have frequent questions that I get a lot of as a minister of the Gospel of Christ. Among those questions I am frequently asked is if I think we have all the Scriptures that were ever written. Many questions that are asked of Christians often have hidden agendas. This is not a new tactic of sinners (Mark 12:13-34). Some of these questions we are told by God not to entertain (II Timothy 2:23 and Titus 3:9-11).

All questions are not necessarily trap questions or trick questions. All questions are not necessarily posed with hidden agendas. Honest and dishonest inquirers have asked the question we are addressing in this study. The question of this study is one that I have studied and sought honest answers to myself. If you have wondered about this question I hope you have studied it out and found the answer. If you haven't asked or answered this question before, I hope it will be of interest for your studies.

Before we proceed to answer this question, we should spend a moment making some things clear. For one, if there are "lost books of the Bible", we will not be held accountable by God for those things we cannot know (James 4:17). Secondly, if there are "lost books of the Bible", we can have assurance that those things lost are things that we have the necessary information concerning in other books of the Bible. The Scriptures are very repetitive. If you study the book of Romans you find that many things contained therein are written in other places. For example, the teaching against hypocrisy of teachers (Romans 2:1-29) is also covered in other places (Matthew 7:1-6, Matthew 23:1-36, Luke 11:37-52, etc.). Another example is how we are to sing to God for worship in the New Testament. What if we did not have Ephesians 5:19? Consider that we have other Scriptures that teach us to sing to the Lord (Matthew 26:26-30, Mark 14:22-26, Romans 15:9, I Corinthians 14:15, Colossians 3:16, Hebrews 2:12, and James 5:13).

As you study the Scriptures you see a pattern wherein you find most things are often repeated several times by our Lord. Teaching is often about repeating things the student(s) have already learned (II Peter 1:12-13 and II Peter 3:1-2) so that those things are not forgotten (Deuteronomy 4:23). Even things that are not repeated, such as the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7), other Scriptures could be used to infer and understand those same things (i.e. I Corinthians 16:1-2). Therefore, as we proceed, take comfort in knowing that if there are things we cannot read that once were written; we most likely have them repeated in other places. Now, to our question... Are we missing some Scriptures?

### **Are We Missing Some Scriptures?**

The answer to that question is, yes. We do not have copies of the Book of the Wars of the Lord (Numbers 21:14). We know we are missing the book of Jasher (Joshua 10:13 and II

Samuel 1:18). We know we are missing the book of the Acts of Solomon (I Kings 11:41). We know we are missing the books of Nathan and Gad (I Chronicles 29:29). We know we are missing, “...*the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the prophecy of Ahijah the Shilonite, and in the visions of Iddo the seer...*” (II Chronicles 9:29). We know we are missing, “...*the book of Shemaiah the prophet, and of Iddo the seer concerning genealogies...*” (II Chronicles 12:15). We do not have the Book of Jehu (II Chronicles 20:34). We know we do not have the book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Media and Persia (Esther 10:2). We know we do not have the letter to the church of Laodicea (Colossians 4:16). We do not have the prophesies of Enoch (Jude 1:14). There may be others too, but those I know of for sure.

There is no way to deny the evidence you can read in the Scriptures above. There are writings spoken of, in the Scriptures we do have, that we do not have access to today. Again, I take comfort in the fact that I know I will not be held accountable for what I cannot know (John 15:22). However, I know there is plenty that I can know and that is undeniable. In fact, even in the pages of Scriptures we do have access to, not all that happened or was taught was fully revealed to us.

### **Even In Known Scriptures, Not All Things Are Revealed**

The Apostle John wrote this: “*And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name... This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true. And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen*” (John 20:30-31 and John 21:24-25). So, where does that leave us?

### **Here Is What This All Means**

There always was (Deuteronomy 29:29) and in this lifetime will be things of God we cannot know (Romans 11:33-36 and I John 3:2). That being said, we have the promise of our God who cannot lie (Titus 1:2), that we do have all that we need to know (II Timothy 3:15-17 and II Peter 1:3-4). God knows the future (Isaiah 46:9-10). He knew that writings would not be available to us when He said we have all we need (Acts 15:18). Thus, we can conclude that God knew those statements would be true ages throughout even with what is missing having been taken from us.

### **Conclusion**

There is no doubt in my mind that many would take this study and use it as an excuse to disobey God. So be it! Those are people who never wanted to obey Him to begin with. The fact is, God’s existence is abundantly clear in the Scriptures and without the Scriptures (Acts 14:17 and Acts 17:16-31). The fact is, the Lord will judge all of humanity based upon the New Testament (John 12:48, Romans 2:16, and II Thessalonians 1:7-9). We cannot hide from the truth because some will use it as an excuse. God did not hide the fact that books exist we do not have. What we need to do is prepare to be judged based on what we do have (John 5:28-29 and II Corinthian 5:10).