

- It's important to study how the Bible came to us down the years.
  - If we don't have the original manuscripts, how can we know that what we have is the same as in the 1<sup>st</sup> century?
  - Did the Catholic Church give us the Bible?
  - Is it enough just to say that we "believe" in it?
    1 Pet. 3:15

- From about 33 A.D. to 100 A.D. was a period of oral revelation.
  - Jesus promised that His words would not fade away. *Matt. 24:35; John 12:48*
  - The apostles were inspired in their teaching. *John 16:13*
  - Some Christians received the gift of prophecy.

    1 Cor. 12:4-11, 28-31

- From about 33 A.D. to 100 A.D. was a period of oral revelation.
  - This period of direct revelation ended in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. *Gal.* 1:8; 1 Cor. 13:8-10; James 1:25; Jude 3
  - The apostles wrote down this revelation for future. Eph. 3:3-5; 2 Pet. 3:1-2, 15-16

- From about 33 A.D. to 100 A.D. was a period of oral revelation.
  - These letters were copied and in circulation during first century. *Col.* 4:16; 1 Thess. 5:27
  - Some NT writers would quote other NT writers.
    - 1 Tim. 5:18 cf. Luke 10:7; Jude 1:17-18; cf. 2 Pet. 3:3

# Why Were Original Writings Lost?

- There was a persecution against Christians, lasted about 300 years.
  - If God's providence would have preserved them, they would have become a source of idolatry. Exam. 2 Kings 18:4
  - Catholic relics pieces of cross, garments, bones, etc.

