

The Word of God Defended

- **What items do people claim were left out of today's Holy Bible?**

- The Gnostic Writings – Gnosticism was a religion that identified the human body as evil and believed it entrapped the human soul. Thus, they believed that though you may be living in sin, it is the wickedness of your body, and not your soul, that is at work. This philosophy is simply an attempt to escape the guilt of sin. This religion preaches an esoteric wisdom or knowledge as necessary for salvation or escape from this world. The term “gnostic” is derived from the Greek word “gnosis,” in Greek, which means knowledge. These writings are dated after all the apostles of Christ had died and are clearly not God's word. The Gnostic writings include: *The Gospel of Thomas, The Secret Book of James, Naassene Fragment, Gospel of Mary, Dialogue of the Savior, Gospel of the Savior, Marcion, Epiphanes, Ophite Diagrams, Ptolemy, Gospel of Truth, Excerpts of Theodotus, Heracleon, Acts of Peter, Acts of Thomas.*
- The Apocrypha – This is the collection of additional writings which the Catholic Church includes in their canon of scripture. Prior to the Council of Trent, at which the Catholic Church decided to deem these writings of Jewish tradition, as well as Catholic tradition, as authoritative, the Apocrypha had not been considered part of the inspired Scriptures.

➤ “Do not add to His words, lest He rebuke you ...” (**Proverb 30:6**)

- **Additional Compromises against the Word of God**

- The Qur'an – Islam teaches that the New Testament was written because the Old Testament had been corrupted, and then that the Qur'an was written because the New Testament was corrupted. Thus they believe God was not true to His promise that His word would never pass away, and that the Quran is the only book without corruption and the only reliable source of God's word.
- The Book of Mormon – Similar to Islam, Mormons believe that the Gospel had been completely lost and that the book of Mormon was necessary to bring restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They believe they have modern day prophets and continue to add to their scriptures.
- The New World Translation – This translation is issued by a cult known as the Watch Tower Society or the Jehovah's Witnesses. Essentially, the translators have broken rules of the Greek and Hebrew language to render an erred version of the Bible that suits their teachings.
- Denying the authority and inerrancy of God's Word – This is done in many religions to escape accountability for sin and to avoid the truth that there is only one way to God through Jesus Christ. When an individual denies the authority of God's word or yields themselves to teaching that denies the authority of Scripture, his standards of righteousness will quickly crumble as well.