

**Canonicity - New Testament**  
*Volume 4 - Unit 11*

**I. The Basic Problem**

**II. The Original Need**

- A. Heresies
- B. Persecution
- C. Absence of Apostles

**III. The Criteria is Inspiration - Evidenced by**

- A. Apostolic Origin
- B. Recognition by Leading Church (es)
- C. Agreement with Apostolic Doctrine

**IV. Recapitulation**

- A. Gospels
  - 1. Synoptics
  - 2. John
- B. Acts

C. Pauline Epistles

D. Hebrews

E. Catholic Epistles

1. I John

2. II, III John

3. I Peter

4. II Peter

5. James

6. Jude

F. Revelation

## **V. When Were Our 27 Books Formally Recognized?**

A. Eastern Church - 367 A.D., 39th Paschal Letter of Athanasius

B. Western Church - 397 A.D., 3rd Council of Carthage

Why were some questioned?

1. Doubtful authorship (Hebrews, II Peter)

2. Little known - written to private individuals, remote groups (II, III John)

3. Doubt as to content (Revelation, Jude, James)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE - Jude 3 – “It was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that you should earnestly contend for the faith which was once-for-all delivered unto the saints.”