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Question 23 - What does the word transmission mean in regard to the Bible?

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101 MOST ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE

23. What does the word **transmission** mean in regard to the Bible?

Norm Geisler and William Nix answer this as follows:

“Between the autograph and the modern Bible extends an important link in the overall chain ‘from God to us’ known as *transmission*. It provides a positive answer to the question: Do Bible scholars today possess an accurate copy of the autographs? Obviously, the authenticity and authority of the Bible cannot be established unless it be known that the present copies have *integrity*. In support of the integrity of the text, an overwhelming number of ancient documents may be presented. For the New Testament, beginning with the second century ancient versions and manuscript fragments and continuing with abundant quotations of the Fathers and thousands of manuscript copies from that time to the modern versions of the Bible, there is virtually an unbroken line of testimony. Furthermore, there are not only countless manuscripts to support the integrity of the Bible (including the Old Testament since the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls), but a study of the procedures of preparation and preservation of the biblical manuscript copies reveals the fidelity of the transmission process itself. In fact, it may be concluded that no major document from antiquity comes into the modern world with such evidence of its integrity as does the Bible.”

(*A General Introduction to the Bible*, Moody Press, Chicago, 1991, p. 355).