

Biblical period
15th - 4th c BC

Biblical texts composed and compiled. There is indication that the texts were received by the faith community as authoritative (e.g., Ex 19:7-8; Dt 31:9-12; Jos 1:8; 2 Kg 14:3-6; 2 Kg 22:8-11; Jer 30:1-2; Dan 9:2, 6-12, etc.). There is also indication of some "editorial" process during the period (e.g. Gen 14:14; Dt 34; Jer 36:32).

Second Temple period
300BC - AD 100

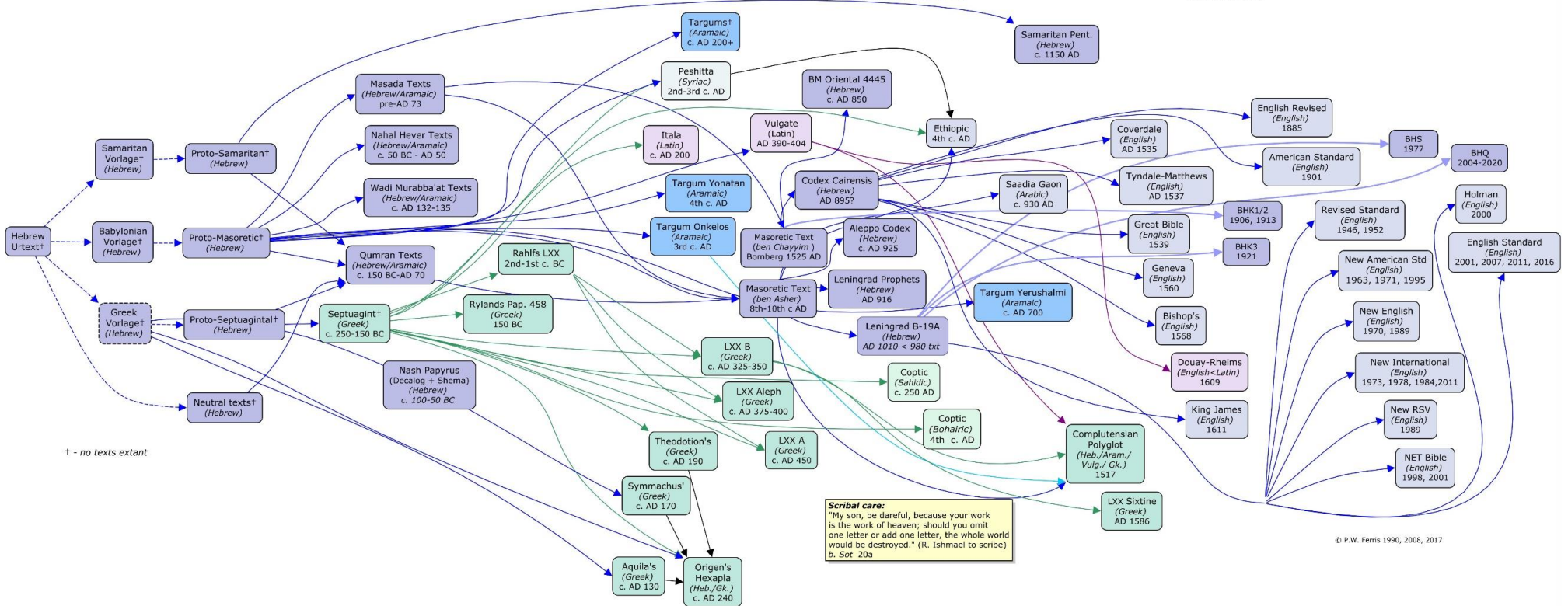
Biblical texts are transmitted in various forms as indicated by the several "text families." There is also indication of a recognized canon of Scripture along side many other texts which are important to the community(ies).

Early Church - Middle Ages
AD 100-1500

Biblical canons take several forms. The Christian community in the West adopts the Latin Vulgate version of Scripture text and canon. Christians in the East adopt the Greek version. Samaritans adopt the Samaritan Pentateuch and the Jewish community adopts the Masoretic version. First printed edition of Torah in 1482, whole Heb. Bible 1488.

Reformation - Present
AD 1500 - date

Gutenberg's printing press revolutionizes the transmission of Scripture. This has an impact on the standardization of a textual tradition as well as the introduction of many new versions. On 8 April 1546 the Synod of Trent declared the Vulgate to be the authoritative Bible of the Church. The Reformation, however, rejected the Latin/Greek canon and turned to the Hebrew canon.



† - no texts extant

Scribal care:
"My son, be careful, because your work is the work of heaven; should you omit one letter or add one letter, the whole world would be destroyed." (R. Ishmael to scribe) b. Sot. 20a

- 1st cent lists:**
Philo: *Contemplative Life* Lk 24:44
Josephus, *Apion*
- 2nd cent lists:**
Talmud: *b. bathra 14b*
Melito of Sardis
- 3rd cent lists:**
Origen
Melito of Sardis
- 4th cent lists:**
Jerome: *Preface to Kings*