

earth. So, then, the Christian world existed over sixty-five years before the whole of the Bible was written. Now, then, how did these Christians, that lived in those sixty-five years—how did they know what they had to believe, or what they had to do, to save their souls? Did they know it from reading the Testament? No; the Testament was not among them; they knew nothing about it. How, then, did they know what they had to believe? They knew it as you know it, from the teaching of the Church of God. Now, would our Divine Saviour have left the world for sixty years without that book—without that Bible—if it were necessary for the salvation of man? Most assuredly he would not. Not only did Christ leave the world for sixty-five years without the Bible, but for over three hundred years; for in the primitive days of Christianity there were many false scriptures in circulation. There was the Gospel of Simeon, the Gospel of Nicodemus, the Gospel of the Infancy of Jesus, and the Gospel of Mary. The people did not know which of these Gospels were inspired or authentic, and which of them was spurious and false. It was not until the fourth century that the Pope of Rome assembled together all the Bishops and learned men of the world in council, and there in that council it was decided that the Bible, as we Catholics have it to-day, is the word of God, is the inspired language of God, and that the Gospels of Simeon, of Nicodemus, of Mary, of the Infancy of Jesus, that these were false and spurious gospels. Hence, for three hundred years the people had not the Bible for their guide, nor did they know what books constituted the Bible, and, therefore, they could not take it to be guided by. For the three hundred years after the establishment of the Church of Jesus, how did