

## Can the books of Maccabees be trusted !

The "pocrapha" contains the books of 1 & 2 Maccabees. There are some within the umbrella of Christianity & the books to be scripture & the source of study & obedience as a result. (The books as completely & the books should be completely ignored. (The books as having historical significance & the learning from as legitimate presentations of actual historical events.

1) What do we know about the spiritual nature of these books!

1 Maccabees 9:25-28	2 Maccabees 8:11-12
1 Maccabees 4:41-48	1 Samuel 3:1
1 Maccabees 1:1-1	Matthew 23:3-
2 Maccabees 12:39-45	1 Peter 3:1-22
2 Maccabees 6:18-26 1-31 7:7-14	3 John 11:35-40

First take note that the book of 1 & 2 Maccabees clearly state that there was no prophet in the land during that time. Since there is no prophet in the land these books cannot be considered to be prophetic & should not be considered to be the source of being called scripture. Furthermore, note the contradiction in 2 Maccabees 12:35-40 in which some men who were found to have been slain & were considered to have been slain due to their idolatry & yet he calls these people good men & expects that they would be resurrected from the dead.

Unlike the books of the Old Testament & the New Testament which claim to be a communication of what God clearly & specifically told them; thus saith the Lord neither book of Maccabees ever claims to speak on behalf of the Lord. So consider that Jesus implies that Achanias was the last of the prophets; Matthew 23:3-9.

2) What do we know about the historical nature of these books!

1 Maccabees 1:11-15	2 Maccabees 1:5-11
1 Maccabees 1:20-28	2 Maccabees 1:1-2B
1 Maccabees 1:1-1B+	2 Maccabees 10:1-10
1 Maccabees 1:3B-+-	2 Maccabees 2:19-23
1 Maccabees 13:36-43	

Much of the books of the Maccabees is written to be understood as historical narratives. Much of the information concerns itself with the fighting between the nation of Israel under the leadership of Judas Maccabee & the king of the Greco-Roman empire, Antiochus Epiphanes. The history that is recorded is generally deemed to be reliable. Note however that the information is described as being a condensed version of a five volume document written by Jason of Cyrene. This also indicates that it is not to be understood as being scripture in nature.

While the books of the Maccabees are the source to learn from in regards to their historical content, the spiritual or scripture content is severely lacking & not to be understood as presenting a necessary information for seeking to reconcile ourselves with the Lord of Lords & King of Kings.