Mosaic Canon Lecture (1 Hour)

1. Questions about Canon
   1. Do we have the right 66 books in our Bible?
   2. Why do different Christian traditions have a different table of contents?
   3. Can anything be added to the Bible today?
   4. How can writings from imperfect men be considered the authoritative word of God?
   5. What was the process for OT and NT writings becoming included in the canon?
   6. Can God speak to us today outside the Bible? Is that as authoritative as Scripture in the canon?
2. The Status of the Christian Canon Today
   1. NT agreed on, OT apocrypha treated differently
   2. Six major apocryphal books
   3. Ways of treating the apocrypha
   4. Roman Catholic Church
   5. Reformed Churches
   6. Lutheran Churches
   7. Church of England
   8. Eastern Orthodox Church
3. The Definition of Canon
   1. “Canon”
   2. “Canonical Process”
   3. Three Models of Canon
      1. Extrinsic model
      2. Organic model
      3. Divine model
   4. Models as Theological vs. Historical
4. The Old Testament Canonical Process
   1. Why is this important?
   2. The Jewish canon, the Tanak
   3. The traditional extrinsic model of OT canonization
   4. The Law
   5. How were the Scriptures copied, stored, and distributed?
   6. The Prophets
   7. The Writings
5. The NT Canonical Process
   1. A Summary View
   2. What caused the church to start collecting the NT writings?
   3. New Testament Evidence
   4. Apostolic Fathers
   5. Canon Lists
6. Criteria for Canonization
   1. Direct or indirect prophetic or apostolic authorship
   2. Use and acceptance in the synagogues or churches
   3. Coherence of a writing’s message with the rest of the Scriptures
7. The Authority of Scripture
   1. The authority of a prophet
   2. The authority of the apostles as “agents”
8. The Apocrypha
   1. First Criterion: Prophetic or apostolic authorship
   2. Second Criterion: Used universally in the churches
   3. Third Criterion: Coherence with the Scriptures
   4. The Septuagint
9. The Canon Today
   1. Canon within the Canon?
   2. Can Anything Be Added to the Canon?
   3. What Do We Do with New Revelation Today?