

## **Introduction**

The purpose of this course is to educate the student in what I have called “Biblical Context”, but which also could be described as the origins of the canon of Sacred Scripture. In this I draw extensively on research done for my book “Where Did The Bible Come From?” (available from Saint Michael's Media [www.CatholicTelevision.org](http://www.CatholicTelevision.org)).

The materials contained on this CD are articles from a wide variety of sources, and represent what I considered to be the best and most accurate Biblical scholarship available at the time. The course, as a whole, aims to teach you the truth about the origins of Sacred Scripture – but should also provide you with a large number of “Biblical facts” and other pieces of useful (or useless!) information.

There is no set order in which these articles should be read, although the DVD presentations do give suggested reading for each class. It may be helpful to pause the DVDs and access certain articles in order to better understand the material.

In addition to these articles and the DVD presentations, you will need something to write on, something to write with, a copy of the Bible and a mind ready to absorb a *lot* of facts and figures! But, don't worry – all the dates and other information are provided in the articles, so you only need to make notes on things which you need to.

I hope you enjoy taking this course as much as I did putting it together.

Simon Rafe, Feast of Saint Barnabas, 2008