


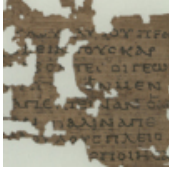



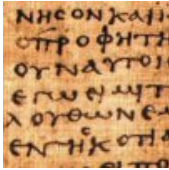
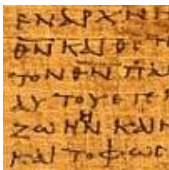
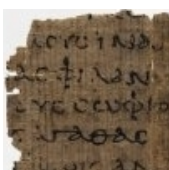
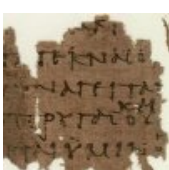








Oldest New Testament Manuscripts


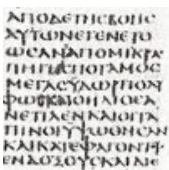
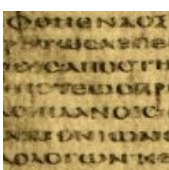
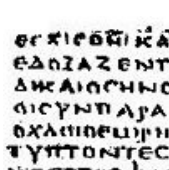
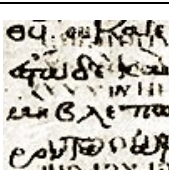
	Manuscript (collection)	Date	Content	Notes
1st century CE				
	7q5 Dead Sea Scrolls	c. 70 CE	unknown	Jesuit scholar Jose O'Callaghan claims that this is a fragment of Mark 6:53-53, however <u>most scholars have concluded that it is not</u> . If it is, it would date to around the same time that the original gospel was possibly written.
2nd century CE				
	p52 Rylands	c. 125 CE	John 18:31-33, 38-38 (fragments)	Translated in 1934 and dated by handwriting analysis, this is generally considered to be the oldest NT manuscript still in existence. If the Gospel of John was written c. 95 CE, this copy would have been made a mere 30 years after the original.
	p90 Oxyrhynchus	c. 150 - 200 CE	John 18:36 - 19:7 (fragments)	
	p104 Oxyrhynchus	c. 150 - 200 CE	Matthew 21:34-37, 43, 45 (fragments)	oldest manuscript from the Western text-type (all other listed here are Alexandrian)
	p98 IFAO	c. 150 - 200 CE	Revelation 1:13 - 2:1 (fragments)	the largest manuscript from the 2nd century but in poor condition
late 2nd / early 3rd century CE				
	p4	c. 200 CE	Luke 1-6 (fragments)	may have been written by the same scribe as p64/67 (see below)
	p64 & p67 Magdalen	c. 200 CE	Matthew 3, 5 & 26 (fragments)	claimed by Carsten Thiede to be from the 1st century -- a claim rejected by most other scholars
	p46 Chester Beatty	c. 200 CE	most of the Pauline epistles	known as Chester Beatty II oldest (almost) complete NT books; oldest manuscript containing the writings of Paul

	p66 Bodmer	c. 200 CE	most of John	oldest (almost) complete gospel; very similar to Codex Vaticanus (see below)
	p75 Bodmer	c. 200 CE	most of Luke & half of John	
	p32 Rylands	c. 200 CE	Titus 1:11-15; 2:3-8 (fragments)	
	p77 & 103	c. 200 CE	Matthew 13:55-56, 14:3-5, 23:30-39 (fragments)	
	Uncial 0189	c. 200 CE	Acts 5:3-21 (fragments)	oldest manuscript written on parchment (all others mentioned above were written on papyrus)
	<p>Note: The Oxyrhynchus collection also includes several apocryphal manuscripts that date from this same time period (c. 200), including portions of the Gospel of Thomas, the Gospel of Peter, The Shepherd of Hermas, and an unknown gospel.</p> <p>Also dating from c. 200 is the Egerton Gospel (shown left), a previously unknown gospel acquired by the British Museum in 1934 that includes three stories similar to ones found in the canonical gospel and one story that is not.</p>			
3rd century CE				
	Uncial 0212	c. 250 CE	Diatessaron fragment	Also known as Dura Parchment 24, this manuscript contains one page of The Diatessaron (a harmony of the four gospels written in the 2nd century by Tatian)
	p45 Chester Beatty	c. 250 CE	large portions of all four gospels and Acts	known as Chester Beatty I oldest manuscript of Mark's gospel

	p47 Chester Beatty	c. 250 CE	most of Revelation 9:10-17:2	known as Chester Beatty III
	p72 Bodmer	c. 300 CE	1 & 2 Peter, Jude	

Note: There are about 30 more manuscripts dating from the 3rd century, most of them belonging to the Oxyrhynchus collection and containing only chapters, not full books.

4th century CE onwards

	Codex Vaticanus	c. 325 - 350 CE	most of the Septuagint (Greek OT/Apocrypha) and most of the NT	referred to as Uncial No. B or 03 located in the Vatican Library is missing 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon & Revelation.
	Codex Sinaiticus	c. 330 - 360 CE	about half of the Septuagint and all of the NT	referred to as Uncial No. X or 01 located in the British Library also includes the Epistle to Barnabas & the Shepherd of Hermas
	Codex Alexandrinus	c. 400 - 440 CE	most of the Septuagint and all of the NT	referred to as Uncial No. A or 02 located in the British Library also includes 1 & 2 Clement
	Codex Bezae	c. 400 CE	most of the Gospels & Acts	referred to as Uncial No. Dea or 05 located at the University of Cambridge oldest full gospels in the Western text-type
	Codex Ephraemi	c. 450 CE	some of the Septuagint and much of the NT	referred to as Uncial No. C or 04 located in the National Library of France the text of the Bible had been washed off and written over in the 12th century but can still be seen

Note: There are about 80 more manuscripts dating from the 4th & 5th centuries, most of them containing only chapters, not full books. This brings the total number of manuscripts older than 500 CE to about **150**. From 500 - 1000 CE, there are about **350** available manuscripts. After 1000 CE, the total number of manuscripts quickly jumps into the **thousands**.