

Category: Apologetics

File Name: Reliable.Documents

RELIABILITY OF NT DOCUMENTS: Comparison with other ancient mss

Years given are BC (-) and AD (+)

Author	Written (Approx.)	Earliest copy	Time gap	No. extant copies
Aristophanes	-400	+900	1300	45
Aristotle	-340	+1100	1450	5
Caesar	-45	+900	1000	10
Demosthenes	-300	+1100	1400	200
Homer	-800	+100 (?)	900	643
Herodotus	-480-425	+900	1350	8
Livy	+10	+900 (partial 350)	900 400	19 1
Plato	-400	+900	1300	7
Pliny (Sec.)	+100	+850	750	7
Sophocles	-415	+1000	1400	7
Tacitus	+100	+1100	1000	20
Thucydides	-460-400	+900	1300	8
New Testament	+45-70 (90)	115 (frag.) 200 (books) 250 (most NT) 325 (NT) All Gk MSS All MSS 100-1500	20-60 150 175 250 20-1400	1 5 2 1 5500 40,000

Note: Only well-known works chosen (e.g. Homer's *Iliad* and Tacitus' *Annals*).