The Catholic Church declared (by the authority given Her by Christ (Matt 16:15-19), and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit) which of the hundreds of Christian writings circulating around in the first few centuries of Christianity were Sacred Scripture (NT) and which were not. That list of 27 writings, canonized by the one universal (“catholic”) Christian Church in the 4th century, is the same 27 writings you call the NT today. They also canonized 46 Hebrew writings as Sacred Scripture (OT) at the same time. That Bible of 73 books remained intact until the 16th century when Martin Luther declared that 7 of those writings should no longer be considered Sacred Scripture. This is where your 66 book Bible originated. Many Protestants incorrectly state that the Catholic Church “added 7 books to the OT”. The historical fact is that Protestants “removed 7 books from the established Christian OT”. The question is: Who has the authority to add or remove books from the Bible?

I was surprised to find that it is not possible to find a Bible used by Christians prior to the 16th century that contains the list of 66 books accepted by Protestants today. It’s an amazing fact of history. Don’t believe me, check it out for yourself.

Back to the King James Version. King James was a King of England who ordered an English version of the Bible to be written. About 75 yrs before him, in the first decades of the English Reformation, King Henry VIII had presided over a split from the Catholic Church where he declared himself the leader of a ‘new’ Church – the Church of England (aka the Anglican Church). He assembled translators and scholars who produced the “King James Bible” or the “Authorized Version” of the Bible. It’s a decent translation.