

Book Survey

A. Historical Background

Reading the Bible as history

1. Critical

Use both internal and external evidence to answer the following questions; give thought to the historical-critical consensus.

a. **Author**

Who is he?

b. **Recipients**

Who are they?

c. **Origin**

Where is he writing from?

d. **Date**

When is he writing?

e. **Occasion**

Why is he writing now?

2. **Descriptive**

Illustrate the “world of the text.”

a. **Political**

The question of *time*:
political affairs, government
institutions, and military
events; cf. timeline.



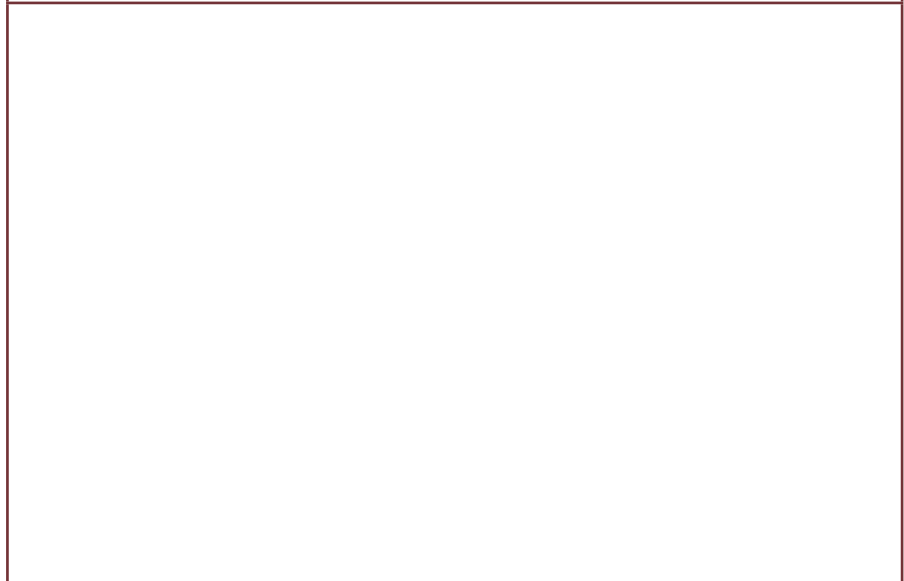
b. **Geographical**

The question of *place*:
topography, climate, and
other environmental
questions; cf. maps.



c. **Cultural**

The question of *being*:
intellectual, religious, social,
economic, demographic,
technological development,
etc.



B. Literary Foreground

Reading the Bible as literature

1. **Purpose**

What does he hope to accomplish?

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2. **Genre**

What literary types does he use?

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3. **Rhetoric**

What rhetorical strategies does he employ?

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4. **Atmosphere**

How is he feeling as he writes?

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5. **Theme / Outline**

What is he basically talking about?

6. **Canonical Context**

Where does this book fit in the Bible? How is it used in the rest of Scripture?

C. **Significance**

How might this study affect the way you (and others in the church) . . .

1. **Think?**

2. **Feel?**

3. **Act?**

Book Survey

A. Historical Background

Reading the book as history

1. Critical

Use both internal and external evidence to answer the following questions; give thought to the historical-critical consensus.

a. **Author(s)**

Who?

b. **Recipients**

Who are they?

c. **Origin**

Where is the book written from?

d. **Date**

When was the book written?

e. **Occasion**

Why is it written now?

2. Descriptive

Illustrate the “world of the text.”

a. **Political**

The question of *time*: political affairs, government institutions, and military events; cf. *timeline*.

b. **Geographical**

The question of *place*: topography, climate, and other environmental questions; cf. *maps*.

c. **Cultural**

The question of *being*: intellectual, religious, social, economic, demographic, technological development, etc.

B. Literary Foreground

Reading the book as literature

1. Purpose

What does the author hope to accomplish?

2. Genre

What literary types does the author use?

3. Rhetoric

What rhetorical strategies does the author employ?

4. Atmosphere

How is the author feeling while writing?

5. Theme / Outline

What is the book basically talking about?

6. Canonical Context

Where does this book fit in the greater body of works to which it belongs? How is it used there?

C. Influence and impact

How has this book been used in other works of literature and by other communities? What impact has it had on you?