

Guidelines for the Exegesis/Exegetical Research Paper:

(Please delete the contents of this first page from the final version of your paper. These instructions are for your guidance only and should not be included in the paper you submit.)

You will be using the Bible and scholarly, academic sources in this Exegesis/Exegetical Research Paper. Your required textbooks provide bibliographies of modern, well-researched and documented resources for you to use, and you should also make use of electronic versions of such works available online through the Nyack Library.

You will not be making use of other online, public-domain commentaries and/or teaching/preaching websites, such as, but not limited to, the following:

1. Barnes' Notes
2. Matthew Henry's Commentary
3. Adam Clarke's Commentary
4. Jamieson-Fausset-Brown (JFB) Bible Commentary
5. Other similar commentaries from the 1700s, 1800s, and early 1900s
6. Online Sermon, Preaching, and Teaching websites and the commentaries found on them

If you have any doubt about whether you should or should not use a source, please contact me *before using it*, and I will be happy to provide you with some guidance. In general, if you cannot determine the author, the date, and/or the publisher, then the source is not appropriate for your use in this paper.

Scripture references ***should not*** be in footnotes, but instead in parenthetical citations like this (***Jonah 1:1-4***) or this (***1 Thess 4:1-8***). They are the only things that you will cite using parenthetical citations.

For ***all other*** information that you include from another source, such as you're the notes from *NRSV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible*, a modern commentary, a modern Bible dictionary, etc., you will cite the source using ***footnotes (NO parenthetical Author-Date citations!)*** in accordance with the Turabian style manual.

Here are what the footnotes for your required texts should look like, with ### representing the page number(s) you would insert (feel free to cut and paste them into your footnotes when needed):

Your paper begins on the next page. Delete contents up through the end of this sentence.

Name:

Professor Shawn Craigmiles

NT 631

Date:

Exegesis Research Paper

- I. Text/Passage: Book CC:VV-VV
- II. Observations: (**Leave ALL of these questions in your final paper.** If you do not believe that the question applies to this passage, enter “Not Applicable.” Delete this information within the parentheses.)
 - A. Who is mentioned in this passage? Are they referred to by name, by relationship, or in some other way? Is there any description given for each one? If so, what words are used to describe them?
 - B. What is happening in the passage?
 - C. Is there any dialogue between the participants? Can one of the speakers be identified as the main speaker in the passage? If so, who is the main speaker?
 - D. What is being discussed? Are there any commands, promises, warnings, words of encouragement, instructions, etc.? If so, what are they?
 - E. Were you able to tell when and where the events and/or discussions in this passage occurred? If so, when and where did these things occur? What places, if any, are mentioned in the passage?
 - F. Is there anything else that was unfamiliar to you or that you needed to look up, such as a particular name, the definition of one of the words used, etc.?
 - G. Is there anything that is repeated, that is emphasized, or that stood out to you as being unusual?

III. Interpretation:

- A. Social Context: (What is the social context of the people in the passage? What did they believe about God, themselves, and each other? How did they interact with each of these mentioned? What did they think about and how did they interact with their families, villages/cities, neighbors, etc.?)
- B. Literary Context: (Where does this passage occur in the book? The beginning, middle, the end? What has come before it? What comes after it? You can insert an outline of the book, and/or a brief summary of what is mentioned before this passage and what is mentioned after it. Also, how does what we find in this passage relate to what has come before and what comes after?)
- C. Genre: (What type of literature is this, such as a psalm, a proverb, a law text, a narrative, etc.? Does it contain other forms of literature, such as a narrative, a dialogue, a prayer, poetry, a parable, etc.?)
- D. Language: (Is there a special meaning to the original Greek, Hebrew or Aramaic? Compare various translations at this point. Is there a particular word which may have a special meaning?)
- E. Text Criticism: (Is there a debate in the manuscript tradition about this passage? Footnotes in study Bibles and most academic commentaries will pick this up. Does the text variant alter the meaning or interpretation of the passage? If so, how?)
- F. History of Redemption: (How does this passage relate to the rest of the Bible? Is it part of the story of Israel prior to the coming of Christ? Does it occur during Christ's time in the world between his birth and death? Does it occur after the resurrection of Christ and giving of the Holy Spirit? Is it a result of the fall, or part of the fulfillment of the Christ-event?)
- G. Commentaries: (What are some of the main issues discussed by the commentators concerning this passage? What verse or verses, if any, do they seem to focus on more than others? How do they see what is said here impacting what happens elsewhere in the Old Testament and/or the New Testament?)

IV. Application(s):

- A. Summary: (Summarize in one concise statement or sentence what the passage is teaching. What is the main point of this passage? What is the main message to the original audience in their context?)
- B. Impact on/Importance to Believers, Unbelievers, and Me: (What is the importance/significance of these events to people today? What applications might we make to our own lives, such as what we believe, how we treat others, what we do, etc.? In other words, how should knowing what is in this passage then change us now?)
1. Believers: (What does this passage teach a new Christian, a mature believer, etc. about who God is, what He has done, what He is going to do, etc.? Is there a promise to be relied upon, a truth to be known and trusted, a command to be obeyed, etc.?)
 2. Unbelievers: (What does this passage teach someone who has not yet trusted Christ?)
 3. Me: (What does this passage teach me about God, His ways, and His actions in the past, present, and future? How does this instruct and/or challenge me?)
- C. Preaching/Teaching:
1. What essential elements would you want to include when preaching/teaching this text in your faith community/ministry context?
 2. Are there any parts of it that might require special explanation to help your ideal/target audience understand?
 3. Are there any parts of it that might be especially challenging or disturbing to some in your ideal/target audience?

Works Cited