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Reading Log  
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**Approximately what percentage of the reading were you able to accomplish this week?**

100%

**What was one thing you found particularly interesting (new, surprising, challenging, etc.)?**

This was by far one of my favorite sections in this course. It gave me a better understanding of the ANE concept and practice of historiography. As Walton explains well, narrative history, by default of what it is, imposes an interpretative matrix on “events [that] occur in a sequence that often has no beginning or end, that lacks coherence, and surely does not exclude extraneous facts” (Walton 303). ANE historiography uses editing, arrangement, literary design, etc. to create a teleological reconstruction of events.

The historiography of ancient Israel is distinct not just from our modern practice of communicating history, but also in comparison to the historical works of other ancient people groups. Walton sums it up in this way, “We could thus suggest that, whereas the highest value in the ancient Near East was the legitimization of the king in Israel the highest value was the legitimization of the covenant” (Walton 317-318).

**What was one question you have after completing the lesson and readings?**

This week’s reading was more straightforward. I do not have any burning questions. However, given the central position of *covenant* in Israel’s historiography, I would love to explore the ANE practice of covenant.