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BIB331 – Hermeneutics

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Reflections #2

1. The difference in the way that Brettler reads the Bible than the way I do is that he reads it as he explains his interest in reading the Bible as an “ancient Israelite, what is often called reading the Bible from a historical-critical perspective”. (Brettler, Pg. 14) For Brettler reading the Bible in this way for him is as history and learning the meaning and interpretation of the time and place the author wrote its content. He also reads it free from any religious ways as many people do instead, he finds it interestingly to read it and interpret its meaning on what the author meant by the texts. When I read the Bible, I actually read it for my spirituality as I feel that it brings me closer to God. I feel that it in many ways it brings comfort to me and have also felt that God speaks to me in many instances in my life when I’ve faced trials or reminding me that He is with me. I want to also mention that I have a pattern that I must do every day when I wake up after I’m done praying and that is reading Psalm 91 and then I read the word of the day on my Bible app.

2. My favorite Bible translation to use is the New International Version and the reason I like to use this version is, because I feel that I can understand it more as opposed to the version that I was accustomed to use when I started reading the Bible as a young child. I always struggled to understand the King James Version, and someone recommended that I get the NIV and when I did it made more sense to me, and I was able to have a little more understanding to it. And later,

after some time I started to read The MacArthur Study Bible NIV which is the Bible that I'm currently reading.

3. I feel that it is possible to write a "history of Israel" based on the Bible as there was much history, many stories and examples set for us that was written by so many individuals that wrote based on things that occurred during their time. There are many books written in the Bible that a "history of Israel" can be written, and I also feel that external sources can be used because as there are many different languages and interpretations of the Bible. So why not use useful external sources as well if it will be beneficial to writing a "history of Israel". But if the Bible doesn't agree with using external sources, then it should be respected and not use it and just continue to go based on what is said in the Bible. I feel that the different languages and interpretations available is a good source to use as there are different views and understanding of the Bible.