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Biblical Exegesis

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5-3-1 Assignment (4)

5 Questions:

- 1) What are narratives?
- 2) What are the three levels of narrative?
- 3) What are the characteristics of some narratives when reading the Old Testament?
- 4) What Old Testament narratives are not?
- 5) What are three principles for interpreting narratives?

5 Answers:

- 1) Narratives are purposeful stories of historical events that give meaning and direction for a given people in the present.
- 2) Metanarrative; God's redeeming a people for His name and compound narratives.
- 3) The narrator; the scene(s); the characters; the dialogue; the plot; features of structure and a final word.
- 4) Allegories or stories with hidden meanings, nor are they intended to teach moral lessons.
- 5) OT narratives usually, does not directly teach a doctrine; illustrates a doctrine or doctrines taught propositionally elsewhere; God is the hero of all biblical narratives.

Terms:

1. Decontextualizing: Ignoring the full historical and literary context
2. Metanarrative: The main supporting framework for the Bible
3. Moralizing: Assumption that principles for living can be derived from all passages

Summary:

In chapter five of the book, "*How to Read the Bible for All it's worth*" by Gordon D. Fee and Douglas Stuart, the authors gives their reader a lesson in understanding the narratives of the Old Testament. The authors points out the importance of reading the scriptures in the context that it was written, without believing that everything written in the scriptures can/should be applied to your life.