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QUESTIONS

1. What makes the biblical faith distinct from other religions?
2. Where does the source authority come from in scripture?
3. What's one reason that the authors give that prove that having four Gospels is no accident?
4. Are the Gospels history or theology?
5. How must parables be understood?

ANSWERS

1. One of the significant distinctives of the biblical faith is that it has a historical character its very foundations.
2. Our source of authority is not bare facts of history but rather the inspired presentation of those facts in the Bible.
3. The life and message of Jesus is so rich that we need more than one perspective.
4. The gospel writers are both historians and theologians.
5. Parables must be understood historically, by identifying the specific situations in which they were used.

TERMS

Parables- Stories that deal directly with the realities of daily life, so a hearer could quickly identify with the contents of the story and appreciate its relevance.

Torah- The written law.

Prophetic Fulfillment- A broad scope that includes not only the coming to pass of a prediction but also such ideas as the granting of a promise and the bringing of God's plans to completion.

SUMMARY

This chapter gave a framework by which readers should use to read the Gospels. Learning how to raise important issues surrounding the text causes for there to be a more advanced examination of the Gospel texts. The authors encourage readers to never forget the big picture of the Gospels. The Gospels must be understood in their original context regarding the historical occasions that were taking place.