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NT615 “But These Are Written That You May Believe”: The Meaning of the Gospels – Ch. 10

## QUESTIONS

1. Identify three (3) features of modern historiography.
2. Our source of authority is not the bare facts of history but rather the \_\_\_\_\_ of those facts in the Bible.
3. In which of the gospels is a major emphasis placed on ‘true versus false discipleship’?
4. Identify two (2) distinct issues that may be in view when we discuss the meaning or interpretation of a Biblical passage.
5. Which books must be read with the expectation that there will be gaps of information and imprecise descriptions that make it difficult – sometimes – impossible to resolve apparent discrepancies?

## Answers

1. Stresses clear and strict chronological sequence, balanced selection of material, and verbatim quotations
2. Inspired Presentation
3. Matthew
4. The primary thrust, The broader significance of the passage
5. The Gospels and Acts

## TERMS

**Syntactic detail:** relating to the grammatical arrangement of words in a sentence

**Parable:** a well known story told by Jesus; a simple story used to illustrate an oral or spiritual lesson

**Eschatological:** relating to death, judgment, and the final destiny of the soul and of humankind

## SUMMARY

The Gospels and Acts are historical letters that must be read as a whole. They are written from specific occasions and they have a literary point of view. While parables serve as the most distinctive feature in Jesus’ teaching methods, these letters are authoritative writings that are relevant to our lives and they must be read theologically.