

NT 615 EXEGETICAL PROCESS NOTEBOOK¹

NAME: _____Priscilla Wong_____

PASSAGE: _____Jonah_____

STEP 7. BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL CONTEXTS

7.1 How does your passage compare to other passages in Scripture which address similar issues?

In terms of God's character, God is consistent throughout the whole Bible - God is always the God who is slow to anger, abounding in love, and relenting from disaster. God showed no exception in the book of Jonah. He is like that with the Israelites, and showed that he is the same with the Gentiles. God loved and saved the Ninevites when they repented from their sins, then later in the NT, anyone who believed in Jesus is also saved. This fulfilled God's salvation plan for all humanity - as promised, God's blessing - his salvation, extended from Abraham's family to all nations.

7.2 What would be lost or how would the message of the Bible be less complete if your passage did not exist?

God's heart for humanity- that he loves all and is gracious to all, and that his salvation plan extends to all who believe in him- is demonstrated further in the book of Jonah. With the book of Jonah, God showed us that his love for the Gentiles was present even before Jesus came to atone for our sins. God showed us that his love for all of us is true and everlasting.

7.3 What is the theological importance of your passage?

Throughout history, God has been fulfilling his promise that he would save all who repent and believe in him. We could see how he loves and determines to deliver us from sins. He first showed it to the Israelites, and then to the gentiles as well.

STEP 8. ACCUMULATE A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SECONDARY SOURCES AND READ WIDELY.

¹Eric Redmond; William Curtis; Ken Fentress; David Platt; Dr. Daniel L. Akin; Tony Merida. Exalting Jesus in Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk. Nashville : Holman Reference. 2016. eBook

8.1 Find a combination of at least 6 commentaries, books, or academic or pastoral journal articles which deal with your passage and read the contributions of other scholars. List the sources here using the correct Turabian style).

- R. B. Salters. *Jonah and Lamentations*. Sheffield, England : Sheffield Academic Press. 1994. eBook.
- Steven Bob. *Jonah and the Meaning of Our Lives: A Verse-by-Verse Contemporary Commentary*. Philadelphia : The Jewish Publication Society. 2016. eBook.
- Eric Redmond; William Curtis; Ken Fentress; David Platt; Dr. Daniel L. Akin; Tony Merida. *Exalting Jesus in Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk*. Nashville : Holman Reference. 2016. eBook.
- Eugene F. Roop. *Believers Church Bible Commentary: Ruth, Jonah, Esther*. Scottsdale, PA : Herald Press. 2002. eBook.
- James D. Nogalski. *Smyth & Helwys Bible Commentary: The Book of the Twelve, Hosea–Jonah*. Macon, GA : Smyth & Helwys Publishing. 2011. eBook.
- Daniel C. Timmer. *New Studies in Biblical Theology: A Gracious and Compassionate God : Mission, Salvation and Spirituality in the Book of Jonah*. [Place of publication not identified] : IVP Academic. 2016. eBook.
- Philip Peter Jenson. *T & T Clark Library of Biblical Studies, Vol. 496. Obadiah, Jonah, Micah : A Theological Commentary*. New York : T&T Clark. 2008. eBook.
- Thomas M. Bolin. *Copenhagen International Seminar, 3, 236: Freedom Beyond Forgiveness : The Book of Jonah Re-examined*. Sheffield, England : Sheffield Academic Press. 1997. eBook.

8.2 What are some of the most significant differences (presuppositional, theological, hermeneutical, etc.) between your approach and that of some authors you have read?

My approach focused more on the big picture, I was in the right direction to think how the book of Jonah fulfilled God's salvation plan that is accomplished by Jesus in the NT, which then becomes completed at the end. However, the commentaries helped me dive into the details and look into the specifics even more, by looking into the cultural background of the Ninevites and the Israelites, the geographical location of the places mentioned in the book of Jonah, and suggesting how to apply the lessons learned from this book.

8.3 State a few places where you will use other scholars' work to SUPPORT your conclusions, indicating some quotations from them worthy of citing in your paper. *"Be careful not to let them dictate what you conclude about the passage. Be critical of your sources and do not be afraid to disagree with commentators. As always, cite your sources so as not to plagiarize,"* (Duvall and Hayes, *Grasping God's Word*, p. 506).

Here are a few places in other scholar's work that I will probably use:

- Jonah’s angry despair over the Lord’s mercy toward the Ninevites reveals the merciful character of God in salvation toward both Jonah and the Ninevites.²
- Unrighteous anger can make you miss opportunities to be merciful the way God is merciful.³
- The explanation of usage of certain words in its cultural background: “120,000”, “booth”, “Ninevites who do not know their right hand from the left”.⁴
- Places in the Bible that talk about God being slow in anger and abounding in love, that God is consistent in his character.⁵

8.4 State a few places where significant differences between you and some scholar(s) demand that you deal with their views in your paper and show why they are wrong. *You need not write your full refutation here.*

- Being angry or disobedient to God’s instructions is a “sin.”⁶
- When the book was written, who was the author⁷
- Certain explanations about “booth”, and “Ninevites who do not know their right hand from the left” from various scholars I have researched in the bibliography in 8.1 above.

8.5 Hypothesize what the passage of Scripture you chose to investigate means. Then write out a well-crafted preliminary thesis statement that either explains how you will interpret the significance of the subject matter or question under discussion, what to expect from the rest of the project/paper, and/or makes a claim that others might dispute. ***A thesis statement is an essential part of any graduate project/paper, so you need to identify enough resources to support the claims being made. A thesis is often revised once you have gathered enough supporting evidence to begin your Final Project/Paper. The more quality attention is given here, the better your final project will be.***

Sermons may not use this written thesis, but they should reflect the preparation that went into the sermon and a thesis statement (reflected in the Big Idea) is an important part.

God showed that he fulfills his salvation plan for all humanity through the book of Jonah.

2Eric Redmond; William Curtis; Ken Fentress; David Platt; Dr. Daniel L. Akin; Tony Merida. Exalting Jesus in Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk. Nashville : Holman Reference. 2016. eBook

3Philip Peter Jenson. T & T Clark Library of Biblical Studies, Vol. 496. Obadiah, Jonah, Micah : A Theological Commentary. New York : T&T Clark. 2008. eBook.

4 R. B. Salters. Jonah and Lamentations. Series: Old Testament Guides. Sheffield, England : Sheffield Academic Press. 1994. eBook

5Eric Redmond; William Curtis; Ken Fentress; David Platt; Dr. Daniel L. Akin; Tony Merida. Exalting Jesus in Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk. Nashville : Holman Reference. 2016. eBook.

6R. B. Salters. Jonah and Lamentations. Series: Old Testament Guides. Sheffield, England : Sheffield Academic Press. 1994. eBook