

BIBLICAL STUDIES: Methodology, Methodology, Methodology

1. Go to www.biblestudies.com. Please click on Biblical Studies and read each section. Then be ready for a discussion based on the following questions. Also bring your Bible.

Biblical Studies Introduction

1. What methods do Bible scholars use to better understand the Bible?
2. What does the word “criticism” mean? How does this help us read the Bible?
3. How are Bible scholars like detectives?

Historical Criticism

1. What is the definition of historical criticism?
2. How does this methods work?
3. What are some of the short comings of historical analysis?
4. How does this method help you understand Exodus 14-15?

Archaeology and the Bible

1. What is archaeology?
2. What is an archaeological “tell”? How do they form? What is a stratum?
3. What tools do archaeologists use?
4. How does archaeology help us understand the Bible?

Literary Criticism

1. What modern tools does this method use?
2. What do the following terms mean?
 - Genre
 - Symbolism
 - Metaphor
 - Simile
3. What is structuralism? How does it work?
4. What is the chief weakness of the literary method?

Textual Criticism

1. How does this method help us in interpreting the Bible?
2. What does “lectio brevior lectio potior” mean?

3. What does “lectio difficillior lectio potior” mean?
4. What are some of the common mistakes made by scribes?

Source Criticism

1. What does the method of source analysis decipher in the Biblical text?
2. What are the major sources in the Torah? What are the major themes of each source? When were they written?
3. How is this method useful in the New Testament?

Redaction Criticism

1. What is a redactor? What do they do?
2. When was the Deuteronomistic history written? What were some of the main themes of this history?

Form Criticism

1. What is form criticism? How does it work?
2. What are some of the common genre's in the Old Testament?

Feminist Criticism

1. What is feminist criticism?
2. What is the purpose of this method?

African American Criticism

1. What is African American criticism?
2. What are the two purposes of this interpretive method?