

THBS - Examination Checklist:

WEEK 1 -

Negative and positive legacy of Biblical interpretation (as per slide 4 on p. 4 of reader):

Negative Events in the bible:

- The crusades - holy war
- The inquisition - people arguing over elements of theology
- Missionaries Exploitation of culture
- Anti-Semitism - hatred and persecution of jews as they are jewish

Positive Events in the bible:

- Increased value of human life
- freedom and dignity for women
- hospitals and health care
- christianity’s influence on education
- christians gave dignity to labour
- foundations of modern science
- abolition of slavery

Be familiar with the twelve stages of Biblical interpretation:

(1) Text:

- The words in the bible
- Don't have any original copies of the bible - working with copies of copies which have variations.
- You cant understand what the bible means until you know what it says

(2) Translation:

- **Three type so translation**

LITERAL	MEDIATING	PARAPHRASE
Word for word Formal equivalence	Idiomatic/dynamic (thought for thought) Functional equivalence	Functional equivalence
Retains form, vocabulary equivalence and syntax as much as possible	Seeks to retain meaning and express itself in id- iomatic (natural) english	Extremely interpretive
EXAMPLE FROM READER: Form – KSV, NKSV, NASB, RSB, ESV	EXAMPLE FROM READER: Dynamic – NIV, TNIV, NET, NRSV	EXAMPLE FROM READER: Paraphrase – NLT, NCV, GNT, CEV, The message

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(3) Literary context:

Read the bible in context (consider the context when reading)

(4) Form/genre:

Features of the Bible, how and why they were used

(5) Literary structure:

scripture for scripture analysis and translation

(6) Historical-cultural context:

analysis and translation - involves looking at history and culture of the place and times.

(7) Lexicography:

- Meaning of words
- contradictory way that language is translated or interpreted through vocabulary.

(8) Grammatical structure and data:

The frequency of words can help to show the importance of a word or its meaning

(9) Biblical context:

context of the Bible (settings)

(10) Theology and meaning

- analysing the verse
- looking at the broadest possible meaning

(11) Application

process of interpretation

- Original meaning
- Transferable
- General principles
- Story telling vs teach us something (narrative vs didactic) - didactic - Its main purpose is to teach you to live in some way/operate in some fashion.

(12) Secondary literature

not the original document

Be sure that you can define the 8 'biblical criticisms' p. 55 of reader (with at least one example of each), cf. additional notes on pp. 14-15 of reader:

CRITICISM	EXPLANATION	EXAMPLE
Canonical Criticism	Study of the final, received (canonical) text rather than the smaller, individual traditions and sources that were joined together over time to make up the text	
Form Criticism	Assumes the bible is composed from older, often oral literary units and attempts to isolate those units.	Units that make up the final text include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- prayers- psalms- proverbs- genealogies (ancestry)

Historical Criticism	Attempts to recover the original setting and meaning of texts , using methods of historical inquiry common to other academic fields (considered by many the standard methodology of scholars biblical studies)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When was the text written? - Who wrote the text? - What does the text reveal about the society in which it was written?
Literary Criticism	Applies many of the standard tools of modern literary studies to the bible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - plot - narrative devices - character development
Redaction Criticism	Attempts to uncover the work of the final editors (redactors) responsible for arranging the different sources into single work in order to learn about their interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How has the author used the sources in shaping their text?
Source Criticism	Attempts to separate and analyse the different sources that were brought together to create a text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yahwist - Elohist - Priestly - Deuteronomist - EG synoptic problem, languages
Textual Criticism	Attempts to establish the most reliable and logical biblical text by consulting different manuscripts and accounting for intentional and unintentional mistakes and obscurities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are there any variants in the ancient manuscripts? - Are the variants negligible (mere spelling) or significant (affecting meaning)
Tradition Criticism	Attempts to analyse the smaller textual units that have been grounded together in order to understand traditions about important places or people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Holy sites - great leaders - ancestors