


THE GENRES OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE

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NARRATIVE

<i>Narrative shows us God's work in human history.</i>	
Genesis Exodus Numbers Joshua Judges Ruth 1 & 2 Samuel 1 & 2 Kings 1 & 2 Chronicles Ezra Nehemiah Esther Daniel 1-6 Matthew Mark Luke John Acts	<p>STUDY TIPS:</p> <p>(1) Read it like a story. Look for the big-picture concepts that point you to God's work, rather than immediate personal applications.</p> <p>(2) Remember the characters are humans, like you. Don't paint them black or white.</p>

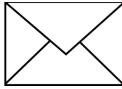
LAW

<i>God's Law gives us a picture of His character.</i>	
<p>CIVIL CODE: Exodus 20-23 Numbers 5-6, 15, 28-30</p> <p>CRIMINAL CODE: Leviticus</p> <p>CONSTITUTIONAL CODE: Deuteronomy</p>	 <p>QUESTION TO ASK: "What does each command show me about who God is?"</p>

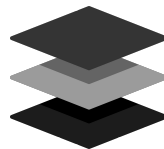
WISDOM

<i>Wisdom literature addresses our hardest questions.</i>
<p>SOLOMON'S WISDOM: Proverbs—"How do I become wise?" Ecclesiastes—"What is the meaning of life?"</p> <p>POETIC WISDOM: Psalms—"Where can I take my joy and my grief?" Song of Songs—"How should I view sexuality?" Lamentations—"Can I approach God with my pain?"</p> <p>NARRATIVE WISDOM: Job—"Does God have the right to my life?"</p>

EPISTLE

<i>Epistles show us how to live in light of who God is.</i>	
Romans 1 & 2 Corinthians Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians 1 & 2 Thessalonians 1 & 2 Timothy Titus Philemon Hebrews James 1 & 2 Peter 1, 2, 3 John Jude	 <p>REMEMBER: You're reading someone else's mail, and you only have half the correspondence! Start with the classic questions: who, what, when, where, why, and how.</p>

PROPHECY

<i>Prophecy changes our perspective on all of life.</i>	
<p>MAJOR PROPHETS: Isaiah Jeremiah Ezekiel Daniel 7-12</p> <p>OTHER PROPHETS: Revelation</p>	<p>MINOR PROPHETS: Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi</p>
 <p>LOOK FOR THE LAYERS: <i>Layer I</i>—historic context <i>Layer II</i>—current application <i>Layer III</i>—future events</p>	

"You have dealt well with Your servant, O LORD, according to Your word. Teach me good discernment and knowledge, for I believe in Your commandments. . . . The law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces."

Psalm 119:65-66, 72