

What is exegesis?

Did he say “exit Jesus”?

I thought he said “extra Jesus.”

Exegesis Paper Process

Sample Text – Luke 4:1-13

Ask Questions And Seek Your Own Answers

- Do your own work on the text before looking at the commentaries

1. Read the passage in at least four translations

- [What is a good translation?](#)
- Avoid: KJV, Paraphrases (ie.e The Living Bible), Dynamic Interpretations (Message)
- Look for differences in the translations which impact the meaning
- <http://unbound.biola.edu>
www.blueletterbible.com

1. Read the passage in at least four translations

NIV

1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, **left the Jordan** and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was **hungry**.

3 The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, **tell** this stone to become bread.”

4 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘**Man** shall not live on bread alone.’” 5 The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And he said to him, “I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to.

NRSV

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, **returned from the Jordan** and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was **famished**.

3 The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, **command** this stone to become a loaf of bread.’ 4 Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “**One** does not live by bread alone.”’ 5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And the devil said to him, ‘To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please.

1. Read the passage in at least four translations

7 If you worship me, it will all be yours.” 8 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’”

9 The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here. 10 For it is written: “He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully;

11 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.” 12 Jesus answered, “It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” 13 When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.’ 8 Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.” ’

9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you”, 11 and “On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.” ’ 12 Jesus answered him, ‘It is said, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.” ’ 13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

2. Outline the passage

I. Jesus – full of Spirit led into wilderness (v.1-2)

A. Tempted 40 days

B. Ate nothing

C. Famished

II. First Temptation (v. 3-4)

A. Devil quotes: Stone to loaf of bread

B. Jesus quotes: Not bread alone

III. Second Temptation (v.5-8)

A. Led up; view of kingdoms (empires) of world

B. Devil's offer

C. Jesus quotes: Worship only God

2. Outline the passage

IV. Take up to Jerusalem/Temple (v. 9-12)

A. If you are the Son of God; Devil quotes Psalms

B. Jesus quotes: Do not test God

V. Devil departs until an “opportune time”

Notice: The outline...

- does not merely summarize the passage
- shows the structure of the passage
- includes verse numbers

3. Examine the Literary Context of the passage

- Genre of Book: Gospel
- Form of passage: Narrative
- Passage is preceded by Jesus' genealogy and the story of John the Baptist.
- A clear change of scene at chapter 4
- Beginning of the Galilean ministry follows ch. 4
- Transition from baptism into ministry

3. Examine the Literary Context of the passage

- Look at Gospel Parallels (Synopsis)
 - Is this story in Mark?
 - How does Luke change Mark?
 - How are Luke and Matthew similar or different?
 - What does tell us about Luke's purpose?

4. Examine the History Context of the passage:

History of the text:

- Luke written 80-85 CE
- Roman Empire
- Scripture being quoted is Septuagint (LXX) – Greek translation of Hebrew Scripture (plus a few books originally in Greek)

History in the text

- Significance of Jerusalem & Temple
- What kingdoms (empires) existed?
- What does “Son of God” mean?

5. Move into the text itself

- Key Words: Spirit, wilderness, Devil, tempted, opportune time
- Spirit: Luke uses 27 times (13x preceded by "Holy)
- Wilderness: 10 times (in Greek)
- Devil: 5 times (in Greek)
- Opportune time: kairos in Greek 12 times

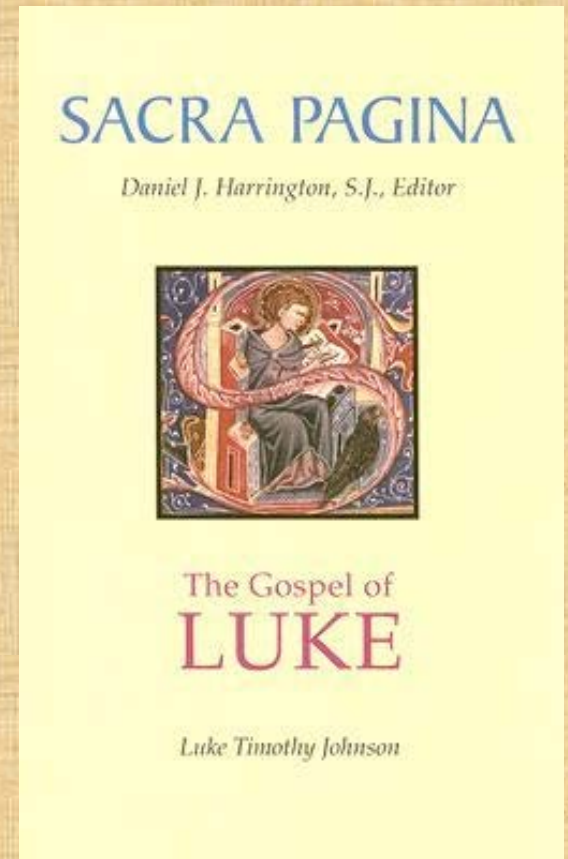
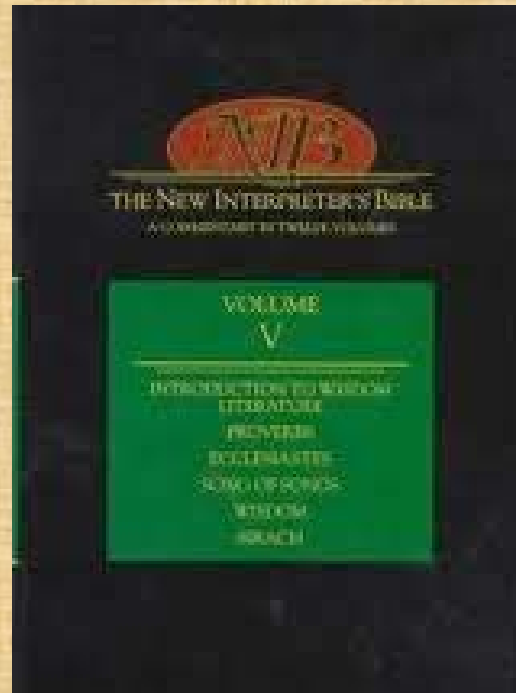
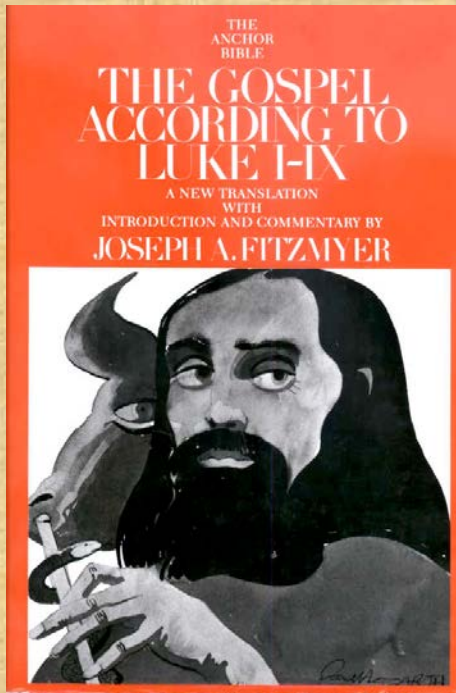
6. Main Themes – Jesus' nature

- Spirit leads Jesus into the wilderness
 - Devil leads Jesus up
 - Devil quotes scripture
 - Jesus quotes scripture
 - Identity as Son of God
 - Jesus has the last word
-
- Does the devil return as Satan in 22:3, when Judas looks for an opportune time to betray?

2) READING THE COMMENTARIES, STUDY BIBLE NOTES, ARTICLES, ETC.

Five sources including:

a) Two standard commentaries:

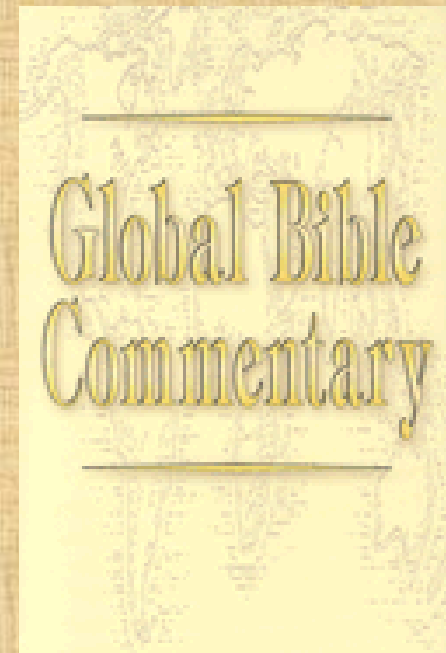
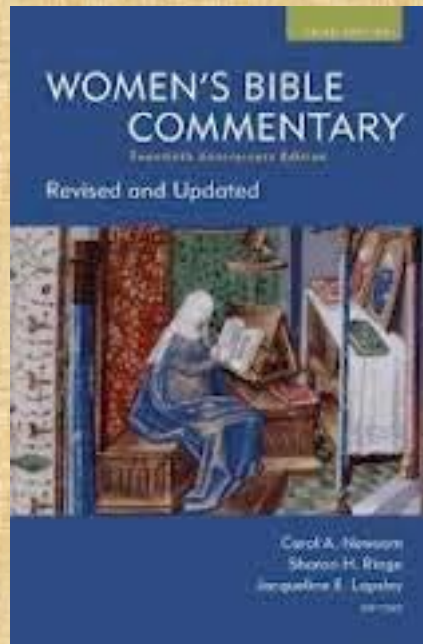
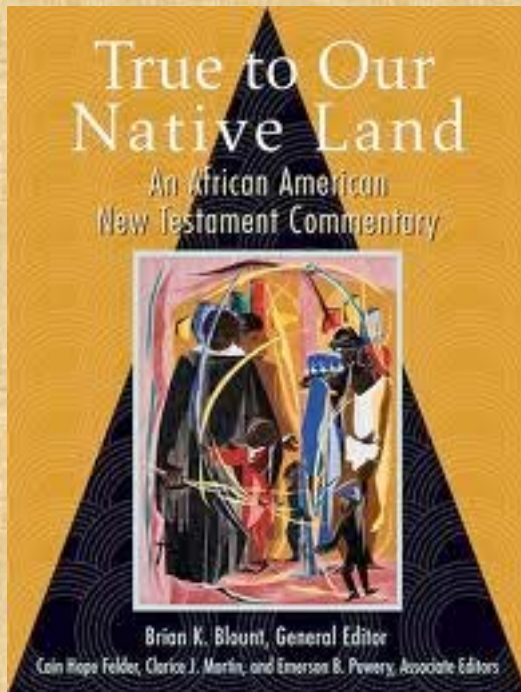


Avoid Barclay, Matthew Henry, and anything on-line.

2) READING THE COMMENTARIES, STUDY BIBLE NOTES, ARTICLES, ETC.

Five sources including:

b) One contextual commentary – These interpret from a particular perspective:



2) Reading The Commentaries, Study Bible Notes, Articles, Etc.

c) At least one peer reviewed journal article (found by searching the EBSCO host/ATLA database on the library web page.) Ask a reference librarian or your instructor for help.

d) Gospels parallel, if applicable to your passage, otherwise use an additional article or commentary.

3) Synthesis and Writing

1. Introduction

- Historical Background of book
- Summary of passage
- Thesis statement (what's your point?)

2. Exegesis

- Begin with outline
- Careful analysis of the passage

3. Conclusion

- Reiterate main points

4. Bibliography – Style guide on Moodle