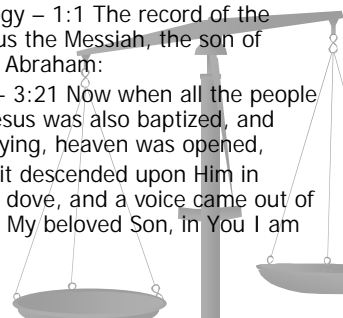




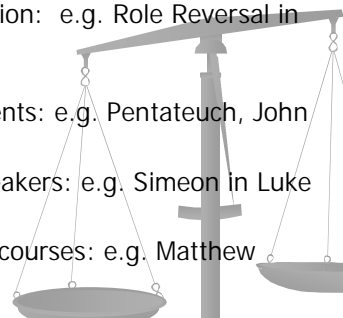
Reading Narrative

Week Three
A Skill of Sanctification



Luke and Matthew

- Matthew Genealogy – 1:1 The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham:
- Luke Genealogy – 3:21 Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus was also baptized, and while He was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased."



Narrative Distinctives

Thematic Repetition: e.g. Role Reversal in Luke

Authorial Comments: e.g. Pentateuch, John

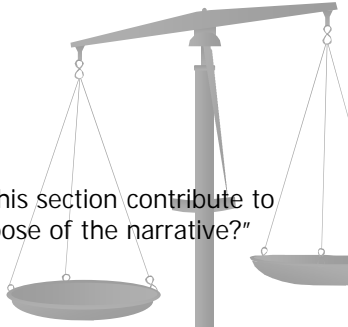
Authoritative Speakers: e.g. Simeon in Luke

Dialogue and Discourses: e.g. Matthew

Narratives Carry Embedded Genres

- Parables
- Prophecy
- Proverbs
- Songs

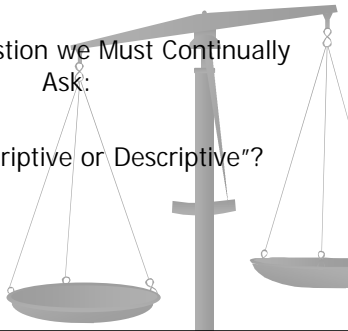
Ask "What does this section contribute to the overall purpose of the narrative?"



Narratives do "Teach"

Important Question we Must Continually Ask:

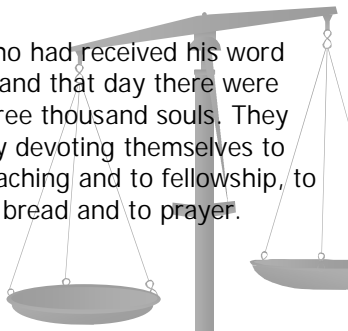
"Is this Prescriptive or Descriptive?"



Prescriptive

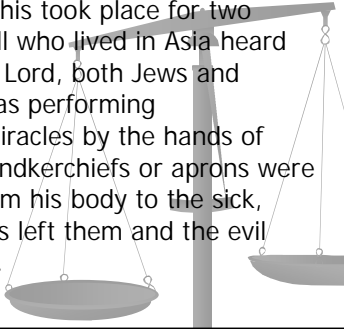
- ACT 2:41-42

So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.



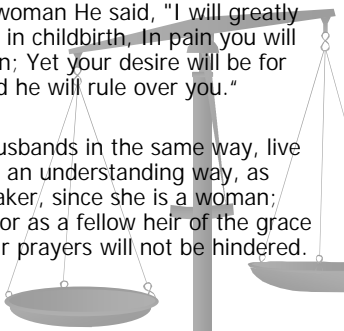
Prescriptive?

- ACT 19:10-12 This took place for two years, so that all who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks. God was performing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, so that handkerchiefs or aprons were even carried from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out.



Descriptive

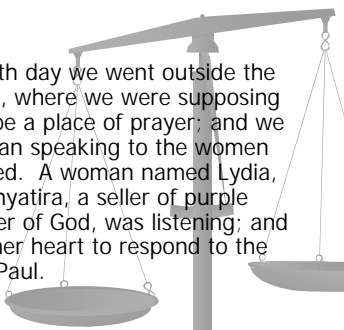
- GEN 3:16 To the woman He said, "I will greatly multiply Your pain in childbirth, In pain you will bring forth children; Yet your desire will be for your husband, And he will rule over you."
- 1PET 3:6-7 You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered.



Normative or Unique?

Normative
Acts 16:13-14

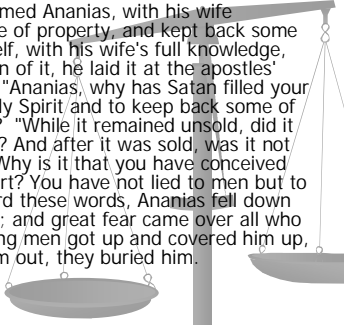
And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to a riverside, where we were supposing that there would be a place of prayer; and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had assembled. A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.



Normative or Unique?

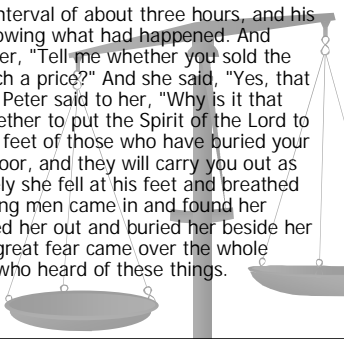
Unique

ACTS 5:1 But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land? "While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." And as he heard these words, Ananias fell down and breathed his last; and great fear came over all who heard of it. The young men got up and covered him up, and after carrying him out, they buried him.



Normative or Unique?

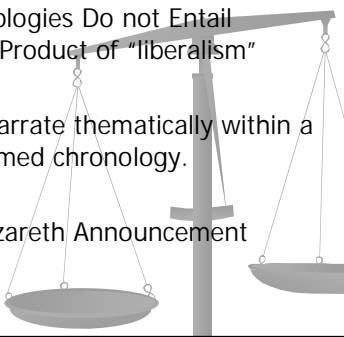
Now there elapsed an interval of about three hours, and his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. And Peter responded to her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for such and such a price?" And she said, "Yes, that was the price." Then Peter said to her, "Why is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out as well." And immediately she fell at his feet and breathed her last, and the young men came in and found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. 5:11 And great fear came over the whole church, and over all who heard of these things.



General Chronology in Narrative

- Differing Chronologies Do not Entail Discrepancies! Product of "liberalism"
- Authors often narrate thematically within a general or assumed chronology.

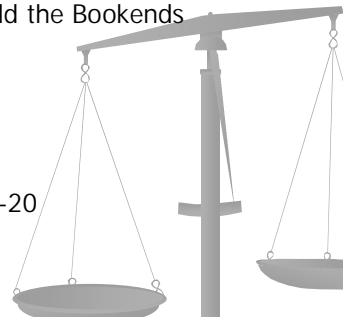
Example: The Nazareth Announcement



Thematic Importance

Behold the Bookends

- Matthew 1:1
- Matthew 28:18-20



Establishing the “Expectation” for Understanding New Testament Narratives

- The Importance of Historical Setting
- Messianic Expectations of the early 1st Century

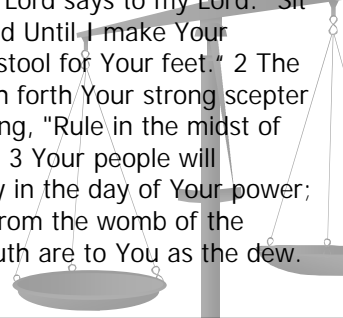
“The Kingdom of God is at hand”

The Importance of Psalm 110



Psalm 110: An O.T. Clue to the “Mystery of God”?

- PSA 110:1 The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at My right hand Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.” 2 The Lord will stretch forth Your strong scepter from Zion, saying, “Rule in the midst of Your enemies.” 3 Your people will volunteer freely in the day of Your power; In holy array, from the womb of the dawn, Your youth are to You as the dew.



Next Week: Reading Epistles

- Read Galatians 5:1-3

What is the meaning of this passage?

What are some legitimate implications and applications of this passage? (Think of both Church history and contemporary issues)

