

I. The Gospels: Methods of Contemporary Analysis

A. Source Criticism

B. Form Criticism

C. Redaction Criticism

1. Redactors

2. Redaction critics

- a. Look at the overall structure
- b. Look at the unique placement of various *pericope*

D. Narrative (Literary) Analysis

1. Rhoads, Michie, & Dewey, *Mark as Story* (1999).

2. Culpepper, *Anatomy of the Fourth Gospel* (1983)

3. Gospels ‘not window’ but ‘mirrors’

II. Narrative Analysis

A. Story (what is told)

1. Plot

2. Characterization

- a. Flat characters
- b. Round characters

3. Setting

- a. The geographical
- b. The social
- c. The historical

4. Theme

B. Discourse (how the story is told)

1. Distinctions:

- a. Real author.
- b. Implied author.
- c. Narrator.
- d. Example. Samuel Clemens (Nov 30, 1835 to April 21, 1910) is a famous American writer (real author). He wrote using the pen name Mark Twain (implied author), who had a boy named, Huck, narrate a story in the first person, using the accent, grammar, and slang of a back-woods kid (*Huckleberry Finn*).

2. Narrator

1. Mark's narrator speaks from outside the story world.
2. Mark's narrator is not bound by time or space and is omniscient.
3. Mark's narrator guides the reader by "asides"; for example:
 - Mk 7:19 Jesus "thereby pronounced all food clean"
 - Mk 13:14 "let the reader understand"
 - Mk 7:3-4 explains that "defiled hands are unwashed hands"
 - Mk 12:18 explains that the Sadducees don't believe in the resurrection
4. Mark's narrator gives the reader privileged knowledge.
5. The narrator's point of view refers to the evaluative perspective of the implied author.

3. Point of View

4. Literary devices

- a. Repetition
- b. Foreshadowing and retrospection
- c. Metaphor and simile
- d. Overstatement
- e. Irony

Verbal Irony

Dramatic Irony

Irony of Situation

f. Paradox

g. Denotation and Connotation

g. Allusion

5. The Reader

Appendix 1: Analysis of Mk 4:35-41

1. Describe the elements of the story.
 - a. The **problem**
 - b. The **solution**
 - c. The **evidence** for the solution
 - d. The **reaction**
2. Who are the **characters**?
3. Where is the **dramatic stress** in the story?
 - A Terror: The disciples are terrified by the storm.
 - B Rebuke: Jesus rebukes the wind.
 - B' Rebuke: Jesus rebukes the disciples.
 - A' Terror: The disciples are terrified of Jesus' power.
4. What **role does the miracle** itself play in Mark's story?
5. **Interpretation** of the pericope. What is the point of view being expressed?