

Bi216 Stylesheet for Exercise #2

Steps III & IV

Step III - Composition (Canonical context)

A. Immediate Context

What are the pericopes immediately preceding and following the text?

- Consult the inner and outer margins. What do you think are the pericopes?
- What are they about?
- How or do they connect with our pericope?

B. Major Sections

Where does this text fit in the compositional outline as a whole?

- How do you read Mark? Make your own outline of the book. Compare with one or two others.

- Where does this text fit in the outline: beginning, middle, end?

For paper: include a *brief outline* of the major sections of the book. Compare your outline with one or two others: how are they alike or different?

C. Authorship

- *What do you learn about the author from reading the book?*
- What is the author concerned about in the writing (major themes)?
- What do you learn about the author from other sources?

Step IV - Cross-Section (Historical-sociological context)

In this section it's important to keep focused on the text and your questions! Beware of the rabbits!

A. Primitive Christianity

What can you learn about the text from the NT?

- Check the outer and inner margins of the Nestle text for parallels and other NT references.
- How are these parallels alike and different?
- How do the other references help you?
- You may consult a study Bible for other references if you wish.

B. OT/Judaism

1. What can you learn about this pericope from the OT?

- Check outer margin of Nestle text for OT references. (You may want to check the references in texts preceding and following, too.) How do these help you to understand the text?
- Check outer margins of parallel stories
- Check use of OT references in NT (p. 770 Nestle)
- You may consult a study Bible for other references if you wish.