

## How To Read the Bible

### Fidelis Lesson #7

1. There are three types of Literature in the Bible.
  - a. Narrative
  - b. Poetry
  - c. Discourse
2. Narrative (Plot) – Narratives have characters, setting and events. The way these three parts are arranged is the “Plot”.
  - i. When reading narrative, it is important to understand each “scene” as part of the larger plot.
  - ii. All minor plots i.e. stories, lead to Jesus e.g. the Promised Savior.
- b. Characters – People overcoming obstacles.
  - i. Bible uses characters as a mirror of ourselves.
  - ii. Biblical writers/authors want to communicate a lot through minimal detail about the characters.
  - iii. The writers rarely give moral commentary but let action of characters speak for themselves.
  - iv. Judge behavior by consequences.
  - v. God works with individuals despite their failures.
  - vi. God is also a key character in the Bible.
- c. Setting – Where an action took place.
  - i. Use setting to prepare reading for what is about to happen e.g. courtroom.
- d. Events – What happened tells us a story, usually a moral story or something about God.