

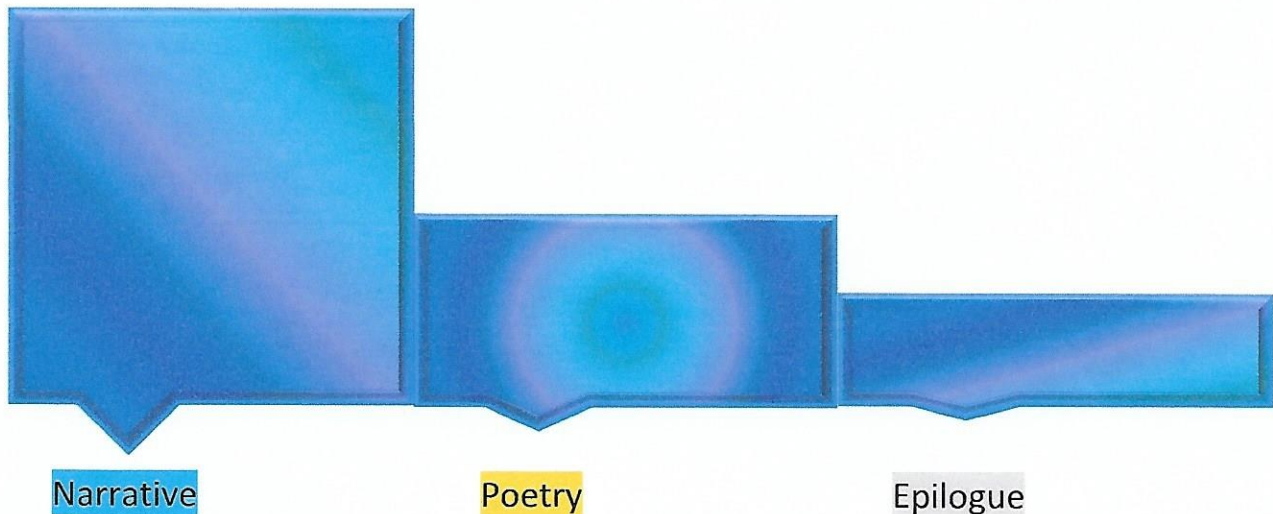
How to Read the Bible

Patterns in Historical Narrative and Poetry

Historical narrative can have patterns to the telling of a story. This is especially true for the first five books of the bible, called the 'Pentateuch'.

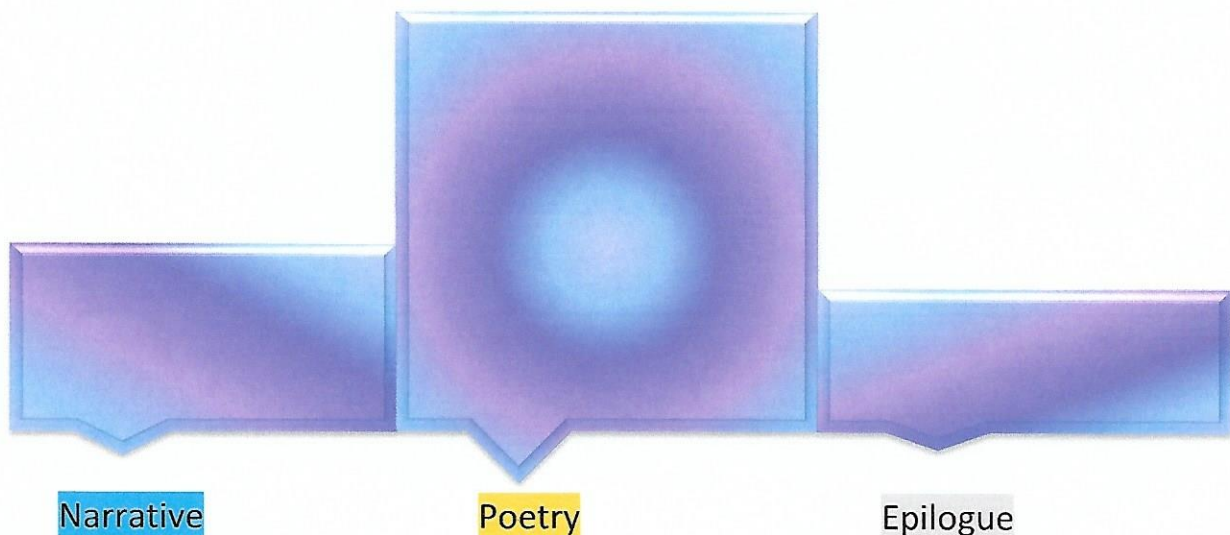
The diagram below shows how **narrative** is the majority of the story, while the **poetry** which follows interprets the meaning of the narrative.

And finally, the **epilogue** gives a summary of the story.



Poetry as a means of telling a story uses some narrative and has an epilogue.

However, the bulk of the story-telling is poetic, as in the book of *Job*.



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How to Read the Bible

Time Line of the Old Testament

Poetical Books:

Job							Psalms	Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon				
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Historical Books:

		Leviticus ↓	Deuteronomy ↓	Ruth		1 Chronicles	2 Chronicles			Esther	
Genesis 1	Exodus 2	Numbers 3	Joshua 4	Judges 5	1 Samuel 6	2 Samuel 7	1 Kings 8	2 Kings 9	===== 10	Ezra 10	Nehemiah 11

Prophetical Books:

								To Israel: Hosea Amos To Judah: Habakkuk Isaiah Jeremiah Joel Micah Zephaniah Lamentations To Assyria: Jonah Nahum To Edom: Obadiah	Ezekiel Daniel	Haggai Zechariah	Malachi
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How to Read the Bible

Examples of Narrative, Poetry and Epilogue in Scripture:

Narrative:

Poetry:

Epilogue:

Authorial Comment:

Genesis 1:1-26

Genesis 1:27

Genesis 1:28-2:3

Genesis 2:4-22

Genesis 2:23

Genesis 2:25-25

Genesis 2:25

Genesis 3:1-13

Genesis 3:14-19

Genesis 3:20-24

Genesis 4:1-22

Genesis 4:23-24

Genesis 4:25-26

Genesis 4:26
(second half of verse)

Genesis 11:1-12:1

Genesis 12:2-3

Genesis 12:4-9

Genesis 14:1-18

Genesis 14:19-20

Genesis 14:21-24

Genesis 14:20
(second half of verse)

Genesis 16:1-10

Genesis 16:11-12

Genesis 16:13-15

Genesis 1 – 48

Genesis 49

Genesis 50

Judges 4

Judges 5

Judges 5:31
(last part of verse)

2Kings 18:1-19:20

2Kings 19:21-34

2Kings 19:35-37

Acts 4:1-10

Acts 4:11

Acts 4:12

Acts 4:12

Acts 4:13-24

Acts 4:25-26

Acts 4:27-31

Acts 4:31

“All Scripture is God-breathed
and is useful
for teaching, rebuking, correcting
and training in righteousness,
so that
the servant of God
may be thoroughly equipped
for every good work.”

2Timothy 3:16-17

LESSON

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