

this by considering the assigned ideals of various philosophical ramblings:

(a) In the Hegelian philosophical thrust, progress and freedom are the goals...events are related in order to show the onrushing march of these things and the antithetical growth of ideas.

(b) Following the general views of the Spenglerian school of history, the items are recorded to show naturalistic determination.

(c) Toynbee has upgraded this a bit and suggests that the relation is to show the necessary meeting of challenges in the historical process.

(d) Augustine (remember him?) took the so-called "linear" view and was interested to show how history progressed in meeting the program of God...hence the items related are calculated to show this progress.

(e) The view we follow coincides a bit with J.W. Montgomery and synthesizes some of these things...the events are given meaning in the light of eternal purposes of revelation. They may show something of all of the above but they are not limited to any one expression or historical ideal.

We call these philosophical problems in history since they involve the "reason" concepts in history writing and reading.

b. Practical

(1) The lack of continuous and consistent data

History is often a broken line that does not fill in all the spaces (as it is told to us) and we are forced to make theoretical jumps from one point to another. The effort (or attempt) to do this is not so bad but historians tend to develop a fixation for their theories that goes well beyond the allowable facts.

(2) The Lack of fixed measuring records

A painful problem but one that regularly meets us. In antiquity there was no world wide system for setting dates and each kingdom sort of worked