

- a. Exemplary
- b. Historically
- c. Redemptively

Of these three the last is no doubt the most important and the first is the easiest. Among interpreters it is common to take one's choice and condemn the others...I suggest a more moderate approach with charity and understanding for all!

4. Chronology:

There are great differences in chronological comprehension but for the purposes of unification in our approach we will stick with the chronology suggested by Hendricksen on pages 69-70 and 78-81. This work is not for memorization but you will want to consult it and we will generally adhere to it. This is a very important section in the text so read it well. In general the author follows a "higher chronology" which agrees with what TVT has generally presented on these lines. We will not argue the points in this course. Dr. Vannoy does some of that in the more technical courses in this field. If you get up to it...you will want to read Thiele: *THE MYSTERIOUS NUMBERS OF THE HEBREW KINGS*.

5. Theological systems and this course:

The simple fact is that whether you are a dispensationalist, a covenanter, a mennonist, a concordist or any degree of the foregoing or any one of about a dozen other schools of interpretation, the content of this course will not be affected by your theological posture. What is in the Scripture is equally there for all. I probably will offer a few interpretations at times...what is the good of being a teaching if one cannot express oneself?... but for the most part we are limited to simply what is there...each scholar will need to put interpretation as deemed necessary. So there is no hidden agenda in our approach...no fist of steel in a velvet glove, no potent poiniard in an adorned baton. Just the facts, friends, and may the prose become less dramatic as the course goes on.

C. The Means of Pursuit

(or...how we will handle the text as we come to it.)

The Old Testament is divided, for economic purposes, into three segments: the Law, the prophets, and the holy writings. We will take these, in time, one by one along this line:

- 1. An overview of the entire portion.
- 2. An analysis of the entire portion stressing development of ideas.
- 3. a Book by Book outline through the portion
- 4. Some practical questions geared to the portion