

Bi 203 Exegetical Research Paper



Assignment Distributed

October 15, 2015

Assignment Due

December 03, 2015

The Exegetical Research Paper (ERP) is a requirement for Credit students but Audit students may participate and submit a paper for grading as an ERP.

Credit students have an option with the ERP. They may earn a half letter grade on their final course grade if in addition to writing the ERP, they do one of the following:

- ***Prepare and present a 10-15 minute oral presentation of their ERP for the Dec. 3rd class day***
- ***Or prepare an alternate option based on their ERP that is pre-approved by the instructor.***

The ERP is to be a study of 5 of the evangelical sermons in the book of Acts. Those sermons being studied are to be:

Acts 2:14-41
Acts 7:1-53
Acts 10:34-43
Acts 13:16-41
Acts 17:22-31

This study is to include these major components:

1. A one page **(1)** study for each sermon focusing on: **(5 pages total)**
 - a. The speaker - Who was the speaker? What do we know about him? Was he Jew or Gentile; educated, or common; was he under duress or free?
 - b. The audience – Who was the audience? Where were they? Were they interested or antagonistic?
 - c. The context of the sermon – If not covered in “a” or “b” what was the situation of this sermon?
 - d. Form and structure and purpose of the sermon including an outline of it.

2. A three to four page (3-4) contrast and comparison of the sermons focusing on:
 - a. Sermons addressed to similar audiences –
 - i. ie, compare sermons to the Jews with each other from different authors
 - ii. ie, compare sermons to the gentiles with each other from different authors
 - b. Sermons addressed to dissimilar audiences –
 - i. ie, compare sermons to Jews with sermons to Gentiles from the same author.
 - ii. ie, compare sermons to Jews with sermons to Gentiles from different authors
3. A one page (1) application. What can we learn from these sermons that will help us in sharing the gospel in our own personal ministry opportunities? Is using a model like “The 4 Spiritual Laws¹” always a good approach? Why or why not?

Notes:

- 1) Outline Detail: This is to be a top/mid level outline. It’s goal is to represent the meaning of the text, not partition all of the text. An Example Outline for Acts 22:1-21 might look like:

- Paul speaks before an angry mod. (22:1-21)*
- A. He speaks concerning his pre- conversion (22:1-5, 20)*
- 1. His background (22:1-3)*
 - 2. His Bias (22:4-5, 20_*
- B. He speaks concerning his conversion (22:6-16)*
- 1. His vision of the Son of God (22:6-11)*
 - a. the Revelation (22:6-10)*
 - b. the results (22:11)*
 - 2. His visit by the servant o God (22:12-160*
- C. He speaks concerning his post conversion*
- 1. How God saved him from the Jews (22:17-19)*
 - 2. How God sent him to the Gentiles (22:21)*



A description of and notes for the 4 spiritual laws can be found at:
<http://www.4laws.com/laws/english/pda/the-files/4laws-foldout.pdf>

- 2) This study should include citations for sources, a bibliography for relevant texts, and be in MLA normal format.
- 3) Regarding Reference Materials – Electronic sources may be used if properly cited. Biblia.com provides a good starting point (it is free) if you do not presently have an electronic Bible package that you use regularly.