it, before you can do that.

I'm going to mention four types. First, the type that most readily occurs to your mind: narrative. If you open Genesis at random you might happen to hit Genesis 49 about the descendants of Jacob in poetic form and you might say, "Oh this is prophecy--very difficult to understand." You might happen to open to Genesis 36 and read the list of the kings of Edom and you would say "Oh this is just uninteresting lists of kings." You might happen to open to one of the genealogical sections, and say, "Oh this is just a list of genealogies." But the chances of that would not be great, because nine-tenths of the material in Genesis is narrative.

a. Narrative: the type of material that you find most commonly in the book of Genesis. Now you go on to Exodus and practically all of the first nineteen chapters is still narrative, though chapter fifteen is a song in poetry, celebrating the deliverance of the Lord at the Red Sea. Aside from chapter fifteen, the whole of the first nineteen chapters are narrative. When I was twelve years old I began to read the Bible through, every morning and every evening I read a chapter, went straight through Genesis, enjoyed the narrative very much, but was not much encouraged by the few genealogical sections. I got into Exodus up to chapter nineteen where we find the law from there on, except for occasional chapters of narrative and the account of the building of the tabernacle. Then I got into Leviticus, to the account of the sacrifices, what to do with the livers, and what to do with the kidneys, what to do with the tail, and in the fifth chapter I got bogged down. I think it was four months before I picked it up again, continued, and finished. There was a marked change in the type of material,