

are more historical in nature. That's one viewpoint of it--to cover a certain section of the Old Testament.

There is another way in which we might consider this. We might consider it as a course to examine a certain type of material in the Old Testament, historical material, and of course, you will find some of that in the prophetic books and in the poetical books and some material in what you call the historical books that is more nearly related to their types of material. There are these two different ways of considering the material during the course. Whether it is a certain of the Bible or whether it is a certain type of subject matter in the Bible which we are interested in. Well, we look at it partly from one and partly from the other. There are two viewpoints. They overlap very largely. ~~My~~

Now, "B". The value of history. Our course is in Old Testament history so we want to know what is the value of history anyway. Why bother with history in general? Some people think it is the most interesting and fascinating subject there is and many others think it is the most boresome subject there is. Why bother with history? Well, under this, number 1. What is history? Everybody in America has heard the word history many, many times, but very few could give you a reasonable definition, what is history. Suppose ~~that~~ I tell you that I got up this morning at five o'clock, that I went in my study and that I worked on one matter for an hour and a half, that I worked on another matter for a certain length of time, that I then had breakfast, that I then came over here to the Seminary, that I then went down to the dentist and had a filling put in my tooth, that I went on through the day, would that be ~~history~~ history? I don't think that you think it would. Certainly if you had a class in the university and you started in to tell them those facts about me they would say, "Why do you waste our time?" That's not history. However, if you start to tell the same facts about George Washington, they might say it was history. So that a thing may not be history in one connection and may be in another. History is not just an account of things that occur. It's more than that,