

What Does "True" Mean?

- "I'm frozen!"
- Different details of same events

What Does "True" Mean?

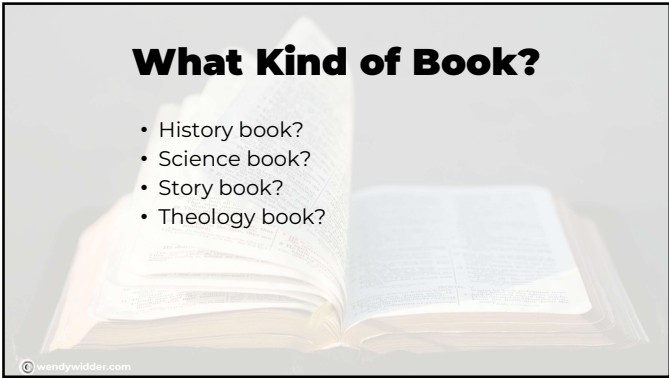
- Meaning & Intention
- The Bible is true in what it means to say, what it intends to say.
- The Bible is true in all it affirms.

Meaning/Intention in the Bible

- It's not always clear.
- Getting it right starts with understanding what kind of book the Bible is.

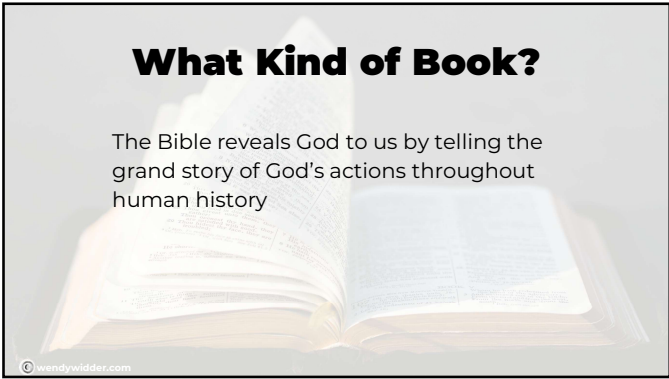
What Kind of Book?

- History book?
- Science book?
- Story book?
- Theology book?

An open Bible is shown with a list of four questions: 'History book?', 'Science book?', 'Story book?', and 'Theology book?'. The Bible is open to a page with text, and the questions are overlaid on the left side. A small copyright notice '© wendywidder.com' is at the bottom left.

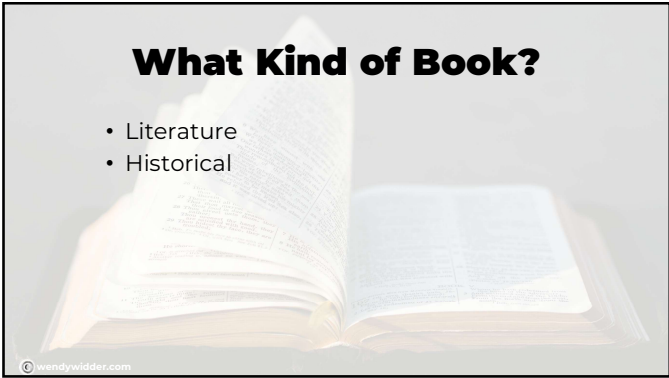
What Kind of Book?

The Bible reveals God to us by telling the grand story of God’s actions throughout human history

An open Bible is shown with a statement: 'The Bible reveals God to us by telling the grand story of God’s actions throughout human history'. The Bible is open to a page with text, and the statement is overlaid on the left side. A small copyright notice '© wendywidder.com' is at the bottom left.

What Kind of Book?

- Literature
- Historical

An open Bible is shown with a list of two categories: 'Literature' and 'Historical'. The Bible is open to a page with text, and the categories are overlaid on the left side. A small copyright notice '© wendywidder.com' is at the bottom left.

What Kind of Book?

The Bible is a literary masterpiece, and it accurately reflects historical events, but it does both of these things in the service of theology—showing us God.

Definitions

- Infallible = incapable of error
- Inerrant = without error
- They are synonyms for most people.

Meaning/Intention in the Bible

- "the smallest of all seeds"
- Jesus is not making a scientific claim about the size of the mustard seed.
- This passage is not "affirming" that the mustard seed is the smallest of all seed.
- This passage is "affirming" the way in which God's kingdom grows.

True in What It Affirms

- God communicated clearly within particular ancient times and places—not in the modern world! He accommodated his revelation to meet his audience where they were.
- Science, history-writing, literature, authorship, etc., reflect worldview and expectations of the Bible’s original audience.

The Bible is a literary masterpiece that reveals God to us through his action in history. Literature, history, and even science are in the service of theology—truthfully and accurately showing us God.

Reflection

- What things in the Bible make people question its truth?
- What does it mean that the Bible is "true in what it affirms"?
- How have your thoughts about the Bible changed through this course?