

# What is Biblical Theology?

Randy McKinion



The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;  
He will give strength to His king  
and exalt the horn of His anointed.



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IX

Biblical theology is sound doctrine;  
it is right thoughts about God;  
it is belief that accords with Scripture.



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Biblical theology recognizes that biblical authors are theologians, each contributing their discrete witness to the collective “scriptural texture” of the Gospel.

Biblical theology operates within the realm of the text as a whole with all its varied parts. It attempts to make reasonable conclusions about the truth taught by the text.

Part of this task is to identify the intentional sounds of resonance with other authors.



The Bible's "intelligent design" implies that meaning is found in the interconnectedness and inner-cohesion of the biblical text.

Our concern is a textually-birthed biblical theology.



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# 1. Hannah's Song



<sup>1</sup> And Hannah prayed and said,  
“My heart exults in the LORD;  
my **horn** is exalted in the LORD.  
My mouth derides my enemies,  
because I rejoice in your salvation.

<sup>2</sup> There is none holy like the LORD:  
for there is none besides you;  
there is no rock like our God.

<sup>3</sup> Talk no more so very proudly,  
let not arrogance come from your mouth;  
for the LORD is a God of knowledge,  
and by him actions are weighed.

<sup>4</sup> The bows of the mighty are broken,  
but the feeble bind on strength.

<sup>5</sup> Those who were full have hired themselves out  
for bread, but those who were hungry have  
ceased to hunger.  
The barren has borne seven,  
but she who has many children is forlorn.

<sup>6</sup> The LORD kills and brings to life;  
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD makes poor and makes rich;  
he brings low and he exalts.

<sup>8</sup> He raises up the poor from the dust;  
he lifts the needy from the ash heap  
to make them sit with princes  
and inherit a seat of honor.

For the pillars of the earth are the LORD’S,  
and on them he has set the world.

<sup>9</sup> He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,  
but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness,  
for not by might shall a man prevail.

<sup>10</sup> The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to  
pieces;  
against them he will thunder in heaven.  
The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;  
he will give strength to his king  
and exalt the **horn** of his anointed.” (ESV)

1. Hannah's Song
2. The Textual Resonance of Hannah's Song



Exodus 15

Hannah's  
Poem  
(1Sam 2:1–10)

Deuteronomy  
32



1. Hannah's Song
2. The Textual Resonance of Hannah's Song
3. Hannah's Song as the Fundamental Tone for the Book



Hannah's  
Poem  
(1Sam 2:1–10)



- thunder (7:10; 2Sam 22:14)
- tall, tall (9:2)
- bring down/raise up
- king/anointed



1. Hannah's Song
2. The Textual Resonance of Hannah's Song
3. Hannah's Song as the Fundamental Tone for the Book
4. David's Antiphonal Response



Hannah's  
Poem

David's  
Lament  
(2Samuel 1)

David's  
Poem  
(2Samuel 22)



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The Lord is my rock and my fortress and  
my deliverer,  
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,  
my shield and the horn of my salvation, ...  
(2 Sam 22:2–3)

The Lord lives, and blessed be my rock,  
and exalted be my God, the rock of my  
salvation.  
(2 Sam 22:47)

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The LORD will judge  
the ends of the  
earth; He will give  
strength to His king  
and exalt the horn  
of His anointed  
(1Sam 2:10)



Great salvation he  
brings to his king,  
and shows  
steadfast love to his  
anointed, to David  
and his offspring  
forever.  
(2 Sam 22:51)



Hannah's  
Poem

David's  
Lament  
(2Samuel 1)

Davidic  
Covenant  
(2Samuel 7)

David's  
Poem  
(2Samuel 22)



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1. Hannah's Song
2. The Textual Resonance of Hannah's Song
3. Hannah's Song as the Fundamental Tone for the Book
4. David's Antiphonal Response
5. Resonance with the Prophets & Psalms



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### Prophets & Writings

- Micah 5:1–5
- Zechariah 9:9–10
- Psalm 2:2 → 72:8



1. Hannah's Song
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4. David's Antiphonal Response
5. Resonance with the Prophets & Psalms
6. The Resounding Theme of the Author

Songs of the Messiah



“The prayer in which Hannah poured out the feelings of her heart ... is a song of praise of **a prophetic and Messianic character.**”

(Keil & Delitzsch)



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4. David's Antiphonal Response
5. Resonance with the Prophets & Psalms
6. The Resounding Themes of the Author
7. Mary & Zechariah Join the Chorus



Hannah's  
Poem



Mary &  
Zechariah





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