

Short Assignment 2—Use a Commentary to Help Someone

Due: Mon Oct 2 at 11 pm CST.

Word Limit: 300 words

1. Use one or more of the following four commentaries to reply to the email below. These sources are all available online through our library: <https://www.dbq.edu/library/> However, students should start early in case another student is using the resource at the same time.

Alexander, T. Desmond. *Exodus*. Apollos Old Testament Commentary. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2017.

Fretheim, Terence E. *Exodus*. Interpretation. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2010.

Hamilton, Victor P. *Exodus: An Exegetical Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011.

Meyers, Carol L. *Exodus*. New Cambridge Bible Commentary. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

If you consult one commentary and it's unhelpful, read another.

In your email, be sure to refer to which commentary you use. For example, you could write, "After consulting Hamilton's Exodus commentary, I've decided that..." In an email, a full citation isn't needed.

2. Reply to this email:

Dear Pastor (or Chaplain/Minister/Friend—however you like to be addressed),

I've been trying to read through the entire Bible. However, I got to Exodus 4:24-26 and am completely confused! What on earth is this text about!?! Is there anything redeeming about it? I've always tried to think of the Bible as God's word, but this text is hard. Can you help me understand it?

Thanks,
Lois

Here is the grading rubric that will be used to grade these assignments:

Rubric	POINTS POSSIBLE	POINTS SCORED
Does the answer do justice to the complexities of the issues involved?	0-20	
Is the answer clear in all of its parts? Is it free of typos that distract from the content?	0-20	
Does the answer draw on one of the assigned commentaries, fairly summarizing and acknowledging the author?	0-20	
Is the answer pastorally sensitive, respecting the person asking the question? Does the answer avoid doing harm? Is it 300 words or less?	0-20	

Does the answer make sense, especially when read alongside the Bible?	0-20	
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