

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Jesus of History

Lesson 40

6/20/21

Take some time to think through the things we talked about in our last lesson and review your notes. Then briefly answer the review questions below.

1. For many years critics believed the Gospels were written as myth. What do most modern historians and biblical scholars now consider the Gospels to be?
2. What are some of the reasons why the skeptical approach to the Gospels is not warranted.
3. Historians consider several markers that enhance our confidence that a text is historically authentic. What are some of them?
4. Does the absence of one or more of these markers render an account in the Gospels historically inauthentic?
5. How can we be confident that the Jesus of the Gospels is not a mere copy of characters from mythology?
6. Why does a point of similarity between Christianity and another religion not demonstrate that early Christians copied from that other religion?
7. What has recent scholarship revealed about the relative popularity of names in the Gospels with first-century Palestine. Why is this significant?
8. Why are a handful of relatively insignificant people in the Gospel records named, while most of the others remain anonymous?
9. From an historical perspective, how can we as Christians view the record of Jesus in the Gospels?
10. What was the most helpful thing you learned in this lesson, or was perhaps particularly new or interesting to you?