

Cody Flood

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S681

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Final Project Overview

My final project idea was spawned out of the “Blog Your Passion” apex we did earlier in the semester. For that apex, I created a blog that analyzed the Bible through a few of the “Book As” topics we had discussed in class. I had so much fun doing the blog that I decided to expand on the apex for my final project and add a few more “Book As” areas. However, I decided it would be more fun to present the project in the form of a late night talk show and have guests come and discuss the different aspects of the Bible with me. The Bible has always interested me and played an important role in my life, but I had never analyzed it as a book. The chance to do that is what inspired this project.

Overall, my research question was simple: In what ways does the Bible function as book? From there, I just traced the looked at the Bible as a book, an artifact, an author work, intellectual property, a cultural icon, a source of knowledge, and as a reader experience (dying to know how I managed to fit that into a talk show format, well check out the video). Showing how the Bible functions in each of these areas reveals two major things: one, it shows why it has existed for so long and, two, it shows how it still has relevance today and into the future. The project also inadvertently turned into a project that attempts to show the veracity of the Bible. Perhaps, this is why this project is needed. Today, the Bible faces challenges all the time and hopefully this project shows why many of those challenges are unfounded, or, at the very least, challenges people to investigate the Bible before jumping to conclusions.

There really weren’t many challenges faced in the creation of the project. I have the good fortune of being friends with a biblical scholar and author that gladly volunteered to help. Furthermore, my brother is a student at Barclay College, a Christian school. Having those connections made finding guest stars for the show very easy. It also allowed for a lot of information to be discussed within my given parameters. However, it was challenging to come up with creative ways to present this information within the normal expectations of a late night talk show. However, I think the playfulness of the format is the greatest strength of this project. The Bible is a heavy subject, but discussing it in a modern, relevant way eases some of the rigid academics that come with biblical discussion. That said, it is this talk show format that is also the greatest weakness of the project. Fitting the different “Book as” elements into a talk show does limit the amount of depth that one can go into (unless I wanted a three hour show, and no one wants that). Despite, this I am very happy with the final product.