

# It's All About Him!

## Seeing God on Every Page

### INTENT

What did God intend for the original audience to know? The Bible wasn't written with a 21st century world-view.

**Author:** NOTE: Some of the Bible's authors are unknown. What important information do we need to know about him?

**Date:** NOTE: The date of some books is uncertain.

**Genre:** What genre (type of literature) is the author using? The type influences the interpretation. The author may use different genres within the same book. Circle the ones used and note important characteristics to remember:

**Historical/Narrative/Story — Law — Prophetic — Poetic/Wisdom/Advice/Psalm — A Letter/Epistle**

**Audience/Background:** Who was the author's original audience? (Hint: It was not us.) Why did the author write to these people at this time? What was going on in their lives or in the world that may have led to their need for this message?

**Context:** Context matters. It determines a word's, phrase's, or message's meaning.

What is the context of this book within the context of the whole Bible? (When was book written? Before or after Israel was sent into exile? Before or after the cross? Or Pentecost? Etc.)

When studying a passage, keep in mind the context of the passage within the chapter, the book, and the whole Bible as well as its historical and cultural context.