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My short paper, 'Dialogic exegesis of the Sennacherib episode: The need for a method that is both literary and historical', contains material from my dissertation project, with the current title *The Sennacherib Episode: A Dialogic Exegesis of 2 Kings 18:13–19:37*. The book is planned to have three main chapters:

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| Chapter 1: | 'Author', 'text', 'reader', and other slippery words: An introduction |
| Chapter 2: | 2 Kings 18:13–19:37: Text, translation, and exegetical remarks |
| Chapter 3: | Double-voiced discourse in the Sennacherib episode |

Chapter 1 gives a theoretical background and presents Bakhtin's analysis of double-voiced discourse. The problems of holding together literary and historical methods is in focus. Since it is not easy to summarize this chapter, its current table of contents is found below, at the end of this presentation. (Around 55 pages at the moment.)

Chapter 2 presents a translation of the text, with exegetical comments. It also contains discussion of historical and redaction-critical issues. (Around 135 pages.)

Chapter 3 is devoted to an attempt to use Bakhtin's method for an analysis of the text that tries to make the different levels of analysis (the text in literary context and the text in the context of authorial and redactional dynamics) work together and mutually enrich one another. (Around 50 pages.)

Much of what I try to do in this book emanates from a frustration about the lack of communication between scholars of 'literary' and 'historical' persuasions. I am sure that exegetical work is best done when the historical and the literary is allowed to walk hand in hand. My suggestion is that if we make use of insights from Bakhtin, we can make this happen.

When I have tried to find parts of my analysis that could work as a presentation for OTSEM's short paper session, I have had problems in finding material that was short enough to fit within 15 pages while not being too sketchy. My analysis of historical issues is so far mainly to be found in chapter 2; therefore, the presentation of a Bakhtinian analysis in my paper focuses on the literary rather than the historical level. I hope the short notes about authorial and redactional dynamics at the end will at least give you a hunch about how I intend to proceed in practice with the form of analysis outlined on pp. 5–7 (cf. 11, 13).

I plan to produce a document in pdf form with fuller excerpts from the three chapters for those who would like to see more. I sometimes refer to it in my short paper as 'the Appendix', but it is not, of course, to be viewed as an enlargement of the paper for the session.

Current Table of contents for Chapter 1 of the book:

*'Author', 'text', 'reader', and other slippery words: An introduction*

Author – Text – Reader
*Some Basic Definitions: Pragmatics, Discourse, Meaning, and Function*
*Bakhtin and dialogics*
The utterance
Three senses of dialogue
Doublevoicing
The difference between passive and active double-voiced discourse
Double-voiced discourse: a trio
Authorial irony and authorial uncertainty
Differences between Dostoevsky and the Deuteronomists: the questions of the genre of Genesis–2 Kings and the nature of its authorship
Organic doublevoicing
*'Author'*
Pragmatics and the intention of the author
The implied author
Kerygmatic and ideological function
Ideology and kerygma, suspicion and appropiation
Demythologization and depatriarchalization
Authors, redactors, *Fortschreibern,* and glossators
Redaction and readability
The world of the author: 'history'
'701'
Historical interpretation as a readerly task
The author and the pragmatic colouring of meaning
*'Text'*
The extant form of the text
The 'semantic autonomy' of the text
Canon
The text as limit to meaning
*'Reader'*
The implied audience
Historical interpretation: a readerly category
The time distance cannot be overlooked
A natural reading process
Anything goes? Achilles and the tortoise
Kerygma: at the interface of meaning and function, suspicion and appropiation
Historical and systematic analysis