

Paul Ricoeur (1913-2005)

*Il racconto interpretativo. Egesi e teologia nei racconti della Passione*

The theory set forth by Robert Alter with regard to biblical narratives in general furnishes a key to the reading of the Passion narratives. They are narratives which produce their own interpretation, or again texts whose narrative form is brought about by the Theology they bring into play, that of an ineluctable divine design confronted with the resistance and the contingency of human actions and passions. Many levels of literary analysis account for, within certain limits, the connection between the narrative and the kerygmatic: the semiotics of the narrative which proceed as «functions» and «participants», the distinction between the enunciation and the statement, the theory of the «point of view», the notion of «narrative voice». These techniques will be applied, but simply as an outline, to the Passion narrative in Mark's Gospel. We shall look for homologies between his Christology of the suffering Son of man and the history of Jesus handed over and we shall observe (as Frank Kermode suggests) how Mark makes use of the resources of narrative art to render more obscure and more enigmatic the figure of the Just One «handed over», according to his theological project.