

I believe that the sources are very different and you have to consider who wrote them. The book reviewer and the online blogger seem to have knowledge of the war intensely but the amazon reviews have knowledge on it but aren't experts on it. Amazon reviewers can be anyone who read the book, they don't have to have any other knowledge on the subject. While the reviewer and blogger have to have some knowledge on other book about the subject since they write about differences in other books. I think the blogger and book reviewer are a better source to go on and with that I will take the book page by page. The approach I will take is to look at it as I would a novel. Read chapter by chapter and go back and review the more detailed item in that chapter, if need to I will look at the citations and bibliography. I will also keep a time table to show when things happened and what order. Maps are going to be very helpful in this book as well. Color coding everything will help keep everything on track and help me see the war through my eyes.

The things that worry me about the accuracy are the numbers. In the amazon review one person noticed the numbers for a number of things were wrong. I don't know for sure if that reviewer was wrong or not, but I know when I get to them I will check with you and other resources to find out the right answer. I have always loved the history of the US and particularly the Civil War. I think this book is going to be one of the best informational books about it. The reviews are great and they show how the writer wrote differently than others on this subject. - ?

lacking analysis of the sources . . . more detailed explanation needed.

I'm glad you'll be reading carefully though