



Discovering God's Word (Part-2)

HOLY
BIBLE



Hermeneutics = The science
(principles) and art (task) by which
the meaning of the Biblical text is
determined.



“This is That”

Joel 2:28 Acts 2:17

What Joel Said	What Actually Happened
Prophecy, dreams, visions Wonders in heaven and in earth, blood, fire, pillars of smoke, etc.	Sound of a mighty wind, tongues of fire, speaking in tongues



Mind the gap

- ✓ A spiritual gap
- ✓ A time gap
- ✓ A geographical gap
- ✓ A cultural gap
- ✓ A language gap
- ✓ A literary gap



Inspiration and Illumination (Revelation) (Part-2)

Inspiration of Scripture was given only once – when the Word was first written.

Illumination (Enlightening, Revelation) of Scripture is given repeatedly.



Illumination/Revelation

1. The Holy Spirit's role does not mean that one's interpretations are infallible



Illumination/Revelation

2. The work of the Spirit in interpretation does not mean that He gives some interpreters “hidden” meaning divergent from the normal, literal meaning of the passage.



Illumination/Revelation

3. The place of the Holy Spirit in interpreting the Bible means that He does not normally give sudden intuitive flashes of insight into the meaning of Scripture – independent of careful study and meditation.



Illumination/Revelation

4. The Holy Spirit guides the believer into all truth (John 16:13). Bible truth is available to all believers.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#1, Interpret with the Cultural Context in mind

The Bible reflects the culture of its day. Therefore it is important to know what the people in the Bible thought, believed, said, did and made.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#1, Interpret with the Cultural Context in mind

All practices in the Bible are not transferable to present day.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#1, Interpret with the Cultural Context in mind

Permanent or Temporary?

Greet one another with a holy kiss
(Romans 16:16)



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

**#1, Interpret with the Cultural
Context in mind**

Permanent or Temporary?

Be baptized (Acts 2:38)



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

**#1, Interpret with the Cultural
Context in mind**

Permanent or Temporary?

Wash one another's feet (John
13:14)



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#1, Interpret with the Cultural Context in mind

Permanent or Temporary?

Observe the Lord's Supper (1
Corinthians 11:24)



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

**#1, Interpret with the Cultural
Context in mind**

Permanent or Temporary?

Be circumcised (Acts 15:5)



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#1, Interpret with the Cultural Context in mind

Permanent or Temporary?

Wear sandals but not an extra tunic
(Mark 6:9)



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#1, Interpret with the Cultural Context in mind

Permanent or Temporary?

Cast lots for church officers (Acts 1:26) ear sandals but not an extra tunic (Mark 6:9)



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

**#2 Keep in mind normal rules for
grammar and figures of speech**



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#3 Recognize Types, Illustrations and Parables

1, Only elicit the intended meaning from the type, illustration or parable that God intends



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#3 Recognize Types, Illustrations and Parables

2, Do not stretch the type, illustration or parable into other meanings or comparisons that were not originally intended.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#4 Use Allegorizing With Caution

Allegorizing is when we take an incident or narrative in Scripture and elicit meaning that is not stated explicitly in Scripture.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#4 Use Allegorizing With Caution

Examples of Allegorizing (incorrect interpretation of Scripture)

The inn in the parable of the Good Samaritan is a type of the Church which should be full of Christians who will nourish newborn Christians.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#4 Use Allegorizing With Caution

Examples of Allegorizing (incorrect interpretation of Scripture)

The wicks on the tabernacle lamp stand are a type of the Christian's old sin nature which constantly needs trimming



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#4 Use Allegorizing With Caution

Examples of Allegorizing (incorrect interpretation of Scripture)

Abraham's servant finding a bride for Isaac is a type of the Holy Spirit finding a bride (the church) for Christ.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#4 Use Allegorizing With Caution

Examples of Allegorizing (incorrect interpretation of Scripture)

Moses praying with his arms held up high is a type of Christ being crucified on the cross.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#4 Use Allegorizing With Caution

Right and Wrong Use of Allegorizing

✓ Draw meaningful lessons from incidents and Bible narratives is perfectly right.

X Introducing forced meaning and comparisons is incorrect use of Scripture.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#4 Use Allegorizing With Caution

Prophetic inspiration and allegory



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#5, God's revelation of Himself, His plans and purposes are progressive.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#6, Interpretation based on Divine Nature

When we interpret Scripture we need to based it on the nature of God as revealed in the Person of Jesus Christ.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#7, Scripture interprets Scripture

The Holy Spirit connects Scripture to Scripture and we need to follow the pattern He sets.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#7, Scripture interprets Scripture

Examples:

Isaiah 53:4 \Leftrightarrow Matthew 8:17 Jesus taking
our sicknesses and diseases

Joel 2:28 \Leftrightarrow Acts 2:17 Outpouring of the
Spirit

Amos 9:11 \Leftrightarrow Acts 15:16 Tabernacle of
David



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#8 Be careful of personal or subjective Revelations

A, The Holy Spirit may quicken a verse/ passage of Scripture to indicate to you, your personal life assignment.

e.g. John the Baptist took what Isaiah prophesied in Isaiah 40:3, as his life assignment John 1:23.

This is valid.



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#8 Be careful of personal or subjective Revelations

B, Sometimes a you may feel that several Scriptures are jumping "out of the page" as God's answer to guidance you are seeking.

Song of Solomon 2:10 My beloved spoke, and said to me: "Rise up, my love, my fair one, And come away."



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#8 Be careful of personal or subjective Revelations

B, Sometimes a you may feel that several Scriptures are jumping "out of the page" as God's answer to guidance you are seeking.

*1Samuel 10:24 And Samuel said to all the people, "**Do you see him whom the LORD has chosen**, that there is no one like him among all the people?" So all the people shouted and said, "Long live the king!"*



Rules for Biblical Interpretation

#8 Be careful of personal or subjective Revelations

B, Sometimes a you may feel that several Scriptures are jumping "out of the page" as God's answer to guidance you are seeking.

Acts 10:20 Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them."



Application of God's Word

Martin Luther stated that the Bible
“is not merely to be repeated or
known, but to be lived and felt”.



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