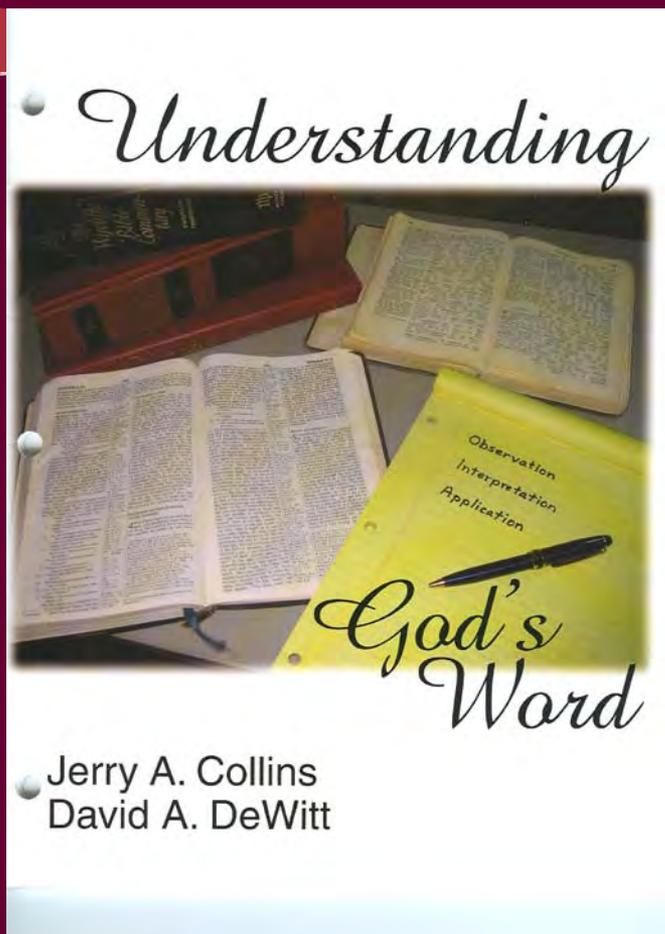
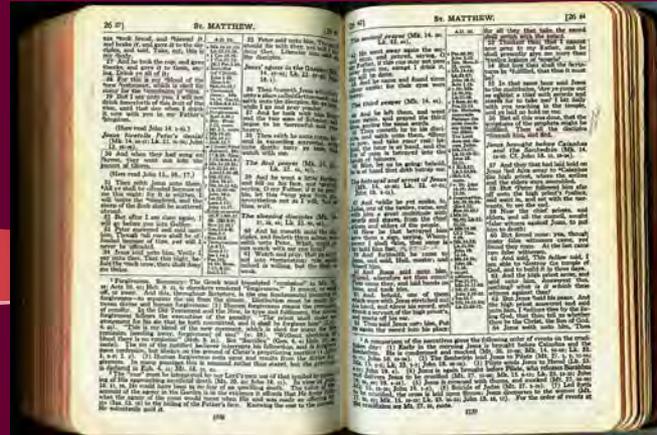




Relational Concepts
School of Discipleship
Presents





Overview of Our Study

Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

- Evidences for the Bible
- Development of the Old and New Testaments

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

- Three General Things to Learn
 - The Kinds, Styles of Literature and Questions
- The Two Basic Bible Study Methods
 - Synthesis - The Telescopic View
 - Analysis - The Microscopic View

Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

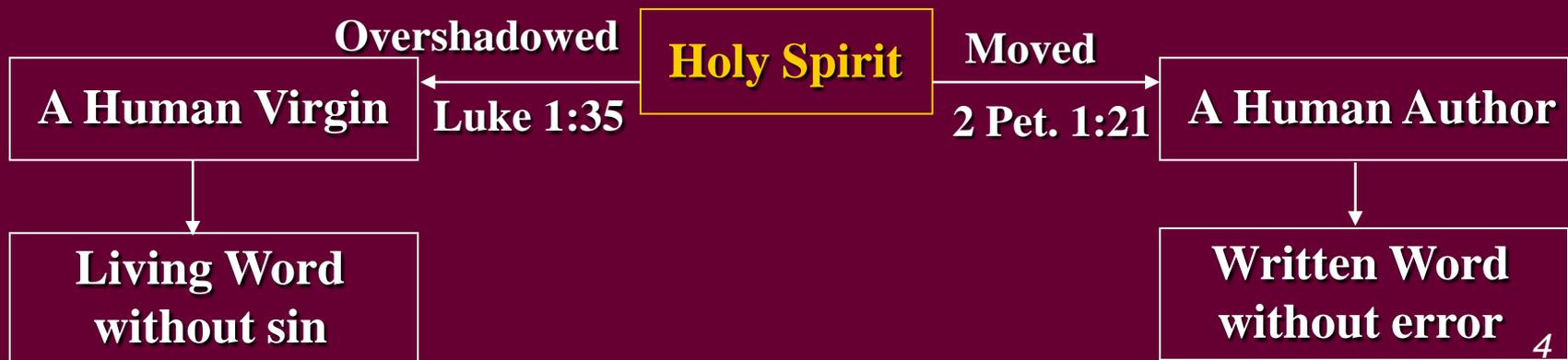
Evidence for the Bible



1. The Character of the Bible

The Bible tells us that it was God's choice to disclose Himself and His view of the world. This is called **REVELATION**

- By creation (Romans 1:18-20)
- By our conscience (Romans 2:14-15)
- By the Person of Jesus Christ (John 1:14)
- By His written Word, the Bible (2 Timothy 3:16-17)



Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

Evidence for the Bible

1. The Character of the Bible

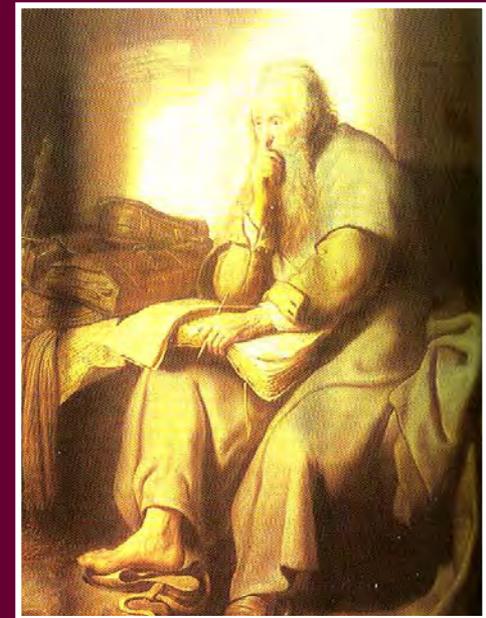


God's disclosure of Himself is **REVELATION**

The inerrant writing down of revelation is known as **INSPIRATION**.

It is God's superintending of human authors so that, using their own individual personalities, they wrote without error. "*All Scripture is inspired by God..*" (2 Tim. 3:16)

Therefore, the Bible *as it was originally written*, is **INERRANT**; it is without errors.



Painting of Paul imprisoned and writing an epistle, by Rembrandt

Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

Evidence for the Bible



2. The Claims of the Bible

The clear teaching of the prophets and apostles is that both the Old and New Testaments are inspired by God the Holy Spirit

Samples:

- **The Old Testament writers claimed over 2,600 times to be writing the Word of God**
- **The Old Testament is quoted in the New Testament over 320 times**
- **David said, “*The spirit of the Lord spoke through me; His word was on my tongue*”. (2 Samuel 23:2)**
- **Paul said, “*The Holy Spirit...spoke through Isaiah the prophet...*” (Acts 28:25)**
- **The author of Hebrews attributed the Old Testament to the work of the Holy spirit. (Hebrews 3:7; 10:15-16)**
- **Paul said, “If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord’s commandment”. (1 Corinthians 14:37)**

Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

Evidence for the Bible



3. The Uniqueness of the Bible

	Over	1500	Years	Circa 1500 BC to 100 AD
History	In	66	Books	Genesis to Revelation
Poetry	By	40	Authors	Mostly Hebrew
Romance	In	3	Languages	Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
Prose	Over	3	Continents	Europe, Asia, Africa
Prophecy	With	1	Message	2,930 characters
				1,551 places
				1700 languages

The unfolding REVELATION of Who God is and what He does.

Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

Evidence for the Bible



4. Fulfilled Prophecy in the Bible

Over 25% of the Bible was prophetic when written

Daniel predicted that the sequence of world powers would be Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome exactly as it happened.

The city of Tyre was destroyed exactly as Ezekiel predicted.



Abraham's descendents still exist just as predicted, but the Canaanites and Edomites don't, also as predicted.

Well over 100 detailed prophecies of Christ's first coming were all literally fulfilled.

Fulfilled prophesy has consistently demonstrated that the Bible is not a book of myth or fantasy, but a book of truth, facts, and reality.

Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

Evidence for the Bible



6. Archeology and the Bible

Samples of the Old Testament Archeological Evidence

- 1. The Dibon Stone (800BC) records the name of King Omri of Israel, several biblical places, and the God of Israel.**
- 2. The Ebla Tablets (2400-2250 BC) are 17,000 clay tablets that demonstrate the extent of writing nearly 1,000 years before Moses.**
- 3. The Black Obelisk of Assyrian King Shalmanaser confirms his existence as claimed in the Bible.**
- 4. The Dead Sea Scrolls significantly add to the credibility of Scripture and will be discussed in more detail in the next section.**



Hazor in the Hulah valley

Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

Evidence for the Bible



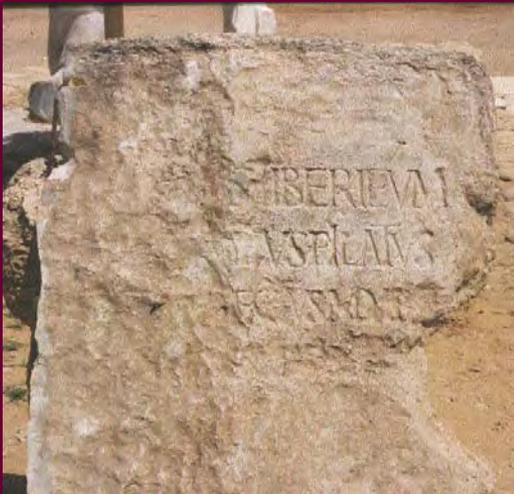
6. Archeology and the Bible

Samples of the New Testament Archeological Evidence

For example, archaeology demonstrates the accuracy of Luke's writings - Luke and Acts. In them he refers to 32 countries, 54 cities, nine islands, and other details all of which have been confirmed without a single error.



Excavated Capernaum



Pontius Pilate Stone at Caesarea

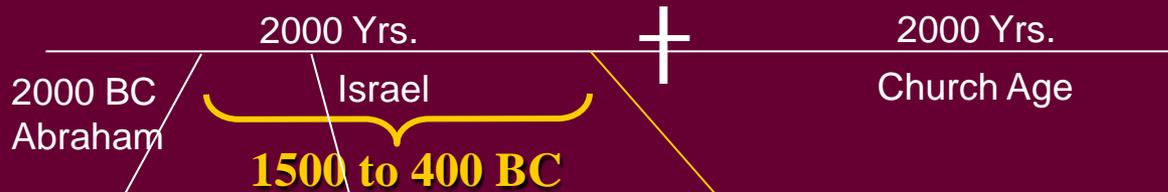


Jerusalem

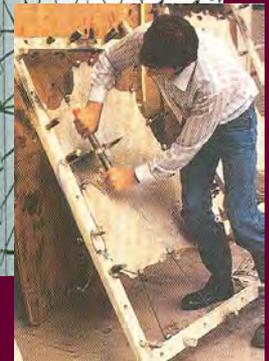
Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

The Development of the Old Testament

When was the Old Testament written?



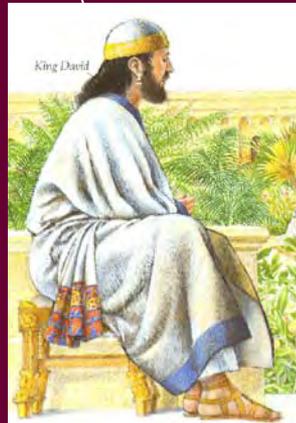
Parchment (leather)



Stone or clay tablets (Moses)

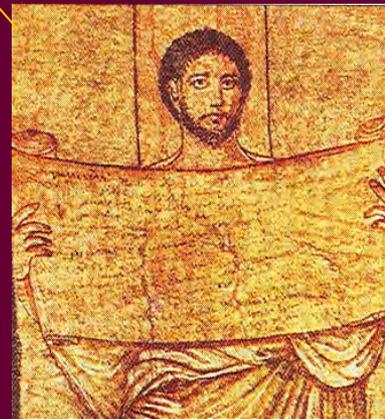
The Lord told Moses *Write this in a book*

Exodus 17:14
1500 BC



David wrote, *the spirit of the Lord spoke by me...*

2 Sam. 23:2
1,000 BC



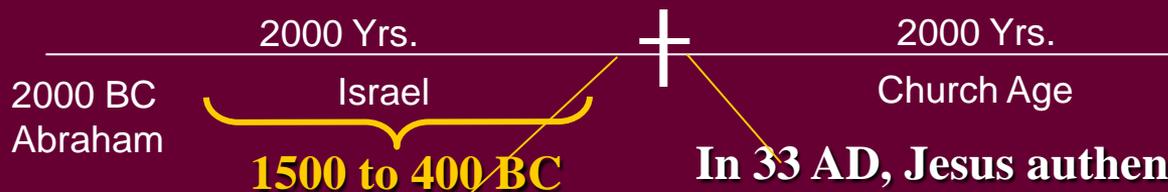
•Ezra, third century mural in Syria

Ezra was, *translating to give the sense so they understood the reading*
Neh. 8:8 450 BC

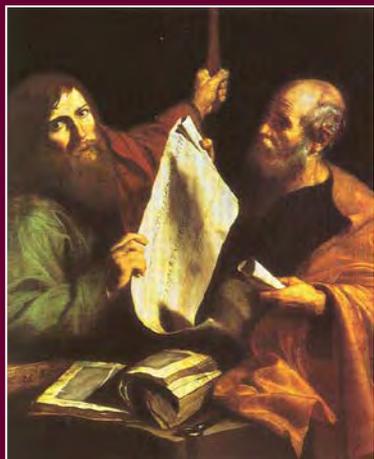
Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

The Development of the Old Testament

When was the Old Testament written?



Septuagint (LXX) Translation of the Old Testament into Greek 250 BC



17th century painting of Peter and Paul with the Septuagint

In 33 AD, Jesus authenticated the Old Testament saying, *all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled.*

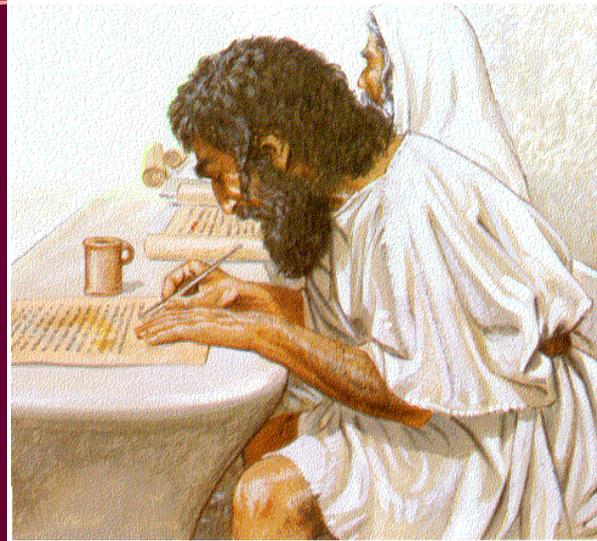
Luke 24:44



Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

The Development of the Old Testament

How was the Old Testament copied?



It was copied by hand (“**manuscript**” = manually written) very accurately by professional copiers called **scribes**.

They developed excellent methods of error detection and correction.

Rarely, a minor variation in copying occurred and it is termed a **textual variant**

Even liberal scholars agree that none affect historical or doctrinal issues.

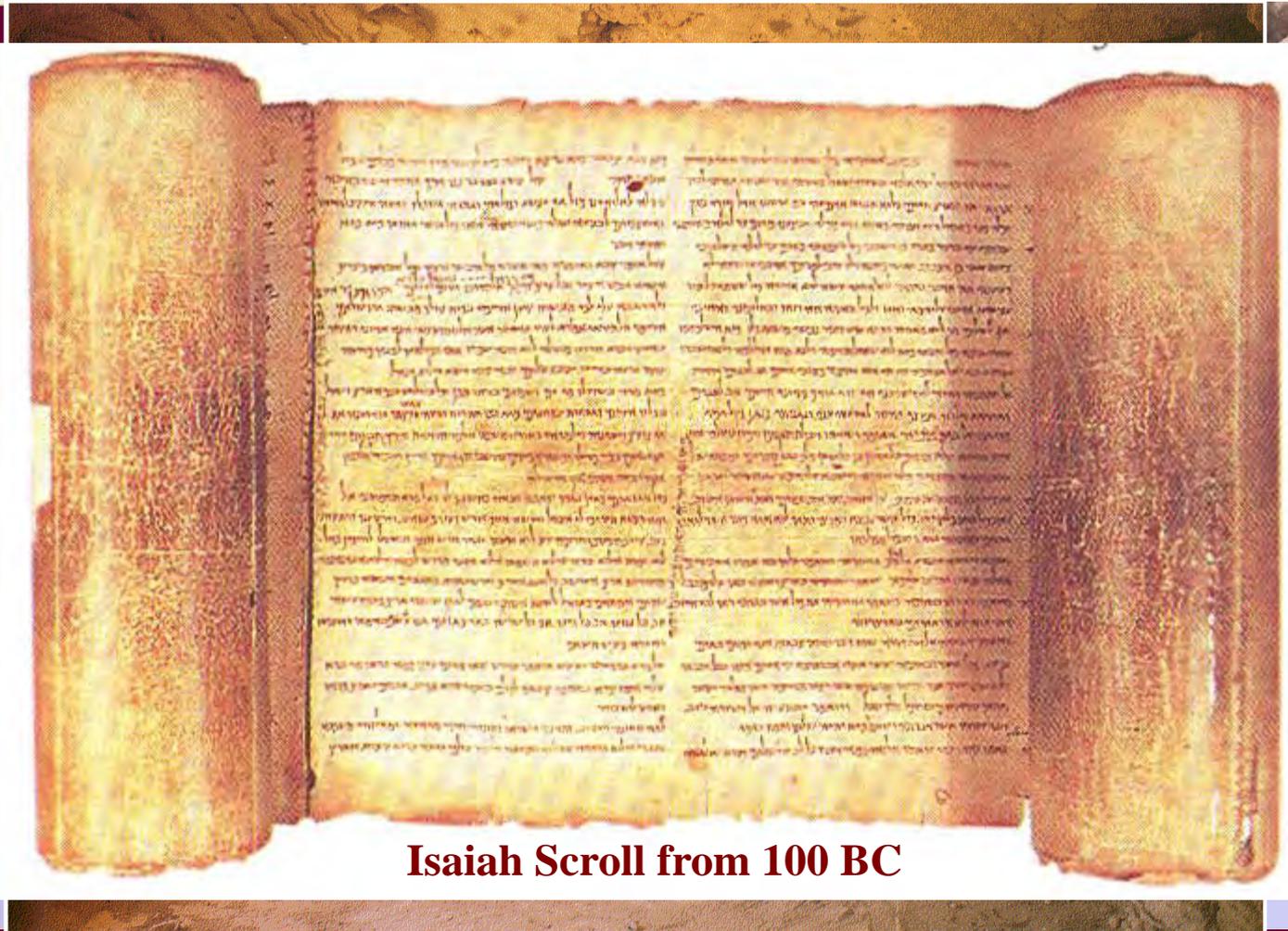
Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

The Development of the Old Testament

How do the Dead Sea Scrolls relate to the Old Testament?



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Isaiah Scroll from 100 BC



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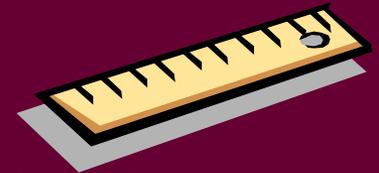
Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

The Development of the New Testament

How was the New Testament put together?

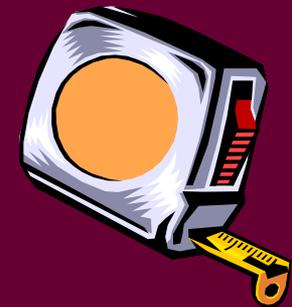


- The process of discovering which books (letters) should be included in our Bible is called **canonization**.
(The word “canon” means rule or measuring rod.)
- The person who first recognized the 27 books of the New Testament was Athanasius (296-373), Bishop of Alexandria in 367 AD.
- The church first “canonized” the 27 books at the Synod of Carthage in 397 AD.



Canonization of a book (letter) required:

- Must be written by an apostle or backed by an apostle.
- Must (internally) claim divine authority.
- Theology must be internally consistent
- It must have been widely used and accepted by the early church

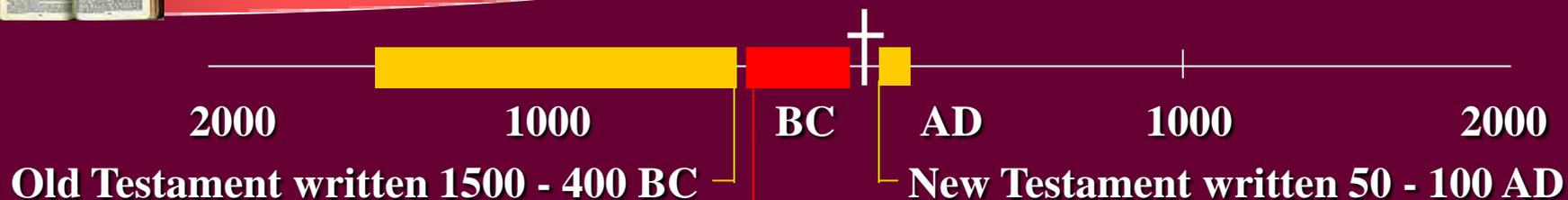


Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible

The Development of the New Testament



What is the Apocrypha? (Also called deuterocanonical)



Apocrypha (meaning “hidden or doubtful”) is a collection of books written between the Old and New Testaments (300-30 BC).

They are not included in the canon because:

1. They were not written by a prophet or an apostle.
2. They do not claim to be a record of God’s revelation to us.
3. Jesus and the apostles never quoted from them.

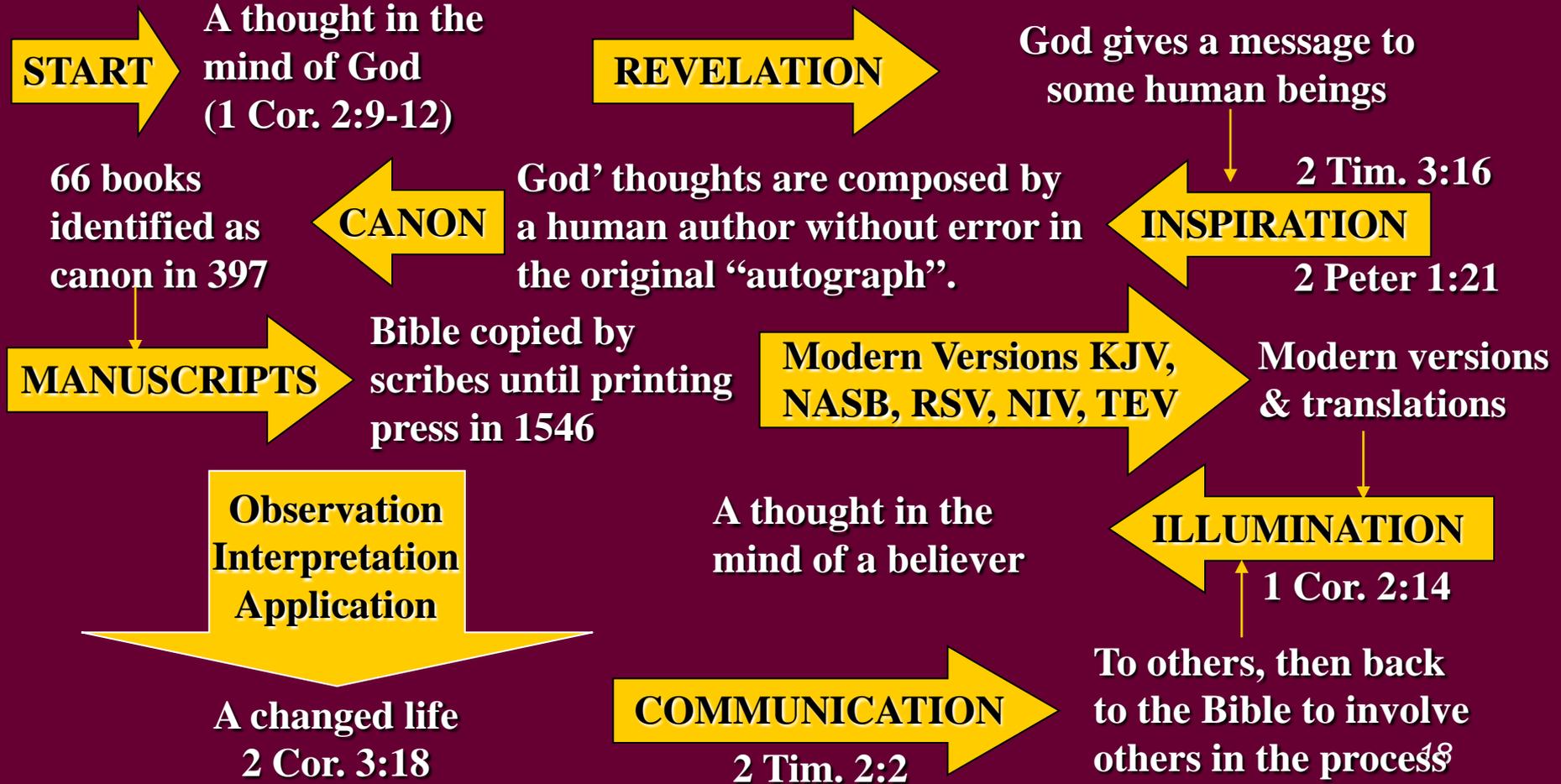
The Eastern Orthodox church includes the Apocrypha because later versions of the Septuagint included it.

The Roman Catholic church added it to their canon at Council of Trent in 1546

Section 1 - The Authenticity of the Bible



How God Communicates Truth to His Children





Section Two

BIBLE STUDY METHODS

- **Three General Things to Learn**
The Kinds, Styles of Literature and Questions
- **The Two Basic Bible Study Methods**
Synthesis - The Telescopic View
Analysis - The Microscopic View



Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Introduction

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16

Agreed ?

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

Agreed ?

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Introduction

What's your **application** for ? ...

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name...

John 1:12

And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Deuteronomy 6:5

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Introduction

What's your **application** for ? ...



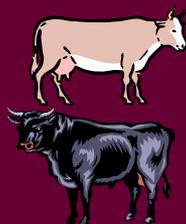
All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

1 Corinthians 16:20



No longer drink water exclusively, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.

1 Timothy 5:23



'You are to keep My statutes. You shall not breed together two kinds of your cattle; you shall not sow your field with two kinds of seed, nor wear a garment upon you of two kinds of material mixed together.

Leviticus 19:19



Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Introduction

Application is not always easy...right?

But application is the objective because James 1:22 says,

“But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.”

Good Bible study requires: (1) **OBSERVAION**, (2) **INTERPRETATION**, then (3) **APPLICATION**

That's the purpose of this study.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Introduction

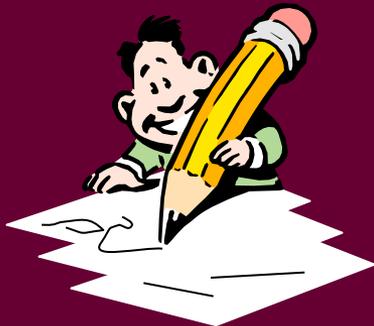
Here's how Dave gets started studying a book of the Bible ...

1. **PRAY** for the Holy Spirit's **ILLUMINATION** of your understanding.
2. **Photo copy (135%) pages from (Ryrie study) Bible.**



If you don't have use of a copier, consider hand copying, like the kings of Israel (Deut. 17:18-19).

3. **Write OBSERVATIONS, INTERPRETATIONS, APPLICATIONS** all over the pages...make notes, circles, connecting lines, references ..etc.



Try different methods until you find one that works well for you.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Three General Things to Learn

1. The Types of Literature in the Bible

OLD TESTAMENT

- History** Genesis - Nehemiah records actual historical events
- Wisdom** Job - Song of Solomon records what we can learn about wise living and worshipping rightly.
- Prophecy** Isaiah - Malachi (28.6% of O.T.) is predictive literature.

NEW TESTAMENT

- Gospels** Matthew - John are the “good news” (gospel) accounts about Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection.
- History** Acts - is Luke’s historical account of the early church
- Epistles** Romans - Jude are letters to individuals and churches from leaders expressing concern for their spiritual welfare.
- Apocalypse** Revelation - predictions about the revealing of Christ.²⁵

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Three General Things to Learn

2. Styles of literature to recognize in the Bible

1. **Prose** - is an ordinary, straightforward explanation of non-fiction.
2. **Narrative** - is a story, such as a biography, or a national history.
3. **Poetry** - is figurative literature using word structures in ways more powerful than ordinary speech.
4. **Parable** - is a short story about familiar things used to teach a single lesson and is always announced as such.
5. **Allegory** - is a short story used like a parable, but is unannounced.
6. **Hyperbole** - is an intentional overstatement to emphasize a point.
7. **Euphemism** - is an intentional understatement to soften a harsh reality.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Three General Things to Learn

3. The Need to Ask Questions

Questions are essential “door openers” in the process of **OBSERVATION**

WHO - asks about the people involved.



WHAT - asks about the content of what is going on.

WHERE - is the geography question



WHEN - is the question of time, what year, time of year, time of the day.

WHY - is a question of purpose, if the author states one. Watch out, he may not!

HOW - is a question of method which narrows down the specifics.

W₅H



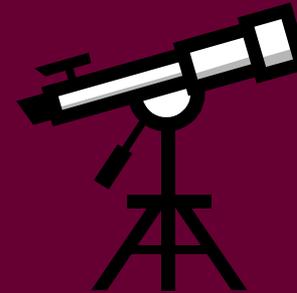
Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

The Two Basic Bible Study Methods



SYNTHESIS - The Telescopic View

Seeing the big picture



ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

Seeing every detail



Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



SYNTHESIS - The Telescopic View



First - we need to look for the **THEME** of the book ...

To do this you are invited to read the (selected) book 10 times !!

Reading #1 - What is this book about generally?

Reading #2 - What is emphasized?

Reading #3 - What is motivating the author to write?

Reading #4 - What basic solution or direction does the author give?

Reading #5 - What specific commands or principles does the author give?

Reading #6 - What is the key verse or key passage?

Reading #7 - What are the paragraph divisions of the book?

Reading #8 - What are the major sections of the book?

Reading #9 - What is the one major division or pivot point of the book?

Reading #10 - What is the **theme** of the book?

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



SYNTHESIS - The Telescopic View



First - we need to look for the **THEME** of the book ...

The **THEME** is a statement which answers two questions:

1- What is the author talking about?

2 - What is he saying about it?

SUBJECT

PREDICATE (Verb)

Example: Ephesians

Our position in Christ..... Requires us to live in a manner worthy of it.

But that theme is too general. Other books could have the same *general* theme

We must learn to find the *unique* **THEME** for a book

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

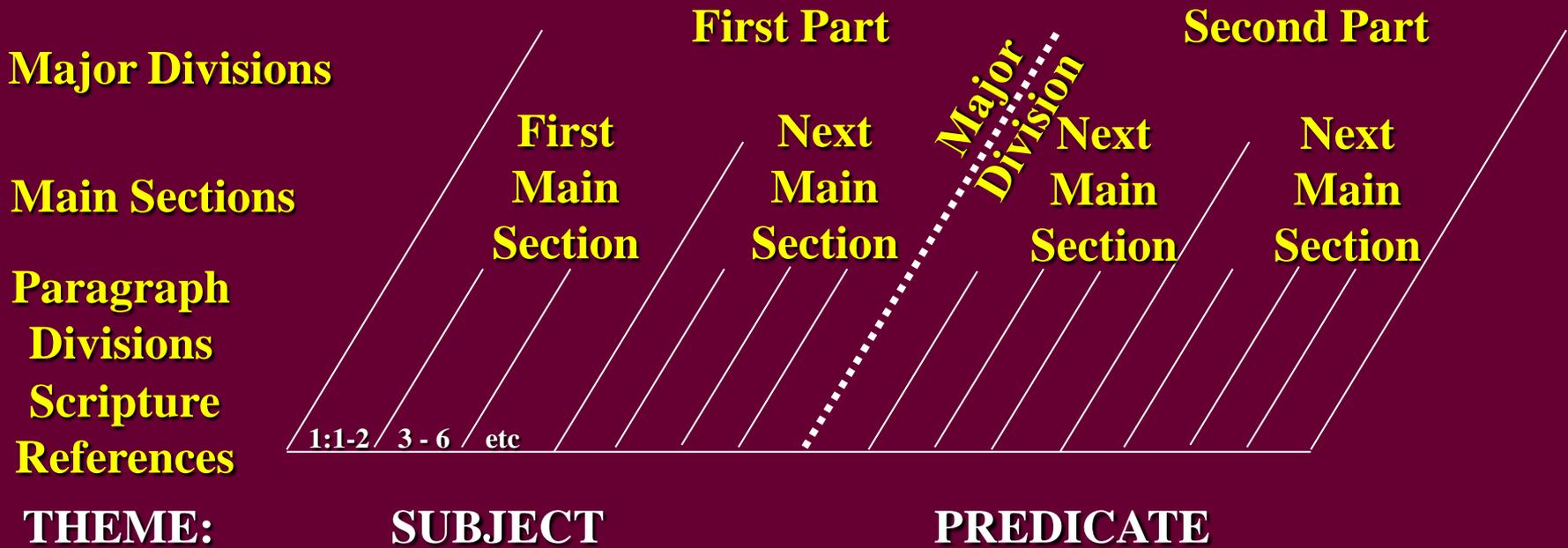


SYNTHESIS - The Telescopic View



Sketching a Book

After reading 10 times and writing its basic content, structure & theme - my sketch takes this basic form:



Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



SYNTHESIS - The Telescopic View



Relating the Paragraph, Sections, and Divisions of a Book

Seven ways in which parts of a book relate to one another:

- ⤴ 1. **Additions** - Some parts add to previous ones.
- ∠ 2. **Development** - Some parts develop the ones before or after it.
- ⤵ 3. **Cause and Effects** - Some parts are the cause or effect of the ones before or after it.
- △ 4. **Pivots** - Some parts are pivot points between the prior parts and the following ones. They change the direction of what is going on.
- ↔ 5. **Contrasts** - Some parts stand in contrast to the ones before or after it.
- ↔ 6. **Comparisons** - Some parts are given in comparison to the ones before or after it.
- [] 7. **Parenthesis** - some parts are a parenthesis between other parts.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

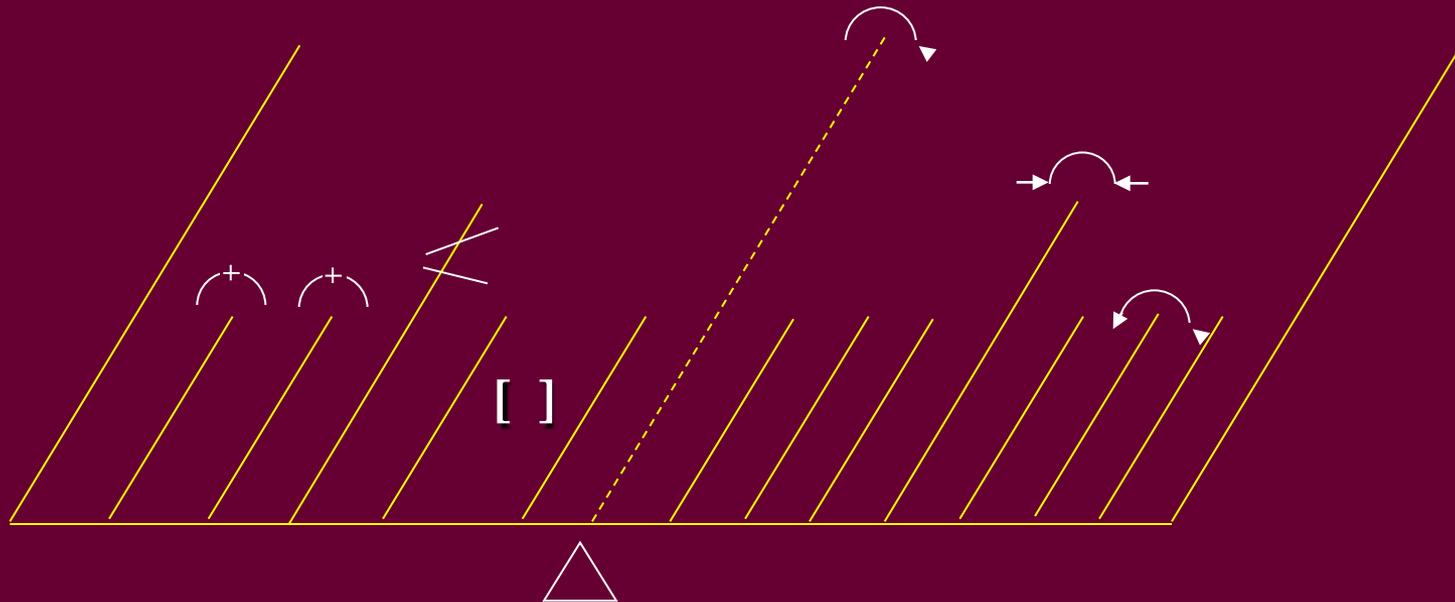


SYNTHESIS - The Telescopic View



Relating the Paragraph, Sections, and Divisions of a Book

So our sketch of a book may look like this:



Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

SYNTHESIS - The Telescopic View



Example Review Using 2 John

Reading #1, Generally the book is about Responding to deceivers

Reading #2, The subjects repeated are Walking in the truth

Reading #3, The author's basic motive is Discerning fellowship with believers

Reading #4, The author's basic solution is Fellowship with true believers

Reading #5, Specific commands include Do not receive him into your house

Reading #6, The key verse / passage is Verse 10

Reading #7, The paragraph divisions are After verses 3, 6 and 11

Reading #8, The main sections are There are no section divisions

Reading #9, The main division is Between verse 6 and 7

The Theme is Walking in truth includes not fellowshiping with unbelievers³⁴

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

SYNTHESIS - The Telescopic View

Example Review Using 2 John



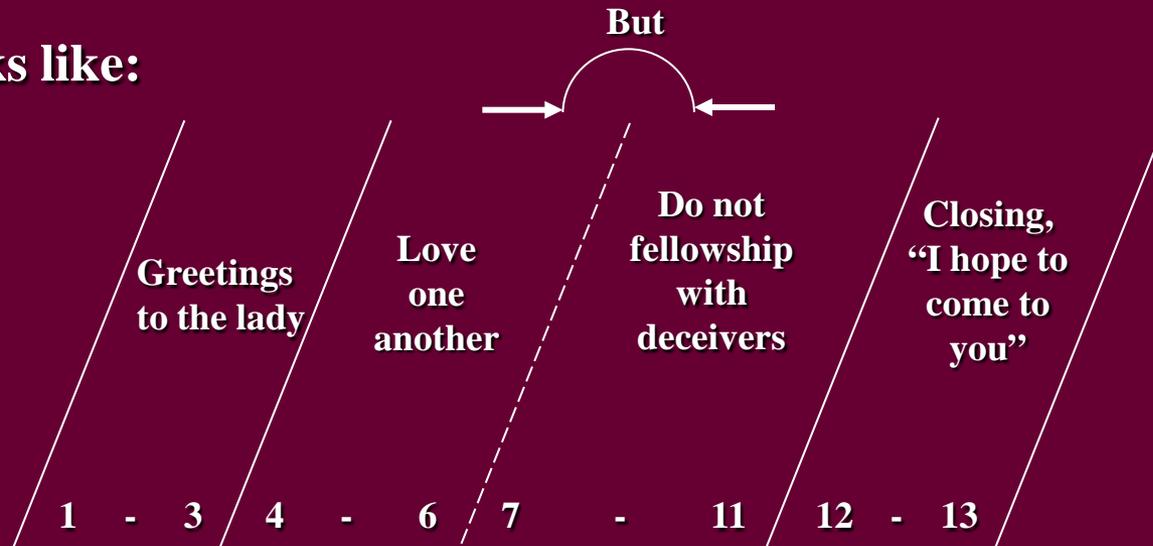
Reading #10 The Theme is:

Walking in truth includes not fellowshiping with unbelievers

Subject

Predicate

The chart looks like:



Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View



The Need to Observe, Interpret, and Apply

Independent



OBSERVATION:

What does it say?



INTERPRETATION:

What does it mean?



APPLICATION:

What does it mean to me?



...but Linked

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

The Need to Observe, Interpret, and Apply



OBSERVATION

Observation is like detective work looking for clues in the details



OBSERVATION is noticing what the author has written



Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

The Need to Observe, Interpret, and Apply



OBSERVATION

Ten suggestions to help you **OBSERVE** a verse or passage:

1. Identify the **kind of literature** (such as history, poetry, prophecy etc.)
2. Identify the **style of literature** (such as prose, narrative, parable, etc.)
3. Write the **THEME** and ask if this verse expresses the theme in any way.
4. Read the immediate **context** and identify how it's used in its context.
5. Identify the **Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How. W₅H**

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

The Need to Observe, Interpret, and Apply



OBSERVATION

Ten suggestions to help you **OBSERVE** a verse or passage:

6. Identify if this verse is an **addition, development, cause effect, pivot, contrast, comparison,** or a **parenthesis** in its context.
7. Notice how **each word** is used in the context of its paragraph and theme.
8. Identify any **key** or **central word** which governs the meaning of the verse.
9. Consider how each **word relates** to the one before and after it.
10. Identify if this word is part of a phrase which **shapes its meaning.**

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

The Need to Observe, Interpret, and Apply



INTERPRETATION



INTERPRETATION



What God says

The Link Between

What we are to do

INTERPRETATION is understanding the author's intended meaning through the context.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

The Need to Observe, Interpret, and Apply

INTERPRETATION

Interpretation is both an **ART** and a **SCIENCE**



**Practice,
experience
and skill**



**Proven
operating
principles**



Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

The Need to Observe, Interpret, and Apply



INTERPRETATION

INTERPRETATION



“Art and science” help us understand the Word of God

ILLUMINATION



Spirit of God helps us to understand the Word of God.
(1 Cor. 2:12-14)

When our interpretation is correct, it will perfectly align with our illumination, and when we have not perverted God's illumination, it will perfectly align with our interpretation.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

Ten Principles of Interpretation



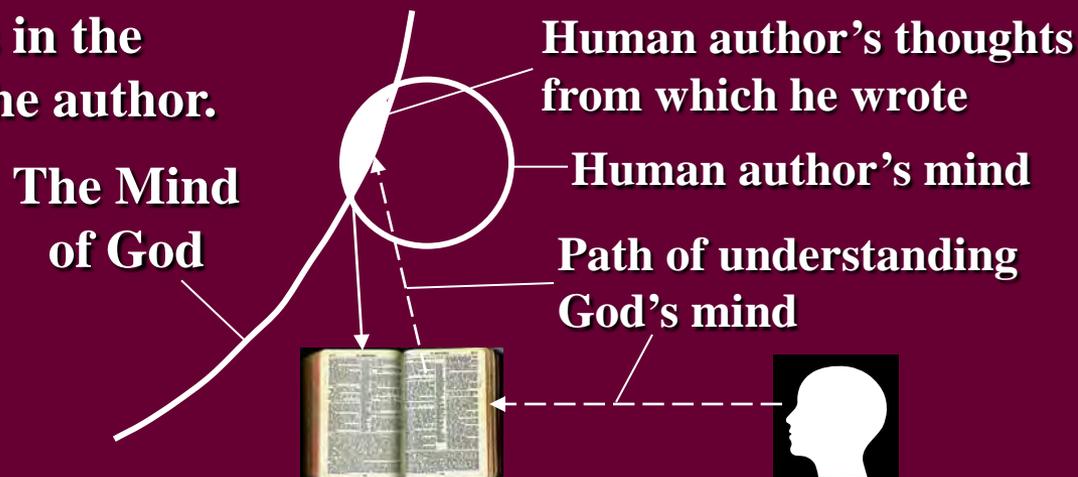
1. The correct interpretation is found in the **WORDS** of the author.

Jesus said, *...until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pas away from the Law, until all is accomplished.* (Matt. 5:18)

2. What the **AUTHOR** meant is the only correct interpretation.

The meaning of words comes from how the author uses them, not just from dictionaries and lexicons.

3. Understanding is in the **MIND** of the author.



Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

Ten Principles of Interpretation



4. The author intended his readers to understand him in a **plain, ordinary, normal way** - literally not allegorically

Here, “**literal**” does not mean we are limiting the author’s literal style. He may be writing a parable or some other literary style. Here “literal” means the plain ordinary way of understanding things.

Also, it is okay to interpret an **allegory**, such as Abraham’s two wives, as such - an allegory that is so stated. But it is never okay to interpret passages allegorically as a general method of interpretation.

If we cannot get the meaning from the authors of the Bible, then we are no longer studying the Bible, but somebody’s ideas imposed on the Bible

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

Ten Principles of Interpretation



5. The right interpretation is the author's **meaning and the purpose does not determine the meaning.**

Meaning is the answer to the question **what** did the author say.

Purpose is the answer to the question, **why** did he say it.

Purpose is not necessary to determine **meaning**.

Purpose cannot always be known.

Using **purpose** to determine **meaning** affects **application**.

**Since meaning can be known without purpose,
purpose does not determine meaning**

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

Ten Principles of Interpretation



6. Understanding must begin with what is **known** from the Scripture and proceed to what is **unknown** in the Scripture.



Upward sequence of
firm foundations



Upward sequence built
on faulty foundations

We move from what is biblically clear to the biblically obscure, and as we do, we take the clear along with us as a tool to understand the obscure

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

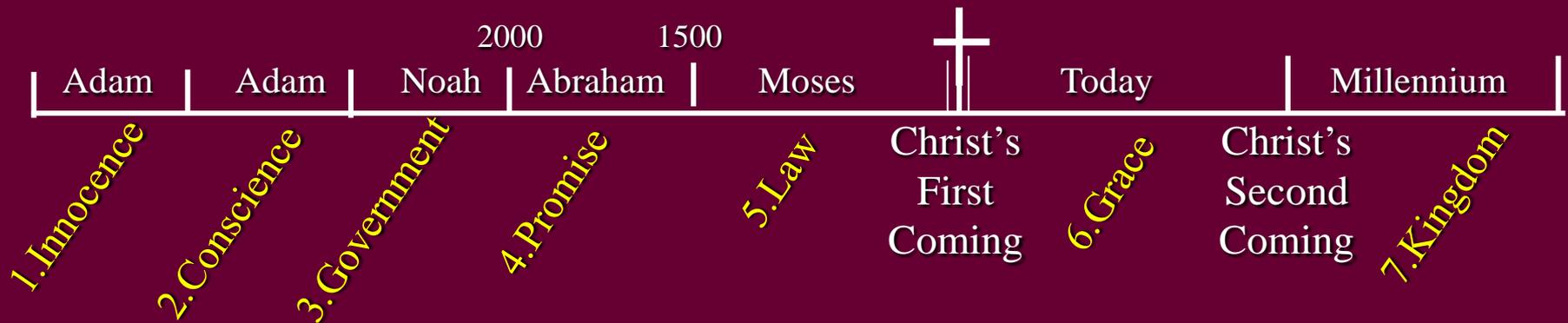
Ten Principles of Interpretation



7. The meaning must be determined by “**rightly dividing the Word of Truth**”
(2 Tim. 2:15 KJV)

God has revealed Himself and what He does through **progressive revelation** from about 1500BC to 100AD

He has also varied His code of laws and methods of dealing with mankind in time increment called “**AGES**”. (Salvation has always been by grace through faith.)



This is one of the contexts in which we must interpret Scripture 47

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

Ten Principles of Interpretation



8. The **historical culture provides a relevant context
if it is revealed by the author.**

- If cultural information is included in a context, it is probably there to aid in our interpretation of the passage.
- If it is not there, it is not needed to properly interpret the passage, because the Bible, in itself, is sufficient for what God wants us to understand.
- Biblical cultural information is valuable because:
(1) it is accurate, and (2) the Holy Spirit wants us to know it.
- Extra-biblical cultural information *may be helpful*, but not if it alters the meaning.
- Extra-biblical cultural information *is harmful* if it alters the meaning, because it is an outside questionable source imposing a different meaning.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View

Ten Principles of Interpretation

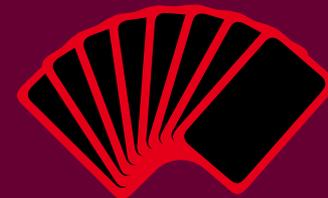


10. The more **immediate the context**, the more significant it is for understanding.

“...the immediate context is the final arbiter for all decisions regarding the meaning of a term or concept. There is no guarantee that Paul uses a term the same way in Philippians 1 as he does in Philippians 2. Language simply doesn't work that way, for every word has many meanings and a writer's use depends upon the present context rather than his use of it in previous contexts.” (Grant Osborne *The Hermeneutical Spiral* p. 21)

The final arbiter for all interpretation decisions is the IMMEDIATE CONTEXT.

It trumps everything else !



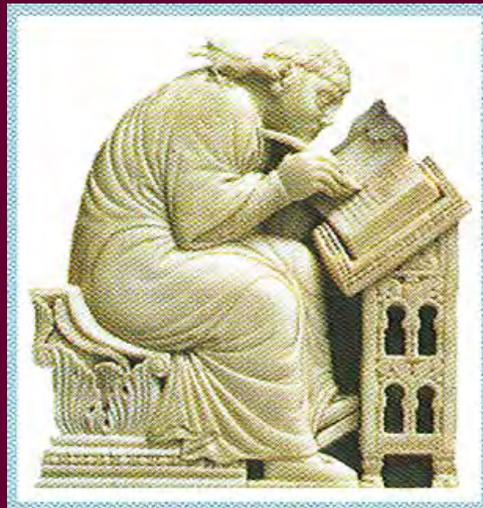
Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

ANALYSIS - The Microscopic View



In Summary ...

INTERPRETATION... is determining the author's intended meaning through the context.



Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



The Need to Observe, Interpret, and Apply

APPLICATION



We must be sure we know what an author meant (INTERPRETATION) before we apply (APPLICATION) his text

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



The Need to Observe, Interpret, and Apply



APPLICATION

Observation



What does it say?

Interpretation

What does it mean?



Interpretation is tied to history

Application



What does it mean to me?

Application is for today

APPLICATION is putting the author's intended meaning to use.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Ten Principles for Application

1. Application does not always perform what the author commanded, but it always puts into use what the author intended.

- To understand the authors intentions we must understand:

Meaning is the author's message to the specific audience of his day.

It is true for one time or one situation in biblical history.

Intention is the moral, theological, and philosophical aim of the author.

It is true for all times and in all situations.

Purpose is why the author wrote the text.

Purpose is not always found in the text, but intention is.

Application always applies the author's intention

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Ten Principles for Application

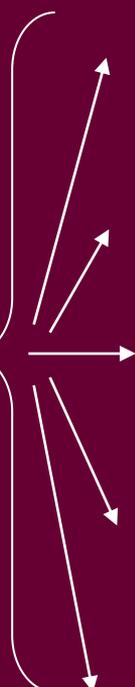


2. All applications must apply interpretations

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One correct interpretation

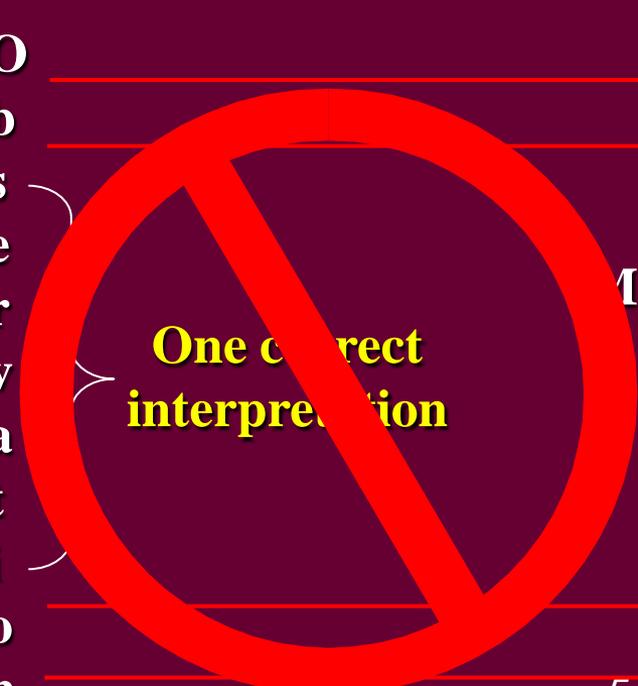


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One correct interpretation



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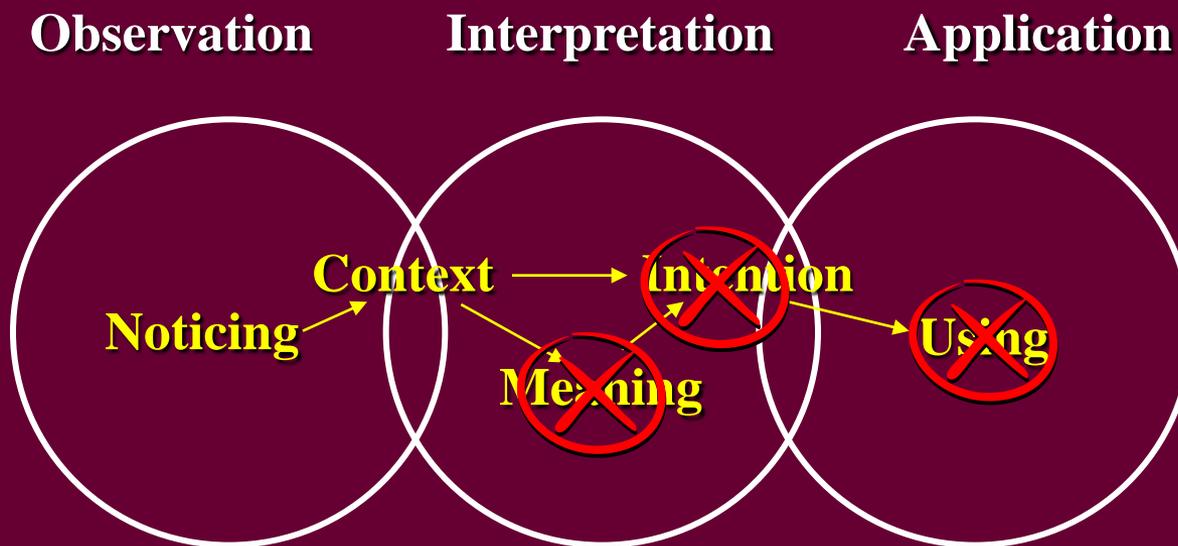
Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Ten Principles for Application



3. If it cannot be interpreted, then it cannot be applied.



Therefore, if the meaning and intention cannot be determined, no application can be made.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Ten Principles for Application



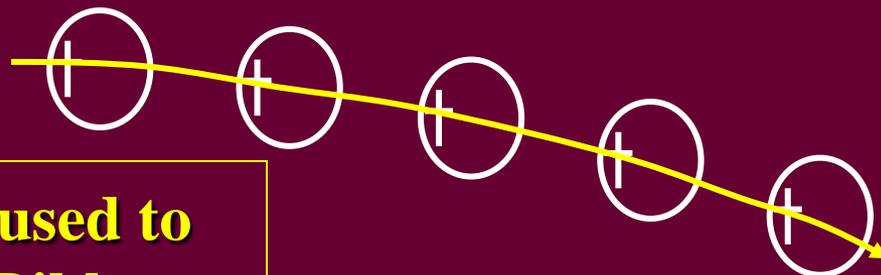
4. Never change the author's intent because of what is going on in our culture.

A. Societies tend to move downhill and more liberal until they self-destruct.



B. The religion of a society tends to move in the same direction and at the same speed, but on the conservative (trailing) edge of where the society is moving.

Cultural information outside the Bible should not be used to interpret the Bible.



Our culture should not be used to avoid applying the Bible.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Ten Principles for Application

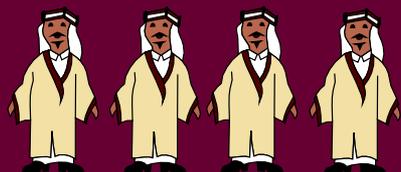


5. Claim promises, but not someone else's promises

Remember, when studying the Bible, we are reading someone else's mail....



Interpreting promises means using the context to determine:



Meaning

Specific people / place/ time.

Intent



Other people/ places/ times

All Scripture APPLIES to us...

“All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness...” (2 Timothy 3:16)

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

Ten Principles for Application

6. We should keep the commands given to all believers of this present age.



O.T.
Commands



“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery’; but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”

(Matthew 5:27-28)

“Reinforced”
O.T. Commands

Direct N.T.
Commands



Believers of this (church / grace) age

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

Ten Principles for Application

7. All examples must be applied, but never let an example negate a command.

An example is harder to apply than a command because some are meant to be followed and some are not...??

Interpreting examples means using the context to determine:

Meaning

Intent

Example 1: Abraham believed God
Genesis 12 / 22



We should believe God too
(Romans 4)

Example 2: Abraham lied
about Sarah
Genesis 12 / 20



We should not follow his
example by lying
(1 John 2:21)

A command must take precedent over an example because the interpretation of a command is more clear.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

Ten Principles for Application

8. There is only one correct interpretation, but there can be many correct applications.

Application is the process in which I put into my life the heart of God, as revealed through the words composed by the human authors of the Bible

Example:

“So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, ‘**Put away the foreign gods** which are among you, and purify yourselves, and change your garments.’”
(Genesis 35:2)

Many Applications:



India



Japan



Native America



Africa



Secular Western World

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

Ten Principles for Application

9. Application applies but does not necessarily perform personal commands.

How can we know how much of the humans author's text to literally apply? Does it include wearing sandals, wearing robes, and eating a diet like John the Baptists?

Again, interpreting means using the context to determine:

Meaning

Intent

What is the author's intent?

Does the author make a moral or theological case for it ?

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

Ten Principles for Application

9. Application applies but does not necessarily perform personal commands.



OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

“greet one another with a holy kiss”
(1 Cor. 16:20 etc.)

Believers in Corinth, Rome, and Thessalonica were to do this as an expression of their love for one another.

We should visibly express our love for one another in our greeting - hugs, handshakes, high-fives, etc.

“Remain on at Ephesus” (1 Tim. 1:3)

Timothy was to stay in Ephesus until his job of instructing and appointing elders was complete.

We should remain in whatever ministry we have until it's complete or we have completed it to the best of our ability.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Ten Principles for Application

9. Application applies but does not necessarily perform personal commands.

OBSERVATION

“greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus, and his sister.”
(Romans 16:15)

INTERPRETATION

The Romans were to deliver personal greetings to these people Paul knew.

APPLICATION

We should send our personal greetings to people so they know we are interested in them as individuals.

“Pray, lifting up holy hands”
(1 Timothy 2:8)

Timothy was to instruct the believing men in Ephesus, who prayed by raising their hands, to focus on holiness.

We should focus on holiness in whatever manner we pray, such as when lifting our hands

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



Ten Principles for Application

10. Application must be aware of what is going on in our lives

Application requires knowing the author's intended meaning and your own situation

...Pay close attention to yourself and your teaching. (1 Timothy 4:16)

Know your assets

Know your liabilities

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

SUMMARY of ANALYSIS



Independent



...but Linked

OBSERVATION:

What does it say?



INTERPRETATION:

What does it mean?



APPLICATION:

What does it mean to me?



Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

SUMMARY of OBSERVATION



1. Notice the kind of biblical literature (history, poetry, prophesy, etc.).
2. Identify the style of literature (prose, narrative, poetry, allegory, etc.).
3. Notice how it relates to the theme of the book.
4. Notice the immediate context, especially the paragraph.
5. Ask the basic who, what, where, when, why, how. (W₅H)
6. See if this is an: addition, development, cause, effect, pivot, contrast, etc.
7. Notice the significance of each word.
8. Identify any key word or words.
9. Relate each word to the one before and after it.
10. Notice the phrase each word is in.



Detective Work

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

SUMMARY of INTERPRETATION



INTERPRETATION



What God says

The Link Between

What we are to do

INTERPRETATION is understanding the author's intended meaning through the context.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods



SUMMARY of INTERPRETATION



- The Author:**
1. He expressed his meaning in words.
 2. What he meant is the only right meaning.
- His Intention:**
3. Understanding is in the mind of the author.
 4. He is to be understood in the plain, ordinary, normal way.
- His Meaning**
5. Purpose does not determine meaning
 6. Move from the known to the unknown
 7. Rightly dividing the Scripture
- His Context**
8. Only biblical culture determines the text's meaning.
 9. Scripture interprets Scripture.
 10. Application is to our own situation

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

SUMMARY of APPLICATION



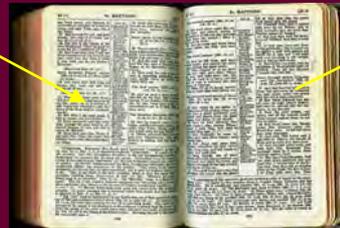
Observation



What does it say?

Interpretation

What does it mean?



Interpretation is tied to history

Application



What does it mean to me?

Application is for today

APPLICATION is putting the author's intended meaning to use.

Section 2 - Bible Study Methods

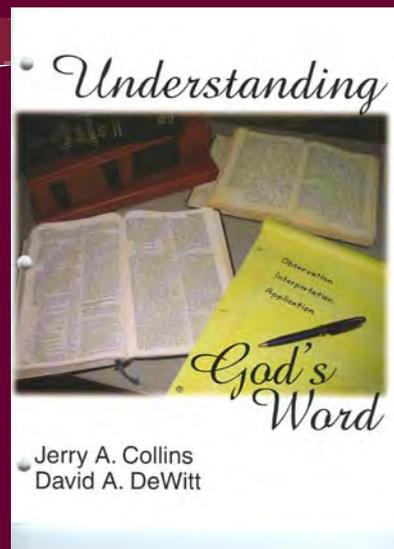


SUMMARY of APPLICATION



- 1. Bring the intention of the author “to the table” to address us today.**
- 2. Apply interpretations, not observations.**
- 3. If you cannot interpret it, you cannot apply it.**
- 4. Don’t ignore the author’s intent just because it offends our culture.**
- 5. Claim promises if, and only if, they are for all believers of our age.**
- 6. Keep commands if, and only if, they are for all believers of our age.**
- 7. Apply examples and commands, but don’t let examples negate commands.**
- 8. Remember - one interpretation, many applications.**
- 9. Apply, but don’t perform, personal commands.**
- 10. Application is to our own (personal) situation.**

That’s all folks



**This concludes “Understanding
God’s Word”**

