

Hermeneutics, Part 1

INSPIRATION & AUTHORITY



Where are we going?

Part 1 – Inspiration and Authority

Part 2 – Concepts and Definitions

Part 3 – Basic Bible Study Process

Part 4 – Types of Bible Study

Part 5 – Putting it all Together // Q&A

4 questions

1. What is inspiration?
2. To what does it extend?
3. Why do we need it? or Why is it important?
4. What do we gain/benefit from it?

Two key passages

*All Scripture is **God-breathed** and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16)*

*Prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God **as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.** (2 Peter 1:21)*

1. What is “inspiration”?



“[Inspiration] is God’s superintendence of the human authors so that, using their own individual personalities, they composed and recorded without error His revelation to man in the word of the original autographs.” – Charles C. Ryrie

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2. To what does inspiration extend?



“[Inspiration] is God’s superintendence of the human authors so that, using their own individual personalities, they composed and recorded without error His revelation to man **in the word of the original autographs.**”

– Charles C. Ryrie

3. Why do we need inspiration?



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4. What do we benefit from inspiration?



“[Inspiration] is God’s superintendence of the human authors so that, using their own individual personalities, they composed and recorded without error **His revelation to man** in the word of the original autographs.” – Charles C. Ryrie

*“I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us **not to go beyond what is written**, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another.”*

1 Corinthians 4:6

DON'T LET WHAT YOU SEE,
MAKE YOU FORGET WHAT
I SAID.

- GOD

Key concepts

- **Verbal** – inspiration extends to the very words, not just the concepts or ideas

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ:

Βίβλος γενέσεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ υἱοῦ Δαυὶδ υἱοῦ Ἀβραάμ.

Key concepts

- **Verbal** – inspiration extends to the very words, not just the concepts or ideas
- **Plenary** – inspiration extends to every part of the text, not just those matters of doctrine

Key concepts

- **Inerrant** – without error of any kind
- **Infallible** – unable to cause someone to fall
- **Perspicuous** – able to be read and understood without decoding or decryption

What is the Bible?

The Bible is God's authoritative self-revelation to humanity

- It is God's Word
- It carries God's authority
- It is true and it is truth

**This should lead us to a complete submission
to the authority of Scripture**

Challenge

If the Bible is not our final authority,
we have no business being pastors, ministers,
teachers, and leaders!



Hermeneutics, Part 2

CONCEPTS & DEFINITIONS

Where are we going?

Part 1 – Inspiration and Authority

Part 2 – Concepts and Definitions

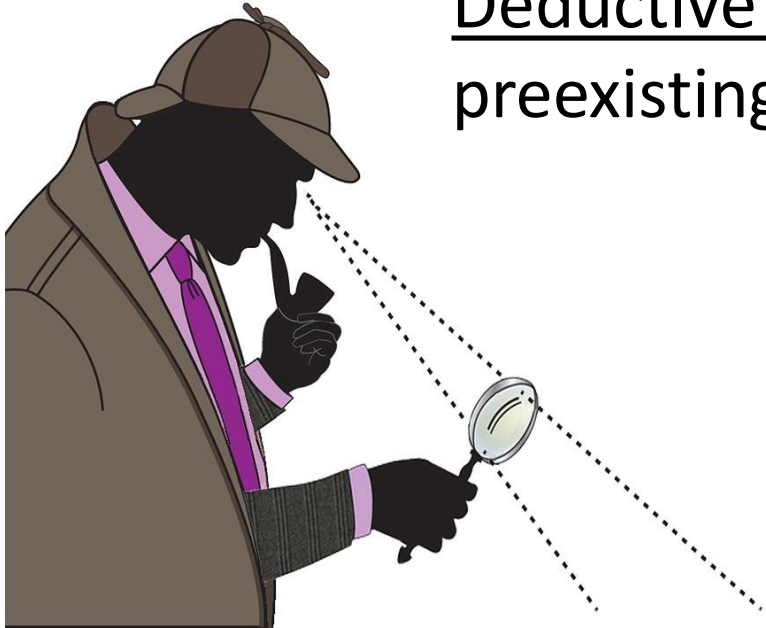
Part 3 – Basic Bible Study Process

Part 4 – Types of Bible Study

Part 5 – Putting it all Together // Q&A

Two ways to approach the text

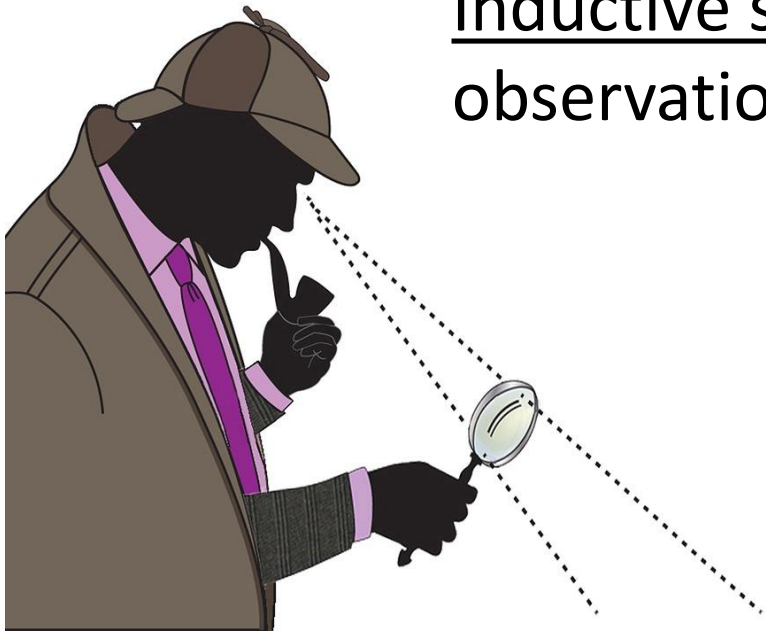
Deductive study - conclusions are tested against a preexisting theory or hypothesis



Presuppositions- something assumed to be true beforehand, taken for granted

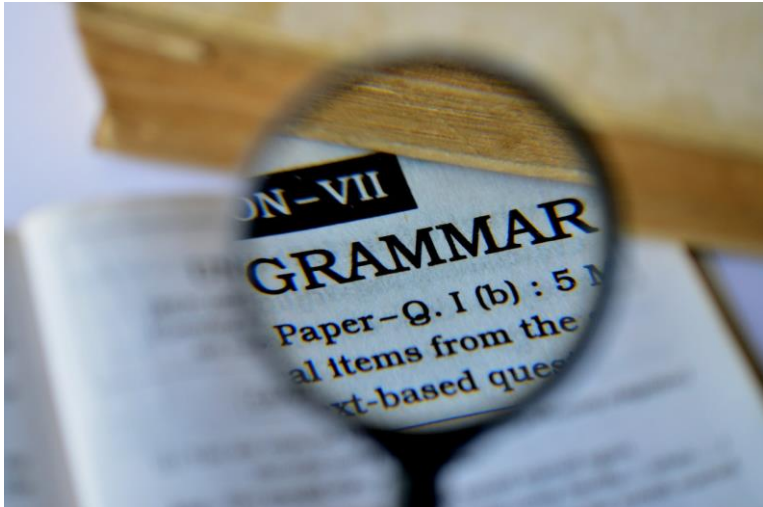
Two ways to approach the text

Inductive study - conclusions are drawn from the observations



Exegesis - “to draw out, explain”; the process of studying individual parts to explain the whole

Key concept



Hermeneutics – the science and art of interpretation

- It is a **science** because there are rules to follow and apply
- It is an **art** because it takes practice and skill to apply those rules well

Hermeneutic methods

Allegorize / Spiritualize

- There must be a hidden meaning that we have to uncover
 - This does not make sense so I have to fix it

A photograph of a snowy mountain range under a dark night sky with a vibrant green aurora borealis. The text is overlaid in the center in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

**I CAN DO
ALL THINGS
THROUGH A
VERSE
TAKEN OUT
OF
CONTEXT.**

Hermeneutic methods

Dogmatic

- This is what I've always been taught
- This is what our church believes

Hermeneutic methods

Personal / Theological

- This is what I think it means
- This is what it means to me
- This is what I want it to mean

Hermeneutic methods

Literal-Grammatical-Historical (LGH)

- Literal – this is the plain, normal meaning of the words
- Grammatical – these are the rules of the original languages
- Historical – this is how the original audience understood it in their time and culture

Natural conclusions of the LGH method

A recognition of cumulative revelation

A normative dispensational conclusion

A clear distinction between Israel and the Church

The awareness that God's glory is central to everything

A submission to the authority of Scripture

Natural conclusions of the LGH method

A recognition of cumulative revelation

- Revelation builds on itself; interpretation requires all the relevant data
- Newer revelation is based on older revelation
- Newer revelation never changes the truth or meaning of the older revelation

Natural conclusions of the LGH method

A normative dispensational conclusion

A clear distinction between Israel and the Church

Natural conclusions of the LGH method

The awareness that God's glory is central to everything

- God acts for his own name and his own sake (Isaiah 48:11)
- He expects us to do the same thing (1 Corinthians 10:31)
- Even salvation is about the glory of God (Ephesians 1:6, 12, 14)

*. . . **to the praise of his glorious grace**, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. (Ephesians 1:6)*

*. . . so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be **to the praise of his glory**. (Ephesians 1:12)*

*. . . who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, **to the praise of his glory**. (Ephesians 1:14)*

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Challenge

The LGH method is the only way to study and interpret the Bible so that it stands with God's authority and meaning.



Hermeneutics, Part 3

BASIC BIBLE STUDY PROCESS

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4-step process

- O** – Observation
- I** – Interpretation
- C** – Confirmation
- A** – Application

Observation

Key Question: What does the text **say**?



- Should be the longest and most difficult step in your Bible study
- Read multiple Bibles
- Take lots of notes – ask lots of questions
- Write down all your questions and answers to use later
- ***NO commentaries or other helps yet!***

Observation

Key Question: What does the text **say**?



In the beginning God created

(Genesis 1:1)

Observation

Key Question: What does the text **say**?



In the beginning God created
the heavens and the earth.
(Genesis 1:1)

Interpretation

Key Question: What does the text **mean**?



- Read all of your observations and notes to determine the plain, normal meaning of the passage
- Ask more questions
- ***NO commentaries or other helps yet!***

Interpretation

Key Question: What does the text **mean**?



In the beginning God created
the heavens and the earth.
(Genesis 1:1)

Confirmation

Key Question: What did I **miss**?



- Read commentaries, study notes; talk to other people
- Three results:
 1. Same conclusion, same path
 2. Same conclusion, different path
 3. Different conclusion

Application

Key Question: What should I **know or do**?



- Application for original audience
- Timeless truths or general principles
- Not every application is a “do”

“Every passage is equally inspired; every passage is not equally applicable.”

*“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, **that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.**”*

2 Timothy 3:16-17

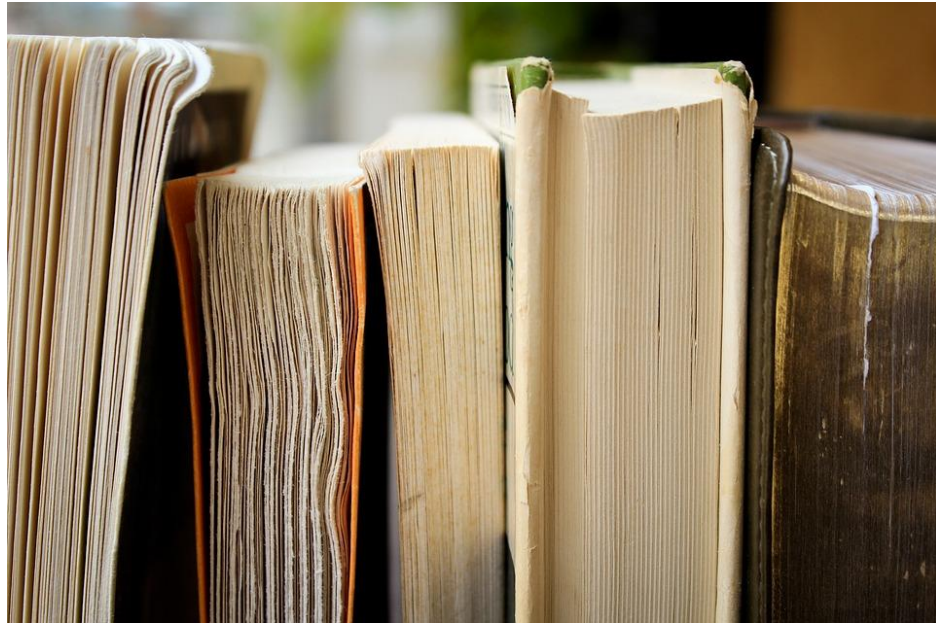
*“Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, **that we may present everyone mature in Christ.**”*

Colossians 1:28

*“The aim of our charge is **love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.**” **1 Timothy 1:5***

Application

Key Question: What should I **know or do**?



In the beginning God created
the heavens and the earth.
(Genesis 1:1)

Challenge

Good Bible study is hard work;
it requires effort and patience.

Do not cheat yourself
by using commentaries as a shortcut.



Hermeneutics, Part 4

TYPES OF BIBLE STUDY

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Hermeneutic methods

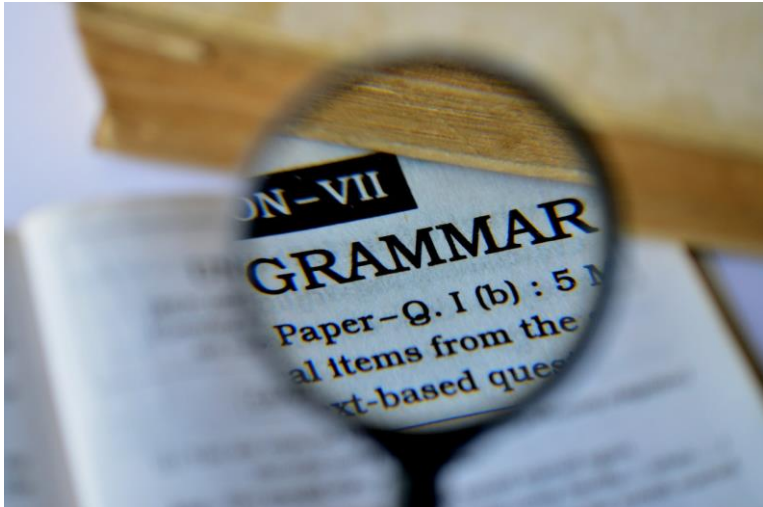
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4-step process

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- I** – Interpretation
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3 types of Bible study

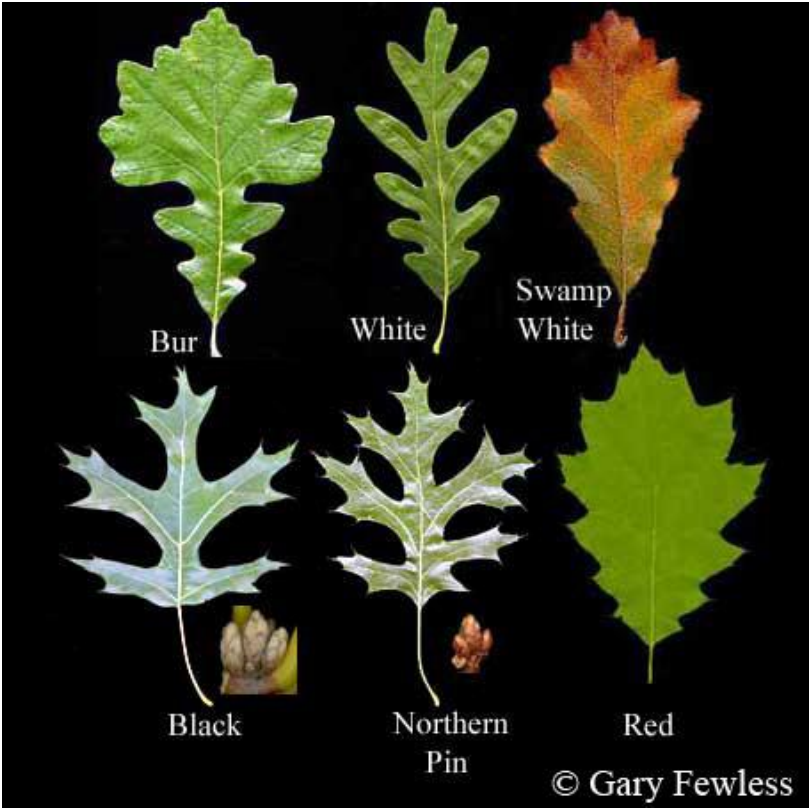


Exegetical – What does this verse or passage teach?

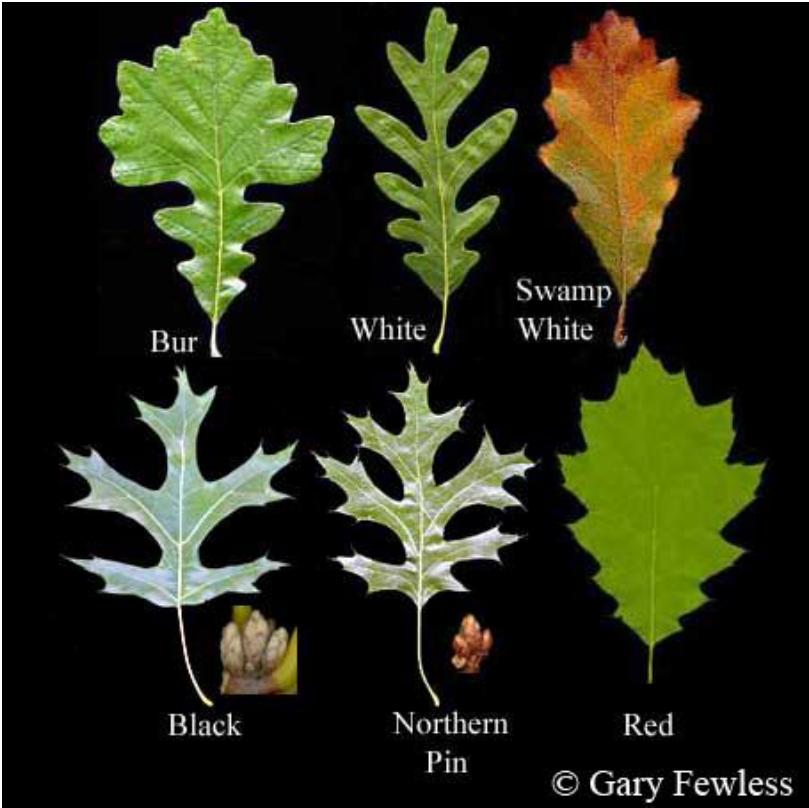
Survey – How does the whole Bible fit together?

Topical – What does the whole Bible say about this topic/category/doctrine?

Bible Survey



Bible Survey



Types of Bible surveys

Chronological

Covenants

Dispensations

Book surveys



Types of topical studies

Genealogies

Lives of people

Attributes of God

Prophecies

Doctrines





11 major Bible doctrines

1. The Bible

5. Angels

9. Israel

6. Humans

10. The Church

2. God

7. Sin

11. End Times

3. Jesus

8. Salvation

4. Holy Spirit

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8. Salvation



Challenge

Be sure to study the Bible in multiple ways.
Do not build doctrine from just one type of study.



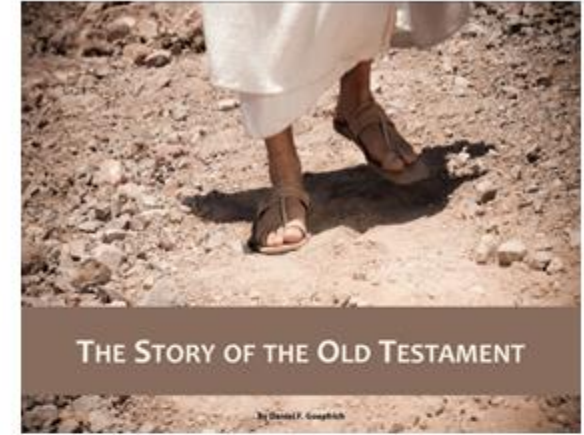
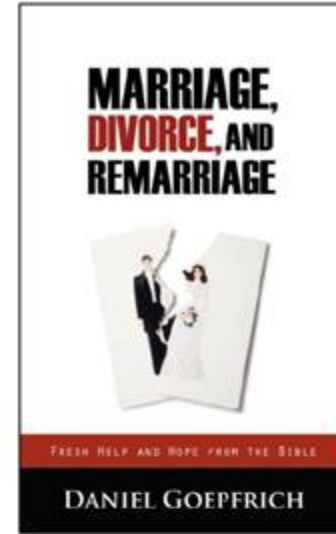
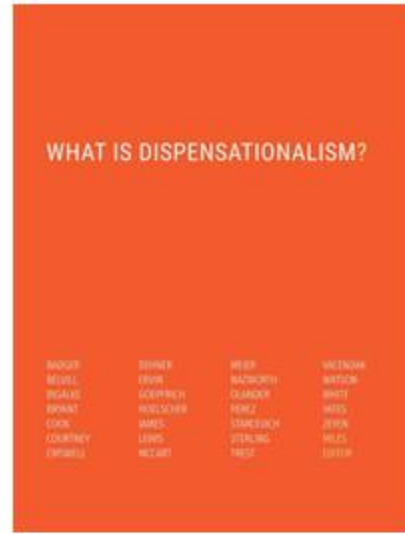
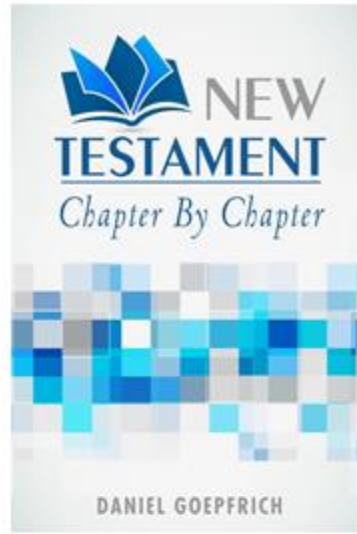
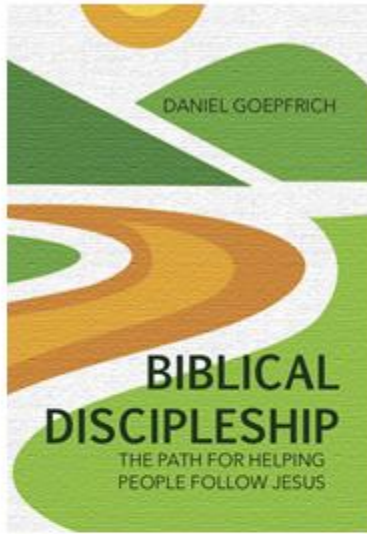
Hermeneutics, Part 5

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER



John 15:1-16

Questions?



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Hermeneutics

The Principles & Practices of Basic Bible Study



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