

Interpreting the Bible

ABCS OF BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION

- A: _____ & _____
 - Who wrote it?
 - Who was he writing to?

- B: _____ & _____
 - Why was he writing?
 - Historical Setting: Time and Circumstance of writing
 - Narrative Setting: Time and Circumstance of the narrative story
 - What is his main point/structure of the book?

- C: _____
 - What is the literary flow of the passage?
 - “Semantic Diagram”
 - What key words or phrases should we pay attention to? (repetition, uniqueness)
 - "Semantic Range”

INTERPRETIVE QUESTIONS

- Context of Biblical Narrative
 - Are there any connections to other parts of Scripture?
 - Not synthesis, but enhancement
 - OT backgrounds/quotes; similar phrases/words

- Spiritual Significance
 - What does this teach us about God/ourselves?
 - “Why *should* it matter to me?” not “What does it mean to me?”
 - How does this point us to the Gospel?
 - Christo-*telic* vs. Christo-centric

- Summarizing the Main Point
 - In 1-2 sentences, what is the main truth of this passage?