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GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION Part 2



I. EXAMINING TWO KEY PASSAGES ON BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION

II. EXAMINING <u>TEN</u> GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION.

A. WHAT Are They?

1. There are three basic steps to Bible study:

a. You must _____ the text. This answers the question… "What does this say?"

b. You must _____ the text. This answers the question… "What does this mean?"

c. You must _____ the text. This answers the question… "Where and how does this apply?"

2. The *goal* of biblical interpretation is to _____ the _____ of the text as it was _____ intended.

3. Interpret the Bible _____, taking words, phrases, and sentences in their usual, normal, natural, customary sense.

* For example: For example, Genesis____ is an ***explanation*** of what was stated in Genesis ____, how God ***created*** the male and female.

* What is the opposite of this?

- The opposite of the literal, or normal, interpretation is _____ interpretation, looking for secret or deeper meanings than the apparent or historical one.

* Does the Bible use figures of speech?

- Yes - Jesus, for example, used a lot of them
  - I am the _____ of _____
  - I am the _____
  - I am the _____ _____

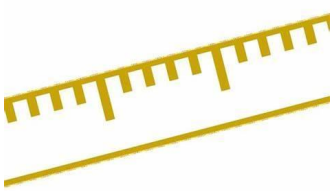
1 #2Timothy 2:15; #Psalm 119:26-27, 33-34 #John 3:1-7; #Genesis 2:7,15-17; 3:3:1-6; #Matthew 25:13; #Matthew 19:16-26; #Mark 10:17-27; #James 1:2-4; #Romans 15:4; #2 Timothy 3:16 #Context #Interpretation #Application #Born Again #Hard Passages

- I am the _____ _____

* What must you pay close attention to? _____

4. Interpret each verse or passage of Scripture in its _____, noting…

- _____ wrote it,
- To _____ was it written,
- _____ is it located in Scripture,
- _____ was it written,
- _____ precedes it,
- _____ follows it, …and…
- _____ it is related to other Scriptures.



David Cooper's Golden Rule of Interpretation: When the plain sense of Scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense. Therefore, take every word at its primary, ordinary, usual meaning, unless the facts of the immediate context, studied in light of related passages and axiomatic and fundamental truths, indicate clearly otherwise.

5. Interpret a verse by _____ it with other parts of Scripture to arrive at a correct biblical understanding.

***** The 4 C's of Bible interpretation**:**

6. Remember that the Bible *correctly understood* will never _____ itself.

* Example:

2 #2Timothy 2:15; #Psalm 119:26-27, 33-34 #John 3:1-7; #Genesis 2:7,15-17; 3:3:1-6; #Matthew 25:13; #Matthew 19:16-26; #Mark 10:17-27; #James 1:2-4; #Romans 15:4; #2 Timothy 3:16 #Context #Interpretation #Application #Born Again #Hard Passages

7. Interpret an unclear passage by examining it in view of a _____ passage.

* Example:

8. Each Scripture text or passage has only _____ meaning or interpretation but may have _____ applications.

* Example:

9. Recognize that while all Scripture is _____ us, not all Scripture is written directly _____ us as church-age believers.

* Example:

10. Realize that the ultimate purpose of interpreting Scripture is to cause you to personally _____ and _____ in _____ _____ to the glory of God.

* Luke 24:25-27, 44; John 17:3

*** How does all this apply to you?**

1. God wants to _____ you to become an accurate student and perhaps teacher of God's Word.
2. In order for you to _____ _____ the Word of Truth, you must remember to observe, interpret, and apply the text of Scripture correctly.
3. In order to accomplish all of this, you must _____ the Bible _____, rely on the Holy Spirit to _____ you personally, and apply the principles of interpretation carefully, to reach the right conclusion as to the true meaning of the passage.
4. By coming to right _____ as to the true _____ of Scripture, you will be able to see the _____ _____ that we will address in our future studies.