

“The Sufficiency of the Word” Part 2

Please Stand and Open Your Bibles to 2 Timothy 3:10-4:5

The Word of God is:

INSPIRED

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

The Word of God is:

INERRANT

The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. Psalm 19:7

The Word of God is:

INFALLIBLE

So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:11

For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one

jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. Matthew 5:18

The Word of God is:

SUFFICIENT

... as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue...

2 Peter 1:3

John 1:1, 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us

What we follow:

The Consistent use of a plain, normal, literal, grammatical-historical method of interpretation

2 Timothy 4:3-4

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

Biblical Hermeneutics:

is the study of the principles and methods used to interpret the Bible. It provides the framework for understanding what the original authors intended to communicate and how those ancient texts apply to modern life, helping readers avoid misinterpretation

Three Simple Rules of Biblical Hermeneutics

#1 - A Text Without a Context is a Pretext for a Proof Text.

All scripture has a context! If it doesn't sound right, it probably isn't. Check the greater context (The whole Book), The Lesser Context (The Chapter), The Surrounding Context (Five to ten verses before and after)

Two Examples:

Soul Sleep:

So man lies down and does not rise.

Till the heavens are no more,

They will not awake

Nor be roused from their sleep.

Job 14:12

Greater Context: Job is allowed by God to be tested by the Devil

Lesser Context: Job is interacting with his friends that are accusing Job of various sins.

Surrounding Context: Job is insinuating that he would be better off dead than suffering. A mistaken thought that he repents from at the end of the book.

After That is Soul Sleep a Correct Doctrine?

NO!

“We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.” 2 Corinthians 5:8

We Are Guaranteed Healing:

And by His stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 53:5

Greater Context: Isaiah is a prophet to Israel and Judah calling them to repent

Lesser Context: Chapters 1-39, judgements and history.

Chapters 40-66, prophecies of the future restoration of Israel.

Surrounding Context: The Suffering Servant dying for the sins of the nation.

Is this verse about physical healing?

NO.

...who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed. 1 Peter 2:24

I hope I didn't ruffle any feathers, but we must follow our rules or else we believe things that are not true. Can God heal? YES! Are we guaranteed it? NO. Do we pray in faith? YES! The purpose is for His glory.

#2 - If Literal Sense Makes Sense, Choose no Other Sense Lest You Come Up with Nonsense.

The Bible says what it means and means what it says. Always read it with a Literal, Grammatical, and Historical Context. This Includes Prophecy!

Is God a Chicken?

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!” Matthew 23:37

The Bibles uses:

Types and Shadows

Figures of Speech

Idioms

This can be hard in our western mindset. But the Bible was not written originally to an American audience. We must learn about these things and take them into consideration.

Literal or Figurative:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:1

Literal or Figurative:

Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.

Revelation 13:1

One thing to remember is that all figures of speech and typologies speak of a literal truth. We see this in a parable.

A story that speaks of a literal truth:

Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying:

“Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow”...And He said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? How then will you

understand all the parables? The sower sows the word.” Mark 4:3,13-14

See how easy it is to use our rules!!!

#3 - Compare Scripture with Scripture – The Bible is its Best Commentary.

Proper Bible study consists of what is known as “Scriptural Consistency”. What it means in one place it means everywhere. The Bible is 66 books, written by 40 different authors, over 1500 years but has a common theme. It all connects together. Some examples are Revelation to Daniel and Leviticus to Hebrews.

People get into a lot of trouble by not using this rule. It happens a lot in the prophecy world.

Mother Mary or an aligning of stars?

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.

Revelation 12:1-2

Genesis 37:9-10

Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, “Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me.”

So he told it to his father and his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, “What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?”

The Woman is Israel!

Young Earth or Old?

So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them... Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day. Genesis 1:27,31

Mark 10:5-6

And Jesus answered and said to them, “Because of the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept. But from the **beginning of the creation**, God ‘made them male and female.’”

If Evolution is True than Jesus is a Liar!

Can you see how important the Bible as a whole is. If we take or separate any of it, we will come up with unsound doctrine. But before I leave you today, we are going to put all three rules into action with something that is being pushed around and causing much confusion in Christianity today. Has the Church replaced Israel?

Galatians 6:15-16

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

Romans 9:6

For they are not all Israel who are of Israel

OK, let's use our rules to see if this is true.

First Galatians.

Greater Context: The Galatians had been deceived by Judaizers that they are not saved unless they become circumcised and follow the law of Moses.

Lesser Context: After Paul has shown that Gentiles are not under the Law he is making a closing thought.

Surrounding Context: If you read it correctly Paul is addressing both groups

Galatians 6:15-16

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them (The Gentile Christians), and upon the Israel of God. (The Jewish Christians)

Romans...

Greater Context: Paul is writing to the church in Rome that is composed of Jews and Gentiles the doctrine on Justification, Sanctification and Glorification and how we should live in these truths.

Lesser Context: Paul is dealing with the question that would be on their minds on Eternal Security and the consequences to Israel.

Surrounding Context: Israel's rejection of the Gospel – Not all Jews rejected it.

If they keep reading the lesser context will eventually tell us...

Romans 11:25-26

For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved

That leads us to our second rule and we have no reason whatsoever to make Israel mean the church.

Israel means Israel, period

Any other view is Nonsense!!!

And finally, by using our final rule there are plenty of passages that tell us that God has a future plan for Israel.

Isaiah 2:1-2

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

Now it shall come to pass in the latter days

That the mountain of the Lord's house

Shall be established on the top of the mountains,

And shall be exalted above the hills;

And all nations shall flow to it.

Jeremiah 3:17

At that time Jerusalem shall be called The Throne of the Lord, and all the nations shall be gathered to it, to the name of the Lord, to Jerusalem. No more shall they follow the dictates of their evil hearts.

Hosea 3:4-5

For the children of Israel shall abide many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, without ephod or teraphim. Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the Lord their God and David their king. They shall fear the Lord and His goodness in the latter days.

Jeremiah 31:35-36

Thus says the Lord, who gives the sun for a light by day, the ordinances of the moon and the stars for a light by night, who disturbs the sea, and its waves roar (The Lord of hosts is His name): “If those ordinances depart from before Me, says the Lord, then the seed of Israel shall also cease from being a nation before Me forever.”

And finally, Jesus said Himself...

Matthew 19:28

So Jesus said to them, “Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

So, you can use these rules for yourself and easily see through all the smoke of differences and have a solid foundation of belief. Keep the half sheet in your bible. (Challenge them to use them for the “Seed” argument in Galatians) Use those online helps and grow in the word of God!

John 5:24

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.”