

Understanding Your Bible

Four Principles of Interpretation

1. What did the text mean to the _____ audience?
2. What are the _____ between the original audience and us?
3. What are the theological _____ in this text?
4. How can we _____ the theological principles to our lives?
 - The principle should be _____ in the text.
 - The principle should be _____ and not tied to a specific situation.
 - The principle should not be _____ bound.
 - The principle should _____ to the teaching of the rest of the Scripture.
 - The principle should be able to be _____ to the original audience and the modern audience.

Major Genre Types in the Old Testament

1. _____

Key interpretive question: - "What is the _____ of the story?"

Levels of narrative interpretation

- 1st level – _____ history
- 2nd level – God redeeming a _____ for His name (Israel)
- 3rd level – _____ narratives

2. _____

The traditional interpretation of law passages - Is it _____, _____,
or _____ law?

Key interpretive question: We should assume that _____ of the OT laws are binding on us unless they are _____ in the new covenant.

3. _____

Key interpretive question: What is the _____ of poetry?

4. _____

Key interpretive question: When _____ or _____ the prophecy come to pass?

5. _____

Key interpretive question: What is the _____ being taught?

Major Genre Types in the New Testament

1. _____

Key interpretive question: _____ was the letter written?

Tips on how to read Revelation:

- With _____
- Work to understand the message to the _____ readers
- Not a strict _____ map of future events
- Not always _____
- Take note of _____

2. _____

Tips on reading the Gospels

- What does the small story tell us about _____?
- What is the Gospel writer telling us by putting the smaller stories _____?

3. _____

Key interpretive question: What can we learn from the _____ of the early church?

Discussion Questions

1. Using the four principles of interpretation, interpret [Deuteronomy 22:5](#).
2. Apply the four principles of interpretation to [Joshua 1:1-9](#).
3. What are examples of Old Testament laws that are renewed in the New Testament?
4. What are examples of Old Testament laws that are not renewed in the New Testament?
5. What are some challenges in interpreting prophecy, especially end times prophecies?
6. Why is it important to understand that proverbs aren't promises?
7. What are some things we can learn from the development of the early church?