



THEOLOGY ESSENTIALS

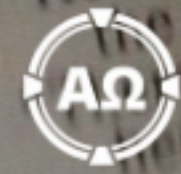
“Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers, but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.”

~ Psalm 1:1-3 ~



KNOWING

SCRIPTURE



THEOLOGY ESSENTIALS



Chapter 1 - Why Study the Bible?

**True happiness comes
from knowledge of God
in His Word.**



Chapter 2 - Personal Bible Study and Private Interpretation

**Private interpretation comes
with sober responsibility of
accurate interpretation.**



Chapter 2 - Personal Bible Study and Private Interpretation

- Objective: based on facts rather than feelings or opinions: not influenced by feelings
- Subjective: Based on feelings or opinions rather than facts
- Exegesis: objective analysis of Scripture (follow the text, respects grammar, context and author's intent; "What is there")
- Eisegesis: subjective reading (insert own ideas into the text, wrong emphasis of text text, "What I think might be there")



Chapter 3 - Hermeneutics (Part 1)

- Hermeneutics: the science of bible interpretation
- Greek god Hermes — convey understandable message → *hermeneutics*
- Purpose of Hermeneutics:
establish guidelines and rules for interpretation
- Who determines the rules ???



Chapter 3 - Hermeneutics (Part 1)

- The Word of God contains the proper hermeneutical approach

“All Scripture is breathed out by God...” 2 Tim 3:16

- Constitution
 - Conservative / Originalism
 - Liberal / Living Constitution



Chapter 3 - Hermeneutics (Part 1)

- Postmodern thought
- Claims there are no absolutes!
- Relativism
- “Make” the bible relevant...



Chapter 3 - Hermeneutics (Part 1)

- **Primary rule** — Analogy of Scripture

Use Scripture to interpret Scripture

- “Sola” versus “Solo” Scriptura
- Solo Scriptura: rejects the church, creeds, confessions, and tradition as having any authority while embracing private judgment above all else



Chapter 3 - Hermeneutics (Part 1)

- Sola Scriptura: sufficiency of Scripture as our supreme authority in all spiritual matters.
- “If upon reading a particular passage you have come up with an interpretation that has escaped the notice of every other Christian for two thousand years, or has been championed by universally recognized heretics, chances are pretty good that you had better abandon your interpretation.”

(R.C. Sproul, *The Agony of Deceit*, 34–35)



Chapter 3 - Hermeneutics (Part 1)

- Issue of contradictions
- Philosophy of second glance
perspective and context are key!!
- Our view of the Bible dictates how we will interpret the Bible, same goes for critics



Chapter 3 - Hermeneutics (Part 1)

- **Second rule** — Interpret the Bible literally
- Take the bible literally, according to the genre
- Literal versus literalistic
 - grammatical idea versus word-for word
 - Jesus says, “I am the door” in John 10:9
- Literal interpretation means to treat Bible as literature



Chapter 3 - Hermeneutics (Part 1)

- Literal interpretation and genre analysis
- literary forms, figures of speech, style — same as other literature
- Jonah — historical or poetic?
- Hyperbole
- Personification



Chapter 3 - Hermeneutics (Part 1)

1689

Of the Holy Scriptures
Chapter 1



Chapter 3 - Hermeneutics (Part 1)

Questions ???