





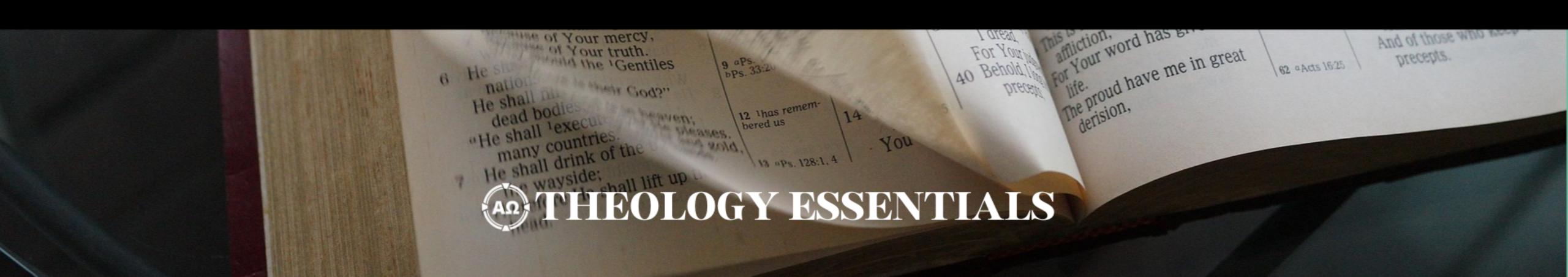
"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers, but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is a like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season,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

~ Psalm 1:1-3 ~





SCRIPTURE





5 (of 11) Practical Rules for Interpretation



- Basic and necessary rules:
- Read the Bible like any other book
 Apply sensus literalis → Still pray and seek
 illumination
- 2. Read the Bible "existentially"Get personally involved*** Luther's quote, p. 75



- 3. Interpret Historic Narratives By the Didactic Epistles (didactic) interpret the Gospels Recognizes the role of the Apostles
- 4. Interpret the Implicit by the Explicit
 *When implicit contradicts explicit, reject implicit
 *Too much can be read into the text (implications)
 Calvinist versus Armenian debate example



5. Determine Carefully the Meaning of Words

Words mean things

Etymology: meaning changes throughout history

Some words have multiple meanings

Be careful to not read entire doctrines into a word





6 (of 11) Practical Rules for Interpretation



6. Note the presence of Parallelisms Characteristic of Hebrew literature Common in Ancient Near Eastern languages Usage of Meter Synonymous Parallelism Antithetic Parallelism Synthetic Parallelism *Brings clarity, depth of insight



7. Note the Difference Between Proverb and Law Proverbs — express practical truism, reflect principles of wisdom for godly living, do not reflect moral law in every life situation

Different forms of law

Apodeictic — express absolutes

Caustic — "if... then..."



8. Observe the Difference Between the Spirit and the Letter of the Law

Law has wider application than its letter Murder — violate letter, Hate — violate spirit

Sin is sin, yet some sins are worse than others and have difference consequences



9. Be Careful with Parables Were parables meant to enlighten or obscure?

Remember that parables were given before the cross and without the NT — helps aid in interrupting parables

*Most will have one central point



10. Be Careful with Predictive Prophesy

2 Extremes:

Higher Critical Method — human author & reason Bald Literalism (plain without any figuratives)

Pay attention to how NT handles OT prophecy



11.Interpret the Bible with a Spirit a Humility
At some points we could be mistaken
Be teachable

Luther: "The Holy Scriptures require a humble reader who shows reverence and fear toward the Word of God and constantly says, 'Teach me, teach me!"



Chapter 4 - Practical Rules for Bible Interpretation (Part 2)



Of the Holy Scriptures
Chapter 1



Chapter 4 - Practical Rules for Bible Interpretation (Part 2)

Questions ???