



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



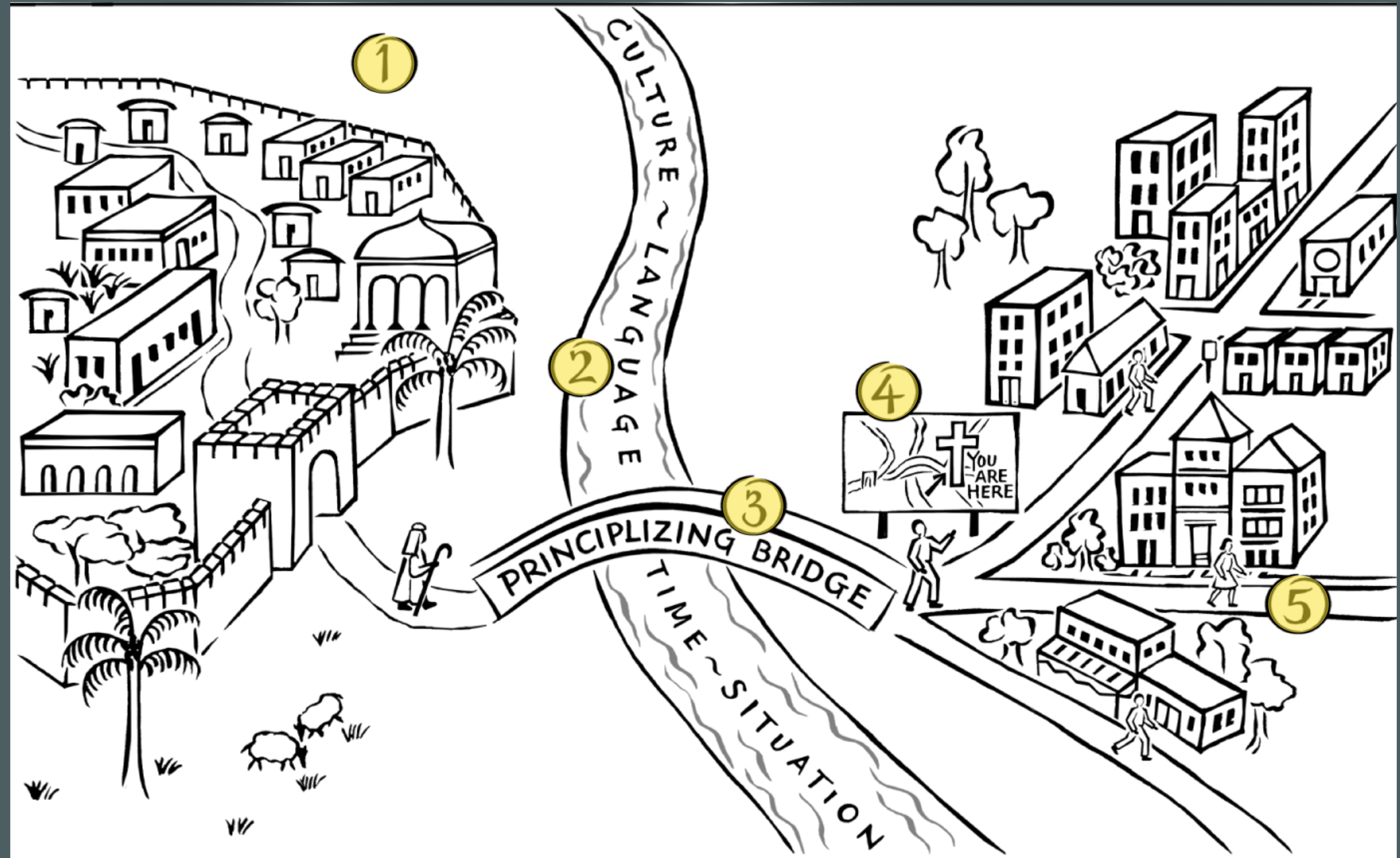
Culture and the Bible

- Is Scripture hampered by ancient culture and practices?
- Is Scripture capable of guiding us **today**?
- If so, **how**?



The Interpretive Journey

1. Carefully read to determine the meaning for the biblical audience
2. ID the river of barriers between us and them
3. ID theological principle
4. How does the theological principle fit with the rest of the Bible?
5. Apply principles





Cultural Conditioning and the Bible

- “The ultimate issue here is this: To what extent is the Bible’s relevance and authority limited by **changing** human structures and perspectives in the bible text?” (116)
- **Value** of understanding biblical culture questions of language, style, genre, author, syntax and propositions, **AND** context

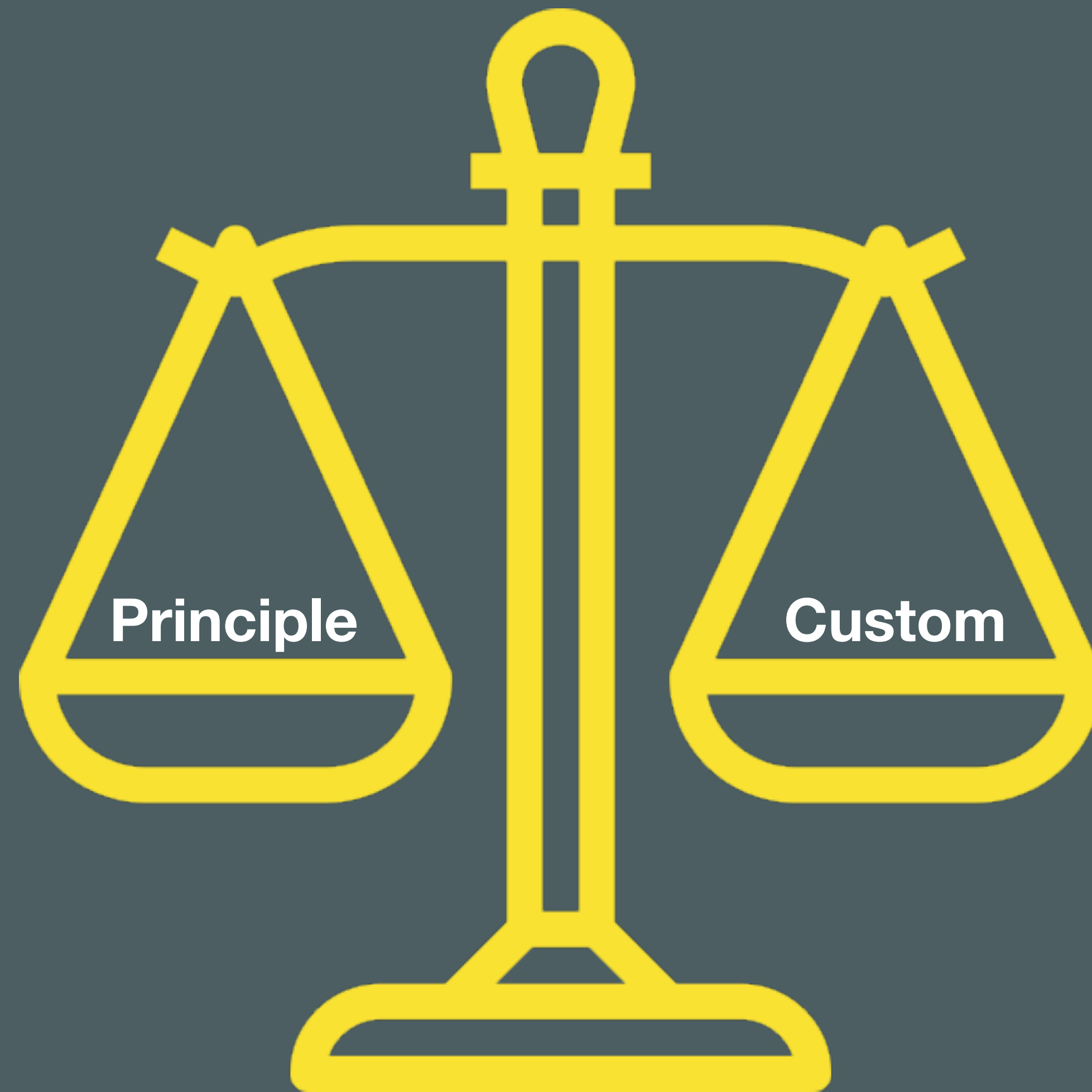


Cultural Conditioning and the Reader

- Be aware of our own culture and presuppositions
- Acknowledge **your own biases**
- Instead of criticizing Scripture, **Scripture should criticize you**
- Read **both** historical and modern helpful sources
- **Avoid** the existential method and over contextualization
- **Reject esoteric “illumination” like the plague!!!**



Principle and Custom





Principle and Custom

- Allow for Christian distinctive in the 1st century
- Watchful for appeals from Creation
- Use principle of humility



Chapter 5 - Culture and the Bible

1689

Of the Holy Scriptures
Chapter 1



Chapter 5 - Culture and the Bible

Questions ???