

Bibliology

Building Conviction and Confidence in the Bible

Lesson # 6 – November 16, 2025



Text: Proverbs 1:6; Ezra 7:10

Introduction: This week's lesson deals with the "Interpretation of the Word of God". The Lord expects His children to interpret the Bible carefully so that they might learn His truth in His Word. John 17:17

Remember the Holy Spirit helps us understand the Bible as we study it. But it is important to study it in the context as this keeps us from misunderstanding and misapplying various passages of scriptures. II Timothy 2:15 – notice it says, "...a workman that needed not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." That word ashamed means, "to be confused or disgraced, and / or through the exposure of guilt, sin or hypocrisy". How?

- Shamed because of the guilt of sin – You and I must understand that sin will keep us out of the Bible, but the Bible will keep us from sin and the guilt of it – Psalms 119:11
 - When we are in sin and that over-whelming power of guilt takes over – it is hard to properly understand or interpret God's Word to help us. So what can we do? Psalms 51
 - Confess and ask for forgiveness – vrs. 1-7
 - Create a clean or renewed heart with joy – vrs. 8-12 – then once you do that, then,
 - Certify to teach others (rightly dividing) the truth - vrs. 11-19
- Shamed because of exposure of falsehood – How can you and I, not fall into the exposure of falsehood? – Romans 2:20-24...."notice verse 24 – "For the name of God is blasphemed among the gentiles **through you**... By being hypocritical in your faith, you cannot rightly divide the Word of God. Because it creates a damaging credibility and harming to the people you are trying tell the Gospel. You need to live what you preach and teach with a humble heart – 119:10
- But rather be approved (genuine and acceptable) to God – How?
 - Rightly dividing the word of truth – to accurately interpret and apply the scriptures without distortion (which is the twisting of something out of its normal shape or condition). Can we do that with the Word of God?

Let's look at two things in our lesson regarding Bible Interpretation.

Lesson:

1. **Preconceptions to Bible Interpretation** – these are implicated assumptions we make before embarking on a study or investigation of something. Before we embark on Bible interpretation, it is good to understand the preconceptions that should guide our process.
 - a. We need to recognize that God has provided objective truth for us in His Word – Psalms 19:7-11

- i. We should find truth – Jesus spoke of this - John 17:17 – The Word of God is not for us to twist, bend or shape in order to create our truth or beliefs. But rather the Bible changes us and develops maturity in us. I Corinthians 14:20; Hebrews 6:1; Colossians 1:28; Ephesians 4:13 (why?) – 14,15.
- ii. We should find understanding – We need this understanding that God’s Word does not change or contradicts itself. Isaiah 28:10, Hebrews 13:8
 - 1. Bible example – King Josiah - II 22:8-20 – he had a correct preconception about the Word of God and he responded to it correctly.
 - a. He preconceived that the Book of the Law was God’s Word – vrs. 8-13
 - b. He could easily ignored or discredited it because of the state the nation of Judah was in, but he did not – vrs. 14-17
 - c. He became humbly to the Word of God with a tender heart – vrs. 18-20

Note – Our preconceptions of the Word of God should be that it is true, unchangeable and is the final authority in my life!!!

2. Principles to Bible Interpretation

- a. You should interpret it in context – Why is this important? Remember that any text of the scriptures must be understood based on how it is used in its context, context includes the immediate verse, the chapters, the book and even the entire Bible.
 - i. Biblical example # 1 – Exodus 20:13 – Thy shalt not kill...which in context with the Ten Commandments is an act that is prohibited.

It also means a straightforward, normal reading of the scriptures. It includes the realization that normal language employs the use of figures of speech. So literal interpretation recognizes the need to interpret the figurative language in a figurative sense.

 - ii. Biblical example # 1 – Psalms 23 – The Lord is my Shepherd.
 - iii. Bible example # 2 – John 6:35 – Jesus said, “I am the Bread of Life”.
- b. You should intent to discover it authority – In a world that id driven by political correctness, people are hesitant to tell others when their opinion is wrong. But when it comes to the Word of God, no one is entitled to their own opinions, theories and regarding the authority of the Word of God!!! Psalms 119:89
 - i. Bible study is about discovering the Author’s (God’s) intent to mankind.

Note – Think about this – **How would your view of the Word of God change if it was a document that is subject to change with times, cultures and diversities?**

Conclusion: What are some ways to ensure that we do not misinterpret the Bible during our Bible Study?

- Pray and ask the Lord to give you wisdom and guidance – James 1:5; John 14:26
- Find a Bible believing church with a pastor that preaches and teaches from the Word of God (KJV) and sit under their ministry and learn the Word. Hebrews 10:25, 13:17; Jeremiah 3:15