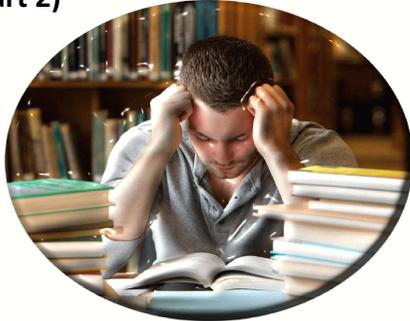


The Making of Disciples

Lesson 10/2

Rules for Interpretation (Part 2)



Textbooks:

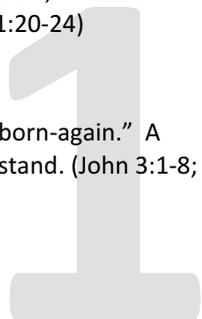
- 1 The Word of God - the Bible
- 2 *The Doctrine of Interpretation* by Arthur W. Pink.

Tools:

- Bible Software such as, E-Sword, Biblehub, etc.
- Notebook and something to write with.
- ★ (Luke 12:48) Since God expects ***much more*** of our generation than those who have gone before us we are under obligation to use the gifts that God has provided for us. We are now stewards of God's Word and the tools His has provided for us to use for His glory. Not to use all that God has given constitute a great sin against God. We will never hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant; . . . Enter into the joy of your Lord." (Matthew 25:21, 23; 11:20-24)

What Is Needed

- 1 To understand the Word of God one must first be "born-again." A person with the Holy Spirit in them **cannot** understand. (John 3:1-8; James 1:18; 2 Corinthians 2:14)

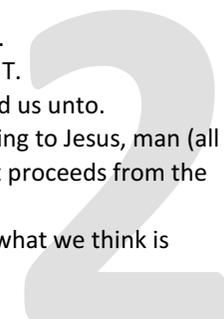


- 2 Led by, taught by, guided by the Holy Spirit. Read carefully Psalm 119:18, 33, 34.
 - The Psalmist did not complain that God's word was confusing or difficult to understand.
 - The Psalmist saw himself as the problem!
 - The Psalmist did not ask for new revelations, dreams or visions. He wanted a clearer understanding of what was already revealed.
 - The Psalmist understand that in order to the "wondrous things in the Law" he need divine help.
 - ▶ God is our TEACHER: Isaiah 48:17-18;
 - ★ The Spirit is always in total agreement with *His* Word.
- 3 Impartial spirit - an honest heart (Luke 8:15) One must measure our understand to the standard of God's Word. (Isaiah 8:20)
- 4 Humble mind - Matthew 11:25; James 4:6
- 5 Prayer - Prayer - Prayer - Psalm 119:36, 73, 133.
- 6 A holy goal. Studying the Word of God must lead to more than just have knowledge of it. The Word of God is the Will of God for His people. Study must lead to holy living - doing the will of God. (Matthew 7:21; 12:50; James 1:22; 1 John 2:17; Luke 6:46)
- 7 DILIGENT WORK - 2 Timothy 2:15

Principles to Interpreting God's Word

1. Inter-relation and Mutual Dependence of the Old and New

- (2 Timothy 3:16-17) **ALL** Scripture is God breathed (the very words of God) are profitable to us for:
 - ★ All Scripture is GIVEN - it is a gift. Therefore, we are to be FAITHFUL STEWARDS of this gift.
 - 1 DOCTRINE - teaching us what is RIGHT.
 - 2 REPROOF - teaching us what is NOT RIGHT.
 - 3 CORRECTION - teaching us how to GET RIGHT.
 - 4 INSTRUCTION - teaching us how to STAY RIGHT.
 - 5 EQUIPPING - for the **works** that God has saved us unto.
- (Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4; Luke 4:4) According to Jesus, man (all men) are to live their lives on EVERY **WORD** that proceeds from the mouth of God.
 - ✗ We are not to live our lives on our opinions - what we think is right - but what God says is right.



- ✘ We are not to live our lives on what men teach, but what God teaches in His written Word.
- ✓ In order to live by every word of God we must know His Word.
- ✓ In order to know His Word we must be students of His Word.
- (James 1:22; Matthew 7:21; 12:50; 1 John 2:17) If we ignore God's Word and not DO it we are deceiving ourselves, we are not going to heaven, and we will not abide forever in the presence of God.
- The OLD and NEW Testaments are ONE COVENANT that God has given us.
- To understand the NEW TESTAMENT you must be a student of the OLD Testament.
- Christ did not come to put away the OLD Testament:
 - Read Matthew 5:17; 7:12; 22:36-40
 - (1 John 2:3-5) We know that we are one of His elect because we DO His commandments.
- Paul, as did the other writers of the New Testament, relied on the Old Testament to give us the New Testament.
 - ★ The GOSPEL has its foundation on the Old Testament. (Romans 1-11)
- One must have an understanding of the *types* in the Old Testament to understand the New Testament. For example:
 - (1 Corinthians 5:7) "Christ our passover is sacrificed for us" means very little to one who does not understand the feast of Passover.
 - The entire book of Hebrews cannot be understood without an understanding of the Old Testament priesthood, the person Melchizedek and his priesthood, the seed of Abraham as opposed to the seed of Adam, Sarah and Hagar, the event in Numbers 13-14, the Tabernacle, sin and trespass offerings, the Day of Atonement, the ***everlasting covenant***, and all those mentioned in Hebrews 11 - Abel, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Joseph, Moses, Rahab, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, and Samuel.
- ★ Ask Paul, John, or Peter what they think about the New Testament and they will not know what you are talking about. Old and New Testament references are man made. ALL Scripture is given by the inspiration of God.

2. Scriptural Quotation

- The passages that the Holy Spirit moved the writers of the New Testament are to be studied carefully.
 - (Matthew 8:16-17) The Holy Spirit moved Matthew to quote Isaiah 53:4 where Isaiah (and Peter in 1 Peter 2:24) was speaking of the Messiah taking upon Himself our sins (our real infirmities and sickness) but here, in Matthew, we are taught that when our Messiah came He came to do more than to take away our sins. While He walked on earth He took upon Himself the sicknesses - the fruit of sin - as a foreshadowing of His greater work that He would do on the Cross.
 - See Matthew 9:2-6
 - Read Hebrews 2:17; 4:15.
 - (Matthew 22:32 with Acts 23:8) To refute any idea that when the body dies the soul dies Christ quoted Exodus 3:6. God IS, today, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob!
 - (Galatians 4:21-31) The Holy Spirit moved Paul to quote the events around Sarah and Hagar - without Paul's interpretation of those events they would have remained only events in history. But we see that God was working in these events to make His teachings more clear in the New Testament.
 - (Romans 9:9-13; Genesis 25:21-23) Genesis 25:21-23 happened for a more deeper reason than what we learn just for that passage, but with Paul's inspired interpretation we learn that God would use it to teach us about the grand doctrine of election.
 - (Romans 4-5) These chapters would be meaningless without an understanding of the Old Testament passages quoted.
- ★ The New Testament writers quoted the Old Testament almost 700 times. There are over 4,000 indirect references to the Old in the New.
- ★ Consider Christ's teachings about the Old Testament:
 - John 5:39, 46
 - Luke 16:29-31; 24:25-27, 44-45.
 - Matthew 15:1-4

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