



## GRACE LEADERSHIP TRAINING

### Class 4 Hermeneutics

#### INTRODUCTION

#### DEFINITION AND SCOPE

What is Hermeneutics?

Definition:

Its Foundation:

Its Goal:

The Bible: What is it?

Does it really matter?

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ of Hermeneutics
- B. Its essential value and \_\_\_\_\_
- C. A Life-Changing / Fortifying \_\_\_\_\_

Presuppositions

#### THE INTERPRETIVE JOURNEY (30,000 ft.)

Step 1 - Grasping the Text in Their Town

Step 2 - Measuring the Width of the River to Cross

Step 3 - Crossing the Principizing Bridge

Step 4 - Grasping the Text in our Town

*Grasping God's Word*, J. Scott Duvall and J. Daniel Hays

#### THE NEED FOR HERMENEUTICS

##### Primary Need

"Upon the correct interpretation of the Bible, rests our doctrine of salvation, of sanctification, of eschatology, and of Christian living. It is our solemn responsibility to know what God has said with reference to each of these. This can be done only if we have carefully, thoroughly, and systematically formulated that system of biblical interpretation which will yield most readily the native meaning of the Bible" (Ramm, 2).

## **Secondary Needs**

### **1. Gaps / Differences**

1. Language
2. Culture
3. Time
4. Geography
5. Literary

### **2. Scripture and Its Form**

### **3. Individual Study and Personal Growth**

## **The Big Picture Process**

- D. Traditional: Observation, Interpretation, Application/Implementation
- E. Analysis, Synthesis ...
- F. Dr. Goepfrich: ACTS
  1. Ask Questions - What does it \_\_\_\_\_?
  2. Compose your thoughts - What does it \_\_\_\_\_?
  3. Test your conclusions - what have I \_\_\_\_\_?
  4. Submit to God's Word - respond.

## **MEANING**

**Definition:** That which the author wished to convey to the original audience by using appropriate signs.

### **Where is meaning found? Who controls it?**

"A valid interpretation must be consistent with the historical-cultural context" (Duvall and Hays 99).

A text cannot mean what it could not have meant to its original audience in their original historical and cultural setting.

### **Three Key rules of Interpretation**

1. The text means what the author \_\_\_\_\_ it to mean (authorial intent)
2. The text means what it \_\_\_\_\_ (read it normally)
3. The text \_\_\_\_\_ mean what it could not have \_\_\_\_\_ meant (contexts)

### **At Issue: Communication**

Single Meaning or multiple meaning?

Option 1: meaning is controlled by the author (authorial intent). There is one meaning.

Option 2: Meaning is controlled by the reader (reader response). There are many meanings.

**Examples**

Genesis 1:27-30

Genesis 2:16-17

2 Chron. 7:14

The Central Issue: Authority

CONTEMPORARY HERMENEUTICAL APPROACHES

Postmodern Hermeneutic

Trajectory / Redemptive Hermeneutic

Allegorical Hermeneutic

Spiritualization / Mystic Hermeneutic

Tradition / Historical / Canonical Hermeneutic

Genre / Literary Form Hermeneutic

Complementary Hermeneutic

Personal Hermeneutic

Theological Hermeneutic

Literal / Normal Hermeneutic

## LITERAL/NORMAL HERMENEUTICS

### Originalism

We seek to interpret Scripture according to the \_\_\_\_\_ that correspond to the way we \_\_\_\_\_ any written document.

The literal interpretation of a text is the \_\_\_\_\_ that is derived from the author's \_\_\_\_\_ determined within the original \_\_\_\_\_.

Inventions or Descriptions?

## HERMENEUTICAL PILLARS

1. Grammatical

2. Historical

3. Cultural

4. Contextual

5. Canonical

**Home Work:** Find 30 observations in Acts 1:8.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books are listed in order of priority and recommendation.

Daniel Goepfrich. *Hermeneutics for Everyone: A Practical Guide for Reading and Studying Your Bible.*

Roy B. Zuck. *Basic Bible Interpretation: A Practice Guide to Discovering Biblical Truth.*

J. Scott Duvall and J. Daniel Hays. *Grasping God's Word: A Hands-On Approach to Reading, Interpreting, and Applying the Bible.*

Robert L. Thomas. *Evangelical Hermeneutics: The New Versus the Old*

Christopher Cone. *Prolegomena on Biblical Hermeneutics and Methods.*

Christopher Cone. *Priority in Biblical Hermeneutics and Theological Method.*

Howard and William Hendricks. *Living By the Book.*

Mark. M. Yarbrough. *How to Read the Bible Like a Seminary Professor.*

Bernard Ramm. *Protestant Biblical Interpretation.*

Gordon Fee and Douglas Stewart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth.*

Gordan Fee. *New Testament Exegesis.*

Peter Cotterell and Max Turner. *Linguistics and Biblical Interpretation.*

Thomas Schreiner. *Interpreting the Pauline Epistles.*

Grant Osborne. *The Hermeneutical Spiral.*

Klein, Blomberg, Hubbard Jr. *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation.*

Darrell Bock and Buist Fanning. *Interpreting the New Testament Text.*

W. Randolph Tate. *Interpreting the Bible: A Handbook of Terms and Methods.*