



GOSPEL OF **GOD**
MINISTRIES

KNOW YOUR BIBLE

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**PROCLAIM to
TRANSFORM**

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Hermeneutics

Let's talk about it.

How would some define hermeneutics? Try to make it easy for people to understand.

What is a hermeneutic?

Definition: Hermeneutics is the rules of interpretative system. In our case biblical interpretation. It the foundational rules that the system of Exegesis, Exposition, and Homiletics work from. Here are some examples of the human body you can use:

Hermeneutics: Bones.

Exegesis: ligaments connecting the joints and the muscle tissue.

Exposition: is the brain that communicates to the bones and the ligaments that allows everything to work together.

Homiletics: How the entire body present itself to the watching, waiting, and listening world.

Let's define the other three terms we will be working with in our other lessons.

The Main Thesis

It is important to understand hermeneutics so we can interpret the Bible well.

Defining Terms

Exegesis is discipline and work of studying the text of scripture itself. This is where historical context, use of words, genres, and understanding the original language help the interpreter.

Exposition this where the interpreter has put in the leg work to rightly understand the one attended meaning of the text and know they are presenting (exposing) what they have found to the audience or person they are speaking to.

Homiletics is how they are going to deliver the content of what they have found in the text of scripture.

NOTES:

Hermeneutics

The Importance of Authoritative Hermeneutics

A bad interpretative frame is linked to the interpreters' internally views the scriptures; therefore, their exegesis, exposition, and homiletic will improperly misrepresenting the text because of the interpreters' flawed presuppositions they bring to the text. This is why it is vitally important to understand how to begin with the proper hermeneutical frame. With the proper hermeneutic three truths can be built. First, with the proper hermeneutic the student can combine their hermeneutic with proper exegesis to draw out the main idea of the text. Second, with the proper hermeneutic in place the student can combine their hermeneutic with proper exposition to expose the main idea of the sermon. Third, with the proper hermeneutic in place the student can combine their hermeneutic with the proper homiletic to present to their audience what they have found from the Bible.

The rest of this lesson will cover the four major attributes of the interpreter and three ways that the interpreter should view the Bible. When these truths are applied this will allow for the proper interpretative frame (hermeneutic) of the Holy Scripture.

NOTES:

The Main Thesis

It is important to understand hermeneutics so we can interpret the Bible well.

Interpretation

Here are the qualifications for the interpreter in order to ensure that he will get the right interpretation. Most of the below content came from lectures notes from Dr Kenneth Talbot President of Whitefield Theological Seminary:

- 1) The interpreter must be saved. His presuppositions must change from sinful selfishness in which they view all things to submitting to God self-authenticating Bible. "The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned." (1 Cor 2:14).
- 2) The interpreter must be passionate. "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, or 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.³ He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers." (Ps 1 :1-3).

Hermeneutics

Interpretation Continued

3) The interpreter must have reverence "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom a fool despises knowledge." (Proverbs 1:7)

A. Find the true teaching of God's word." Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers." (1 Tim 4:16)

B. The interpreter must know that God has spoken." All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" (2 Tim 3:16)

C. The interpreter willing to honestly study God's word. "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." (2Tim 2:15)

4) The interpreter must be led by the Holy Spirit. "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you." (John 14:26).

NOTES:

The Main Thesis

It is important to understand hermeneutics so we can interpret the Bible well.

3 Ways to View the Bible

1) The Bible is Inspired. It presupposes a personal spirit, mind, and will (the triune God) is acting to communicate with other spirits. When the Bible speaks it is God speaking himself on a matter. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" The scriptures reveal the mind and will of God. (2 Timothy 3:16).

A. Inspiration is a supernatural work of the holy spirit and the writings are trust worthy and authoritative. "If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord." (1 Cor 14:37)

B) The Bible is inspired by God because God overcomes man's inability and uses their diverse writing style to communicate his truth.

Hermeneutics

3 Ways Continued

1) The Bible is Inspired (continued):

B. "And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers." (1 Thess 2:13) "Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations. Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth." Jer 1:4-6.

C. The NT Gospel is God speaking through his son. "but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world." (Hebrews 1:2)

The Main Thesis

It is important to understand hermeneutics so we can interpret the Bible well.

2. The Bible is Infallible. This means that the Bible speaks authoritatively on all subjects it addresses. There are four areas that demonstrates its infallibility.

A. The word of God demonstrates its infallibility by accomplishing what it is sent to do. "So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it." (Isaiah 55:11)

B. The Bible's infallibility gives us a reliable testimony about the work and the life of Jesus Christ. "And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. "(1 John 5:11)

C. It is infallible (authority) for the norm of life, faith, and practice. Orthodoxy and orthopraxy. (Dr Kenneth Talbot).

NOTES:

Hermeneutics

3 Ways Continued

2) The Bible is Infallible (continued):

D. It speaks through it the infallible spirit of God by whom it is given, His spirit bears witness to our spirit. "For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." (2 Peter 1:21)

Notes on Infallibility and Inerrancy:

Infallibility and inerrancy is presupposed because the Bible is self-authenticating. It needs nothing to prove it I am mandated to believe in the scripture because God speaks authoritatively. "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

A. When it speaks on any topic (science or history) it speaks authoritatively and accurately. Any teaching on any subject that contradicts the Bible must be rejected.

NOTES:

The Main Thesis

It is important to understand hermeneutics so we can interpret the Bible well.

B. Don't bring your doctrine to the Bible with mystical feels and emotions let the bible form your doctrine.

Don't bring your doctrine to the Bible with mystical feels and emotions let the bible form your doctrine.

3) The Bible is Inerrant. The bible is fully truthful in all it affirms in the context in which it was written.

A. Inerrancy pertains to what is affirmed and asserted rather than what is merely reported. The bible reports of false statements by false prophets it does not mean that they are true. The reporting is accurate but not a true statement.

B. We must judge the truths of scripture in terms to what the statements meant in the culture that it was written.

C. The Bible is fully true when judged accordance with the purposes of which it was written.

Hermeneutics

3 Ways Continued

3) The Bible is Inerrant (continued):

D. Reports of historical events and scientific matter phenomenal rather than technical language. The write reports how things appear to the eye which is common in ordinary popular language. How they appear to the one who is observing.

Didactic: Teaching how to act by obey what God gives (Exodus 20).

Narrative: Records a historical event. Saul and the witch of Endor (1 Sam 28:13-14).

E. Etymology explained- The origin of the word and how it was used through history. Give an example

If the Bible is infallible and inerrant then we should study every word and where the word originate from and how it was used through history.

NOTES:

The Main Thesis

It is important to understand hermeneutics so we can interpret the Bible well.

Digging Deeper

Here are other books that will deepen your study in the topic of hermeneutics.

1. *Opening The Scripture*, Patrick Fairbairn
2. *Living By The Book*, Howard G. Hendricks and William D. Hendricks
3. *An Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics*, Walter C. Kaiser, Jr and Moises Silva

Exegesis

Let's talk about it.

What does it mean to exegete a passage of scripture? Have you read the passage you want to study in multiple translations?

Observation

We must start with defining the term. It is a detailed explanation of a text. Now that we know the rules for interpretation we need to explain what we are reading by examining with the author is saying textual, contextually, when the text was written, the words, and the genre this is a start to good exegesis.

The Minimum

God has spoken and is speaking through his word to Christian and drawing unbelievers to himself. God, who is spirit, is speaking to our spirit. Every passage of scripture always has one attending literal meaning. It is our job to apply the right tools and ask the right questions to get to the authors intended original meaning. When we find the authors intended meaning we find God speaking. This is when the sacred work of exegesis pays off and we then are ready to begin to compile what God has said and to expose it to all who will listen.

NOTES:

The Main Thesis

Exegesis is how we get to what the original author meant in the text.

Historical Observation

Who wrote the book and what time period did they live in?

When we discover who wrote the book we are beginning to learn the personality of the author. Doctor Luke wrote different than fisherman Peter. Tax collector Matthew and his attention to detail like historian Dr. Luke is a lot different than the machine gun approach to the life of Jesus that the Apostle Mark took when sharing the life and work of Jesus. This is not just important for the New Testament but is really more important for the Old Testament because it covers a bigger period of human history is found in the Old Testament Bible.

Find out the time period- especially in the Old Testament- will tell you a lot about what the people were doing and how God was addressing them through the author. It will also unfold for you what the people were facing slavery because of sin, an enemy that was trying to destroy them?

Exegesis

Historical Observation (continued)

Each time period brings a different scenario for the children of God in the Bible. Finding who wrote the book and what time period they lived in will help pave the way for a deeper understanding of scripture.

Exodus, for example. Who wrote it? What time period? Expand on this to show the importance of knowing rather than just reading.

What was the culture like that the author lived in and what was the culture like for those who were receiving the letter?

This could potentially help you understand what the author of the letter could have been thinking and how the culture was pressing them to live. Walking a mile in their shoes is what we call this. The author could have been facing a lot of pressure to conform of the god of his day. Examples Daniel and praying to the golden idol of Nabecanzzar and Jeremiah filling the pressure to confirm to the lying prophets to tell the king what he wanted to hear. This will help you value the power of God at work in these authors lives. It will force you to get acquitted with the reality of their world and force you to think through what day to day life looked like for them.

NOTES:

The Main Thesis

Exegesis is how we get to what the original author meant in the text.

The culture that is receiving the letter have been influenced by the culture that they are living in. This culture has formed them. There struggles in life their successes will effect them.

- When was the letter written?
- Where did the author write the letter from?
- How was the government structure run and how did effect the author?
- Why is it important to my listeners to do the historical context of the book and passage?

Textual Observation

- What is the author saying about the subject or people he is writing about?
- When are there major changes in passage? Look for connecting words like but and therefore. Look for repeated phrases.
- Where does the author spend the majority of his time? What is subject or subjects is he addressing?
- How is he using genre, culture, and his topic to communicate his main point?

Exegesis

Textual Observation (continued)

- Who else does the author include in his text that are in the bible? Study those passages.
- Why does the author include these text?

Contextual Observation

- Who were the recipients of the letter?
- What was daily life like for those who received the letter?
- How would this letter effect their daily living if applied correctly?
- When this letter reached them did it change their life or culture?
- Where was the occasion written about located and what was the contextual climate?
- How did the context change what the author was communicating if any?
- Why was it important to address his audience the way he did?

Genre

A. Narrative/ historical: Actual events that took these narratives are found through out the Bible.

The Main Thesis

Exegesis is how we get to what the original author meant in the text.

1. Law : Giving Israel his commands in the OT
 2. History: The origin of creation and God engaging with his creation in the frsit five books of the Bible.

B. Poetry: These writing are found mainly in the OT books of Psalm

C. Wisdom Literature: These books contain practical wisdom Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Job.

D. Prophecies: This type of literature tells of the what was to come by the Gods sovereign decree. Most prophecies have been fulfilled but some still remains to be fulfilled.

E. Gospel: The four books that summarizes the teaching of Jesus and him being the fulfillment of the OT scriptures.

F. Epistles: The letters written to the early NT church.

NOTES:

Exegesis

Interpretation

- Underline nouns, circle verbs, number repeated phrase and words.
- Study the meaning of the verbs and repeated phrases.
- Words studies by using lexicons and studying the original language.
- Studying a words etymology.
- Read multiply translations ten minimum.

The Main Idea of the Text

The reason we study the history of the text, work to understand the genre, study the text itself, and understand the context of the text is get to this one central point. What is the main idea of the text? Here are questions you can you to confirm what you think you are finding in your treasure hunt through the scriptures.

- What is the Biblical author talking about? (Ex: Gal 2 Circumcision Verses Uncircumcision)
- What is the Biblical author saying about what he is talking about? Ex: (Paul going to the uncircumcised Peter going to the circumcised. Peter fearing man and not fellowshipping with gentiles because they group that believed you needed to be circumcised.

NOTES:

The Main Thesis

Exegesis is how we get to what the original author meant in the text.

Paul calls him out and reminds all about faith in Christ.) Review what the culture was like and the pre4ssure Peter must have felt to capitulate. How is our church culture pressing on us today?

- o Find the seams
- o Analyze the argument
- o Outline the text

Digging Deeper

Living by the Book, Howard Hendricks
Historical context, A Dictorinary on Chrsitan Antiquites

Exposition

Let's talk about it.

Have you ever heard someone talk about expositional preaching? What is expositional preaching? How do we do the work exposition?

Reviewing Our Term

Review our definition of expositional preaching: this where the interpreter has put in the leg work to rightly understand the one attended meaning of the text and know they are presenting (exposing) what they have found to the audience or person they are speaking to.

The Main Meaning of Message

This is where you are taking the text from the past to the present day. All the work that you did in exegesis is now going to be applied in your exposition (exposing) the scripture to your present-day audience. This takes work, time, and prayer. You have now moved from the main idea of the text to the main meaning of your message. You are crossing over the bridge coming out of the past with all its valuable truth and coming into the present 21st century to reveal it to all who will listen.

NOTES:

The Main Thesis

Exposition helps us craft the main idea of the text.

Here are some questions to ask to help you understand the process.

- What is your main point that you want to focus on from the text?
- What I am talking about?
- What am I saying about what I am talking about?

Translations & Commentaries

To get a good perspective, you want to read different translations and reputable commentaries. I would read a minimum of ten different reputable translations and read several commentaries with authors who have the proper hermeneutic. You can read Karl Barth's commentaries to learn what not to say but read good commentaries to sure what you are getting ready to say.

Exposition

Structure & Body

- Introduction
- Body
 - Exposition
 - Illustrations Review MIS
 - Application Review MIS
 - Close
 - Invite
 - Review your Main Idea Sermon
- Walk Through Galatians 2

Digging Deeper

Read Charles Spurgeon Sermons

The Main Thesis

Exposition helps us craft the main idea of the text.

NOTES:

Homiletics

Let's talk about it.

Why is homiletics important in the first place?
Could you explain what homiletics is to your five year old?

5 Reasons Homiletics Is Important

1. It gets you out of the mode of think about the historical past and force you to look at and understand the 21st century that you are living in. It forces you to apply in present terms the principles gleaned for the historical past. Example: (Share your story about Harvard Massachusetts and the Egyptian museum and Jeremiah 29:4-5).

2. It helps to find themes and principals that run through all generations of the human race. Example: Isaiah 43:17 God humbling the proud and mighty nation Babylon Chaldeans. Look out how proud most Americans are they think they don't need God.

3. You have to work on what you are going to say. There will always be one main point of your sermon but how are you going to communicate your subpoints?

The Main Thesis

Homiletics helps us deliver content about what we have found in the Bible.

4. You have to work on how you are going to say it so it will be remembered?

- Tone
- Relax and realize God is in control
- Alliteration
- Use an acronym
- Illustrations
- Use a story

5. It forces you to use the creative side of your mind that God has given you, like signs. Also refer to Ray Comfort's skeleton with a sheet over it.

Communication

How are you going to communicate what you've learned? Your delivery will determine how people will apply what you tell them.

NOTES:

Homiletics

Communication (continued)

TONE:

- Be upbeat and have a change in your voice.
- Use short sentences. Say what you are going to say and move on to your next point. Give a moment for your point to land and move on.

RELAX:

- The world is your pulpit and the mass of humanity in front of you is your audience. Know God is in control.

ALLITERATION:

- Isaiah 43:13, for example, God's Power, Purity, Prestige.

ACRONYMS:

- R.U.L.I.N.G
- K.N.O.W

NOTES:

The Main Thesis

Homiletics helps us deliver content about what we have found in the Bible.

ILLUSTRATIONS:

- COVID: Pandemic of sin (Its ok to use other people's illustrations).
- Miami Condo Collapse: what if you were in that Condo? Spiritually where would you be?
- Vaccine: Protects from COVID who is going protect from Gods justice.
- The Courtroom
- I use Spurgeon illustrations the pig illustration.
- From the goo, to zoo to you.

STORIES:

- If you are South are the rural Midwest use farm stories. We put up electrical fence and when the cows wet nose hit they turn away they change their mind about the grass on the others side of the fence. Matthew 3:8.

Homiletics

Communication (continued)

STORIES:

- Kentucky Derby: Use horse racing stories or illustration. Matt 7 the narrow path is like a horse with blinders on so he can only see the finish line.
- Football games use football illustrations
- Baseball the same
- Art Festival

QUESTIONS:

- Sir or ma'am, what do you boast in the most?
- What does the Bible tell us to boast?

This does two things it keeps you on track with staying true to the meaning of the sermon. We should boast in knowing and understanding the Lord.

NOTES:

The Main Thesis

Homiletics helps us deliver content about what we have found in the Bible.

SURROUNDINGS:

Think about where you are when preaching.

- Sports
- Bar Crowd
- Abortion Mill
- College Campus
- Street Festivals
- Bus Stop
- Metro Stop

You are not going to preach a different message but you may preach the message differently. Speak to the skeptic. Your pastor has to speak to a non-responsive audience; however, you have the privilege of having people heckle you. This gives you an opportunity to work on your delivery almost every time you go out.

Maybe anticipate what people maybe thinking in the audience. Romans 1:22, "I know some of you walking past me think that your personal belief determines truth." Or, "I know you think the Bible has been translated to many times." Just weave your apologetic in to what you are saying.

Homiletics

Listen

Remember that when you are speaking, it is important to also listen to what the crowd or audience is saying in response.

- Be willing to be corrected if you were wrong. (I don't mean an arrogant heckler who will not shut up).
- Be willing to say I have never heard that question, can you give me some time to look and get back with you? Or, I have a friend you could talk to.
- An unbeliever can smell a prideful phony a mile away.

Outlines

Be sure to outline your sermon so you don't have to think of things on the fly, and this way your audience can follow you easily. See page 12 in the Open Air Preaching Curriculum for more information on outlines.

Digging Deeper

Read Spurgeon's Letters to his students.

NOTES:

The Main Thesis

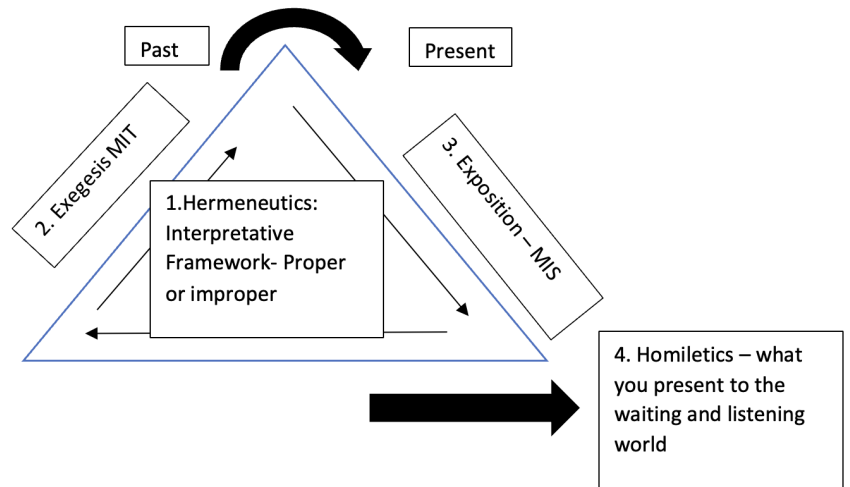
Homiletics helps us deliver content about what we have found in the Bible.

Applying The Content

Hermeneutics, exegesis, exposition, and homiletics have been covered. Now we are going to take a bit to cover how to apply all the content in to one usable applicable lesson. We can gain all the knowledge and wisdom in the world but if we don't apply it is as useful as a brand new car with out gas.

The Interpretive Triangle

This interpretative triangle is what I will use to make sure all that has been learned will be applied in a cohesive and intelligible fashion. These four steps applied in unison will assure that the knowledge you have gain in properly studying your Bible will benefit those who are either listening in your congregation or being taught formally in a classroom setting.



Step 1: Hermeneutics

Hermeneutics are the framework in which you interpret the Bible. This can be done either improperly or properly. Having a proper interpretative framework (hermeneutic) means that you are going to work hard to find the grammatical meaning, historical context, and the origin of specific words used and how the word was used historically to find the authors one attended meaning of the passage being studied. The Holy Spirit used the author to convey Biblical truth it is our job to find the meaning through what has been given.

NOTES:

Applying The Content

Improper interpretative framework (Hermeneutic) is not finding the grammatical meaning of a word, improperly coming to the wrong conclusion about the historical context and misinterpreting to mean what the author did originally attend it to mean. This is performing malpractice on the text of Holy Scripture. People through the years who have done this is Karl Barth and some of the church Fathers like Origen. The meaning of the text is highly spiritualized and the individual interpreter is left to derive the meaning from either their own personal experience or feelings. As a student of scripture beware of this error.

Step 2: Exegesis

Exegesis is the study of the grammatical meaning, historical context, origin of specific words used and how the word was used historically doing the work of exegesis. This is how to get to what the author originally meant. When a proper exegesis is performed, it is during this step that the student finds the main idea of the text. (MIT) This is how the student produces a proper end product. We must make sure that the authors original meaning is being presented to your audience.

Step 3: Exposition

With exposition, now we expose what we found in the text of scripture in an understandable outline and points filling in the outline. This is where the student produces the main idea of the sermon. (MIS) it will need to have illustrations, alliteration, and be persuasive in its content. All these steps build onto of one another.

You can't have good exposition or exegesis if you don't have an proper interpretative framework. If you are interpreting properly you can exegete properly. If you are interpreting and exegeting properly, you will certainly exposit the text properly. If you find the Main idea of the text found in the Holy Scripture, meaning that you have studied the past well, you stand a great chance bringing it over the tip of the triangle into the present day. It is then that the main idea of the sermon becomes clear as the sun and cloudless morning.

NOTES:

Applying The Content

Step 4: Homiletics

Homiletics is how well you present your content, which will determine how your audience engages with the Holy Scriptures. This is not to be taken lightly and needs to be addressed with great care by prayer and fasting. This needs to be done during all four steps of this interpretative and process

NOTES:
