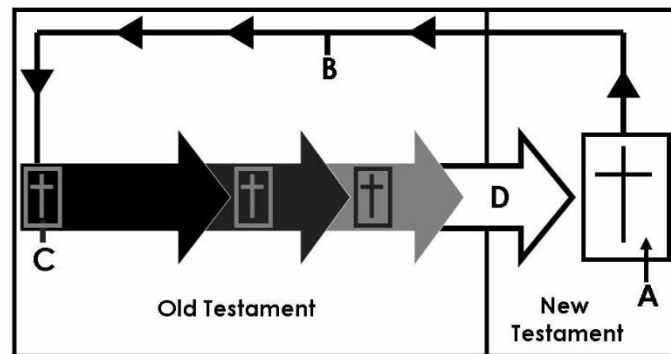


-If you don't do all this, it's ok. This isn't needed to be a Christian... don't feel guilty

Review- Principles of Hermeneutics

Doxological vs. Christological

Christ-centered Approach To the Bible



Entry is made at the gospel (A), which sends us back to the O.T. (B). With the knowledge that this book is about Christ (C), we follow it along the story of redemption until it leads us to fulfillment back in the gospel (D)

Hermeneutics- the science of Biblical interpretation

What are some basic principles of interpreting the Bible?

1. Let Scripture interpret scripture (*Sacra Scriptura sui interpres- Sacred Scripture is its own interpreter*)- If a given verse is capable of two interpretations and one goes against the rest of scripture and one is in harmony with it, it should be interpreted in a way that is in harmony with the rest of scripture (i.e. John 3:16 denying a hell due to God's love)
Zechariah 9:9 and John 12:14-15 (Palm Sunday)
2. The Bible should be interpreted literally, i.e. as a piece of literature
Historical stories are seen as actual events, not allegory
Prophecies and visions are seen as metaphorical, not actual
Metaphor and hyperbole are taken for what they are
3. Let scripture speak for itself (Grammatico-historical)
-What is the original meaning of the text as it was intended to be heard by the original audience- helps us to exegete rather than eisegete
Eisegesis – reading something into the text that isn't there and wasn't intended
Exegesis – letting the text speak for itself, finding out what the original author intended this text to say

Exegesis is the applied art of the science of hermeneutics

I. Introduction

- We're moving on to some of the basics of interpreting the Bible.

-Where does the meaning lie? With the reader or the author?

- Post-modernism tell us that true meaning lies with us, with the interpreter
 - The idea that something can mean one thing to one person and another to another person and both be true.
 - *Romans 1 homosexual illustration – gay is when you aren't true to who you are*
- Traditional interpretation throughout history has taught us that true meaning lies with the author. We see this practically worked out every day

-School books, parent's commands, following the law's of the U.S., etc.

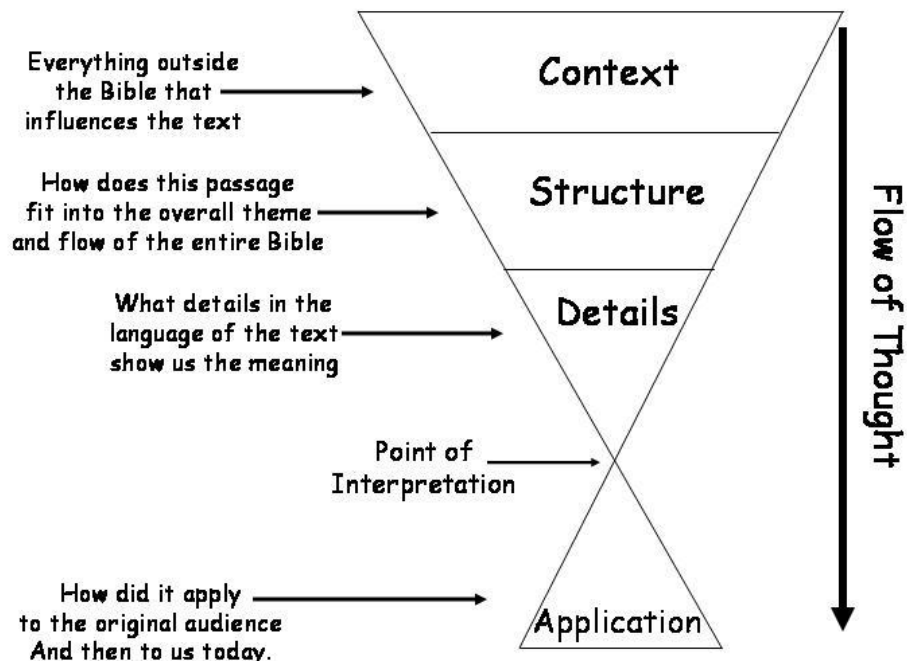
- So we have to begin in scripture with what does the original author intend to say to the original audience, and then take that principally to us (**Rule 3**). For instance:

²⁷ You shall not round off the hair on your temples or mar the edges of your beard. ²⁸ You shall not make any cuts on your body for the dead or tattoo yourselves: I am the LORD.

Lev 19:26-28 (ESV)

How would we interpret this today? We have to see what the original intent of the Author is, how the original audience would have interpreted this command, then see how we can transfer that to our situation today.

- Introduce Interpretation hourglass



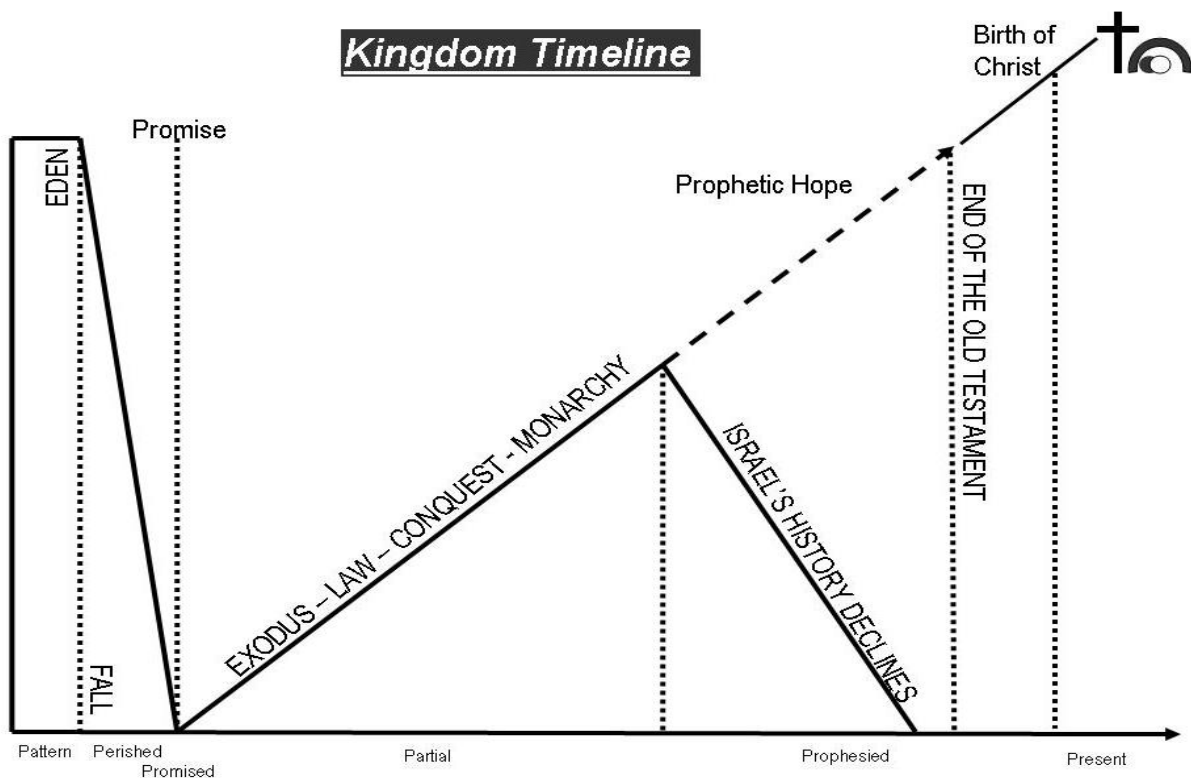
(do that together)

Context- What is going on in the world right now?

- Tons of idol worship, lots of individual city states

Structure- Where are we at in the timeline of the Bible?

Which Kingdom in our Kingdom Timeline? Partial



Who is writing this book and why are they writing it? When is being written?

Who is the original audience? Who are the characters we are dealing with?

What is their context for receiving this?

-Moses is writing this to Israel as they travel through the desert, instructing them on how to honor and obey God.

Details- What does this particular verse tell us? Why were these people told to follow these commands?

These were common practices of idol worship, so obeying these commands would keep the Israelites from being like the surrounding nations and would honor God.

-Notice the end of the verse, "I am the Lord." Not Baal or Molech or another false God, YHWH is their God.

Interpretation leads us to our **application-** What is the principal to the original reader, and how does that principal work itself out practically for my life today.

Principle- don't participate in things that would show your allegiance to a god other than the Lord. For them, that meant not cutting their beard a certain way or getting a tattoo.

-Does cutting our beard a certain way or getting tattoo today associate us with a false god? It may, but not like it did when this was written.

•So how can we be true to the principal, the spirit of what Moses is writing in our 21st century context. What are some things we shouldn't participate in that would show our allegiance to something that isn't the true God?

-Don't take drugs, don't neglect going to church, don't swear, etc.

-these are many of the things that the NT commands us to do as well.

•How does this principal point us to Christ?

-Christ was the ultimate example of doing what God wanted Him to do, even to the point of death. He put aside comfort, popularity, power, everything that this world tells us we should go after and worship for the sake of obeying the Father.

-We use this method to interpret the original meaning, then transfer it to us today through the lens of Christ.

Table Time: Use the hourglass method to interpret Matthew 5:38-42

³⁸ "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' ³⁹ But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. ⁴⁰ And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. ⁴¹ And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. ⁴² Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

Matt 5:38-42 (ESV)

- Context
- Structure
- Details
- Application
- Pointing us to Christ