

THREE WAYS TO STUDY SCRIPTURE

A CASE STUDY OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:."

- 2 Tim 3:16

1. **Historical (Factual)** The reality of the events, people, and things in the passage.
 - a. Good for: God's power, Bible belief, incarnation, prophecy
 - b. Not good for: Bible trivia, textual criticism, skepticism
 - c. Mt 6:1 - God will judge and reward - Heb 9:27; 2 Tim 4:1
 - d. Mt 6:6-8 - God sees and knows all - John 6:64
 - e. Mt 6:9 - Father was in heaven - Trinity, positional truth - Eph 2:6
 - f. Mt 6:10 - A kingdom come on earth - Rev 5:10, 21:24
 - g. Mt 6:11 - Daily bread and the manna miracle - Mt 14:17-21
 - h. Mt 6:13 - There is evil - John 8:44; Mt 24:21
 - i. Requires: Bible Belief – Faith in a book as your authority
2. **Spiritual (Moral)** The timeless transdispensational moral teaching in a passage.
 - a. Good for: God's character (godliness), virtue, good behavior, holiness
 - b. Not good for: Allegorical, spiritualizing, corrupt manners
 - c. Mt 6:1-4 - Against hypocrisy and spiritual pride - Col 2:18
 - d. Mt 6:3,5 - We should do alms and prayer - 1 Thess 5:17
 - e. Mt 6:9 - God's name is hallowed - Heb 12:28; Eph 5:21
 - f. Mt 6:11 - God is sufficient to provide what we need - 2 Co 9:8; Ph 4:19
 - g. Mt 6:12 - We should forgive - Ps 86:5; Eph 4:32
 - h. Mt 6:13 - God will deliver from evil - Ex 5:23,6:6; Gal 1:4; Rom 5:3-5
 - i. Requires: Belief in the holy God; Personal Integrity; Righteousness
3. **Doctrinal (Instructional)** Dispensational instruction of God's will to the people in the passage
 - a. Good for: Learning God's will, salvation, God's intervention, prayer,
 - b. Not good for: Religiosity, man's tradition, proof texting
 - c. Mt. 6:8 - God as Israel's Father - Exo 4:22-23; Mt 15:26; John 3
 - d. Mt. 6:10 - Thy will be done in earth; looking for a kingdom - Mt 10:7. Mk 1:14
 - e. Mt. 6:11 - Give us...God will miraculously provide - Mt. 19:27-28; Lk 12:22,24
 - f. Mt. 6:12 - Basis of forgiveness is our level of forgiveness - Ep 1:7,4:32
 - g. Mt. 6:13 - God will lead Israel away from evil - Lk. 22:28-29; Rev 3:10; 12:12
 - h. Requires: Belief in the gospel - right division; Humility