

**“A Matter of Interpretation”**

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2 Timothy 2:15

2.24.19

**Introduction:**

- A. The Bible is \_\_\_\_\_ by God and is \_\_\_\_\_ in all matters the pertain to religion. (2 Tim. 3:16,17)
- B. The task of interpreting the Bible is the work of deciding what the Bible \_\_\_\_\_ by what it says.
- C. In many ways, the Bible is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- D. The contention that the biblical message is always simple and clear is not \_\_\_\_\_ . (2 Pet. 3:15-16)
- E. It is the congregation, along with its leaders, that must give \_\_\_\_\_ for its interpretation of the Scriptures.

**I. Two Things With Which We Have to Contend...**

- A. The \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_.

**II. Our Method of Interpretation Must...**

- A. ...recognize and focus on \_\_\_\_\_ .
- B. ...take seriously the basic \_\_\_\_\_ which runs through the Bible.
- C. ...give attention to how this story line incorporates specific \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for the church.
- D. ...be sensitive to \_\_\_\_\_.
- E. ...result in implications not only for the \_\_\_\_\_ process, but for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the interpreter. (James 1:22, 25)
- F. Another method for interpretation:
  - 1. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 4. \_\_\_\_\_

**III. The Silence of the Scriptures...**

- A. Prohibitive Principle: if one or more options in a category are \_\_\_\_\_, then silence about all other options in that category \_\_\_\_\_ them.
- B. Permissive Principle: if a category is left open with nothing \_\_\_\_\_, then we may \_\_\_\_\_ any options in that category.

**Conclusion:**

- A. All concepts and commands in Scripture have \_\_\_\_\_, but some have a higher \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. God did not introduce himself by a set of rules, rather he sent his \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. Interpreting the Bible is not \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. Approach it seriously and \_\_\_\_\_, and be ready to \_\_\_\_\_ it.

**Answer Key:** Intro. A. inspired, useful. B. means. C. simple, clear. D. biblical. E. account. I.A. Bible. I.B. Ourselves. II.A. God. II.B. story, line. II.C. commands, examples. II.D. historical, context. II.E. intellectual, life. II.F.1. Purpose. II.F.2. Principle. II.F.3. Precedent. II.F.4. Prayer. III.A. specified, excludes. III.B. specified, choose. Concl. A. value, value. B. Son. C. simple, easy, humbly, obey.