

HERMENEUTICS

**The study of the methodological
principles of interpretation**

AUTHORITY

- *Definition: (1) The power to influence or command thought, opinion, or behavior. (2) Person in command.*
- A standard of practice must be established by a recognized authority figure.
- Jesus has been given authority by God. (John 14:6; 5:27; Matt. 7:29; 17:5; 28:18; Acts 2:22; 3:22)
- Jesus authorizes the Bible as the standard of practice in religious matters. (John 14:15; 15:10, 14; 12:48; II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:21; Col. 3:16; Matt. 15: 9; Titus 1:14)
- Therefore, the Bible is the only standard of practice in religious matters.

HOW IS PROPER INTERPRETATION MADE?

- *Interpretation can be defined as a way to explain or tell the meaning of; a way in which to present something in understandable terms (II Peter 1:20).*

1. Explicit Statements

- Definition: fully revealed or expressed without vagueness, implication, or ambiguity
 - Example: The barn is red.
 - Biblical Example: Jonah 1:2; Mark 1:24
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HOW IS PROPER INTERPRETATION MADE?

2. Implicit Statements

- Definition: a command capable of being understood from a statement though unexpressed.
 - Example: Billy Bob drove to the city.
 - Biblical Example: Acts 5:29
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HOW IS PROPER INTERPRETATION MADE?

3. Approved Examples

- Definition: someone in authority or something of authority that serves as a pattern of practice
- Example: Your mom or dad uses a fork to eat.
- Biblical Example: Acts 12:5

SIX BASICS RULES FOR INTERPRETING:

- Who was the writer?
 - Who was he writing to?
 - What were the circumstances of his writing?
 - What was the goal or aim?
 - Were there any specific instructions given?
 - What does the text say to me?
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