

How Do You Read?



Sensible Tools for Understanding the Scriptures

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Version 0.2

How Do You Read?

A BRIEF GUIDE to Interpreting the Bible




How Do You Read?

Why Read the Scriptures?

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

2 Timothy 3: 16, 17, NIV



How Do You Read?

Why Read the Scriptures?

- To know the Creator. (Gen. 1)
- To know and understand God's Word (2 Tim. 3:16)
- To seek for guidance and direction (Ps. 119: 11)
- To find comfort, joy, peace, and hope (Rom. 15: 4)
- To interact with God more intimately (Heb. 4: 12-16)
- To become sanctified, pure and holy (Jn. 17: 17-23)

How Do You Read?

How to Setup for Studying the Bible

Plan a study time and place

Pray without ceasing

Read and re-read

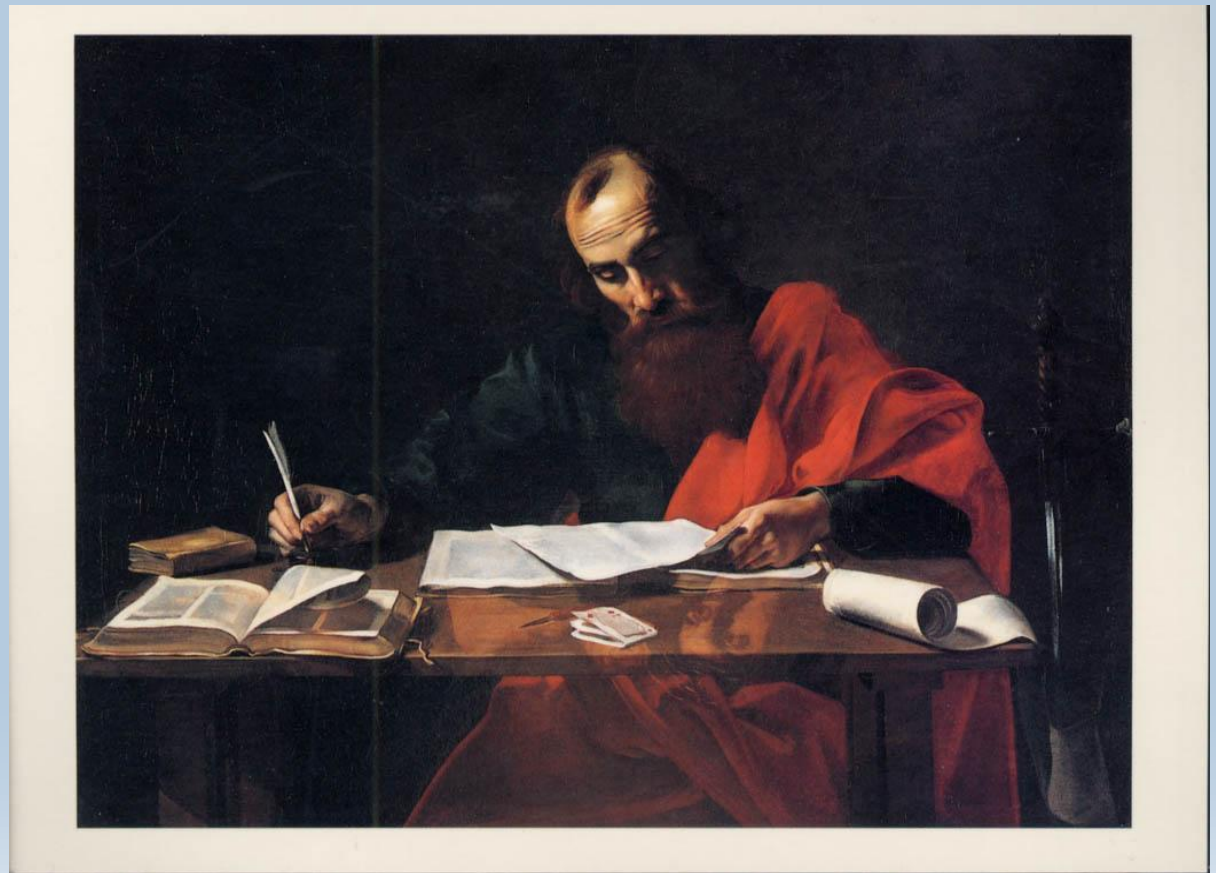
Identify the theme of the book

Annotate your findings

How Do You Read?

Basic Principles for Studying the Bible

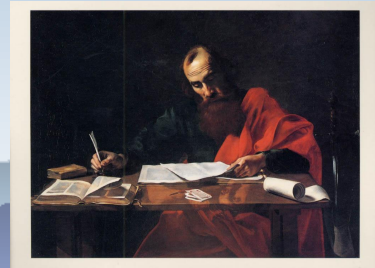
The Author



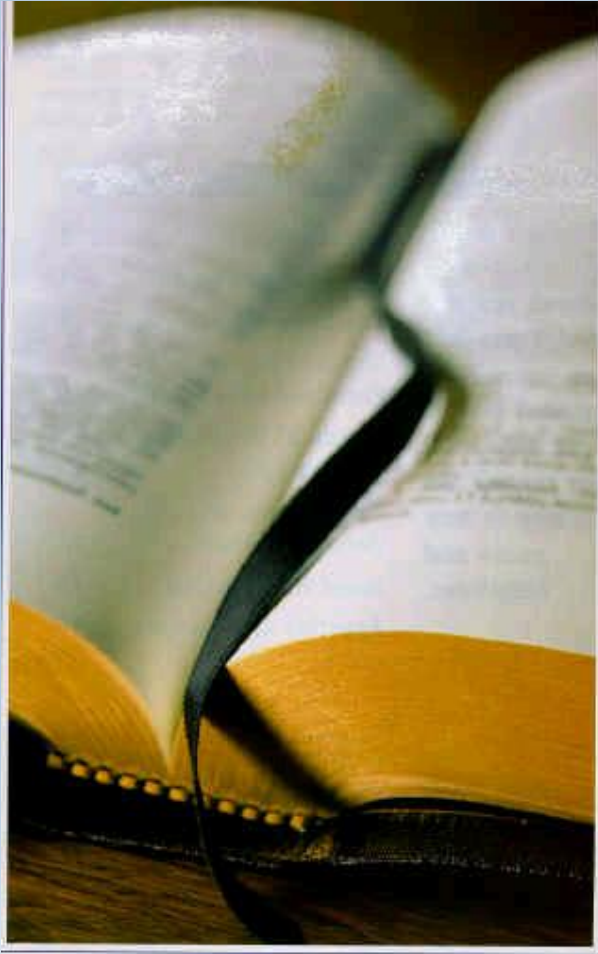
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Basic Principles for Studying the Bible **The Author**

- The most basic principle of biblical interpretation is to seek to understand what the writer wanted to communicate to the intended audience
- The author controls the meaning of the text
- Read other books from the same author to familiarize yourself with the author's style, language usage and reason for writing



How Do You Read?



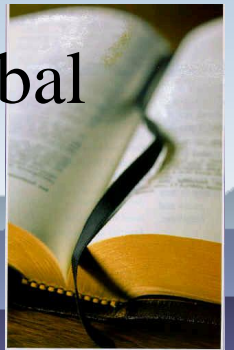
Basic Principles for Studying the Bible

The Text

How Do You Read?

Basic Principles for Studying the Bible The Text

- The biblical text stands between the author and the reader
- The text conveys the intended meaning of the author
- The text cannot be read in isolation of its surrounding context
- Read the entire book
- Pay attention to the chapters before and after the text
- Focus on the immediate context of the selected text and understand it within the message of the book and the global message of the Scriptures



How Do You Read?

Basic Principles for Studying the Bible



The Reader

How Do You Read?

Basic Principles for Studying the Bible The Reader

- The reader must be subjected to the authority and authenticity of the Scriptures as divine revelation from God
- The Bible is its own best interpreter, allow the text to speak within the immediate and larger context.
- The Gospels stand at the center of both the Old and New Testaments.
- Ultimately, Jesus is the Interpreter of the Scripture and His Spirit is the Guide that illuminates the mind of the sincere reader of the Word of God



How Do You Read?

Basic Principles for Studying the Bible

- Read to discover God's plan of salvation
- Study the background of each book
- Ask Who? What? Where? When? Why? and How?
- Read the text and understand its surrounding context
- The Gospels stand at the center of the Old and New Testaments
- Discover the author's intended meaning
- Learn basic history and geography of the Bible
- Identify figurative language
- Identify various forms of literature

How Do You Read?

Discovering the Truth of the Scriptures (Inductive Bible Study)

What is the author or the text saying?
What did it mean to the author or intended
audience?
How does it apply to me?

How Do You Read?

Creative Ways to Study the Bible

Join a Bible study class

Begin by reading the Psalms and Proverbs

Read the narrative books such as Genesis

Do an overview reading of the Bible

Listen to an audio Bible while commuting

Discuss the Bible with friends and neighbors

How Do You Read?

“...firmly established in the truth that
you now have.”

2 Peter 1: 12-21 (NASB)

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Online Presence

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