

WARNING
on
“New Hermeneutics”

INTRODUCTION:

1. What is Hermeneutics?

- a. Dungan: “the science of interpretation...the scripture”
- b. Webster: “the study of the methodical principles of interpretation”
- c. Am. Heritage: “the theory and methodology of interpretation, especially of scripture”

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2. The Lord's church holds to a method of Biblical interpretation used & demanded by the Bible itself!

- a. All Scripture is God Breathed! **2 Tim 3:16-17**
- b. Commands, Examples, Necessary Inference; Biblical patterns, definitions, silence all establish Bible Authority!

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3. The world largely advocates ‘broader methods’ of Biblical Interpretation.
 - a. Denominations have used these for years, and is the reason they are were they are.
 - b. The horrifying that some in the church hold this view!!!

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4. Apply these methods...you can toss your Bible!
5. Warning on these “New Hermeneutics”
 - a. Quick reminder of what the Bible tells us regarding itself
 - b. What are these ‘new’ methods of interpretation?
 - c. Answering these ‘new’ methods of interpretation!

I. Biblical Hermeneutics...

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1. **Romans 1:16-17** - For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.” **GOD’S STANDARD**

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2. **2 Tim 3:16-17** - All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. **ALL FROM GOD, ALL WE NEED!**

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3. **2 Peter 1:2-3** - Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, **COMPLETE MANUAL**

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4. **Jude 1:3** - Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. **TIMELESS**

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5. **Rev 22:18-19** - For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

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6. **These passages DEMAND a Careful, methodical, bottom-up approach to handling Scripture!!**

I. Biblical Hermeneutics...

B. We use the same methods used by NT Brethren!

1. Biblical Authority was /is established by:

- Commands – **Jn 14:15, 1 Cor 14:37**
- Examples – **Phil 3:17, 4:9**
- Necessary Inference – **Acts 2:42, 20:7, 1 Cor 16:1-2**

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2. Question: Gentiles & Elements of the Old Law - **Acts 15**

- Commands – **Acts 15:7,15**
- Examples – **Acts 15:8-12**
- Necessary Inference – **Acts 15:19**

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1. “we must take responsibility for deciding what in Scripture is worthy of belief today. All such judgments are relative to our own social location, interests, needs, life-history, and general outlook on things.”
2. Some forward that we must “interpret the Bible in context of modern culture; and allow scientific thought to control our understanding of the Bible.” aka Cultural Reinterpretation!

II. The New Hermeneutics...

B. Quotes & concepts from some in the Church!

1. “I am strongly of the opinion that the entire field of how to establish Bible Authority needs a complete restudy. The way we have gone at it results in a narrow, divisive legalism that is totally non-biblical.”
2. The NT is not a pattern or blueprint that must be followed.
3. The NT does not teach us by apostolic examples or necessary inferences. Christ alone is our model for teaching
4. “We should study the life of Jesus and do what we feel He would do in the circumstances.”

II. The New Hermeneutics...

C. Examples of 'New' Hermeneutics...

- The Bible needs to be interpreted via Modern Standards
- The Bible is not law, but God's Loving Ideas.
- The New Testament is not a Pattern to Follow.
- Bible Examples are nonbinding and do not need to be Followed.
- It is not so much if you follow the Bible specifically, divine acceptance is based your intentions & feelings.

II. The New Hermeneutics...

D. Results of New Hermeneutics...

- Roles of Women
- Clergy, 'Pastor', 'Deacons'
- Ruling Organizations & Associations
- Secular involvement
- Instrumental Music & Choirs
- Religious Holidays & Observances
- Scientific Additions - Days of Creation & Evolution
- Acceptance of Unlawful Divorce & Remarriage
- Acceptance of Homosexuality
- Acceptance of "Open Fellowship" concepts

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D. Results of New Hermeneutics...

1. Unscriptural additions:
2. Unscriptural acceptance of Sin.
3. **“New” ways of looking at the Bible have destroyed it!**
4. Let's see what God's Word would say about these

III. Evaluating the New Hermeneutics...

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2. The Bible is Written for ALL TIME!

- The Bible establishes THE standard of conduct for all times! We must conform to it!! **Rom 12:1-3, 8:29**
- God does not Change, and neither does His word
Heb 13:8,9

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1. Word Says:

- **1 Cor 14:37** - If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord.
- **2 Thess 1:7-8** - "...when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- **Jn 12:48** - "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him — the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

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2. The NT is Loving...but it is our Law!

- The NT is the Perfect law – **James 1:25**
- We are to be obedient - **James 2:10, Jn 14:15**
- **Jn 15:10** - "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

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- **Phil 4:9** - The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you **Phil 3:17**...Paul was a Pattern!
- **2 Tim 1:13** - “Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me,...”
- **1 Peter 2:21** - “For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:”

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2. It is commanded...to follow examples!

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2. Emotions are important, but God wants Obedience!

- Paul - I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.“ **Acts 23:1**
- **Zech 7:1-7** – Did you really do these things for Me...Should you not have obeyed the words of the Lord...

CONCLUSION:

1. There are many people trying to de-emphasize the Bible because of its teaching!
2. The Best way they can do this is by REWRITING IT!
 - a. If you can't beat it, misrepresent it or distort it!
 - b. This is one of Satan's oldest tricks!

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 - a. If you can't beat it, misrepresent it or distort it!
 - b. This is one of Satan's oldest tricks!
3. We must guard against this sinful handling of God's word and protect the church from this influence!
4. **2 Tim 3:16** tells us the Bible is literally the "Breath of God"...let's treat it as such!