

## HOW TO ADDRESS BIBLICAL DIFFICULTIES - Part II

Reference: miscellaneous Scripture

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Bible difficulties are apparent problems found in the biblical record, but this multi-part message addresses ten fundamental principles that can help us better understand the textual problems found in Scripture. But first notice some important groups that emphasize biblical problems and difficulties:

### Agnosticism

Definition: Agnosticism is the doctrine that no one is \_\_\_\_\_ God exists. There are two categories of agnostics:

- soft (or weak) agnosticism means **we** \_\_\_\_\_ **know** if God exists
- hard (or strong) agnosticism means **we** \_\_\_\_\_ **know** if God exists

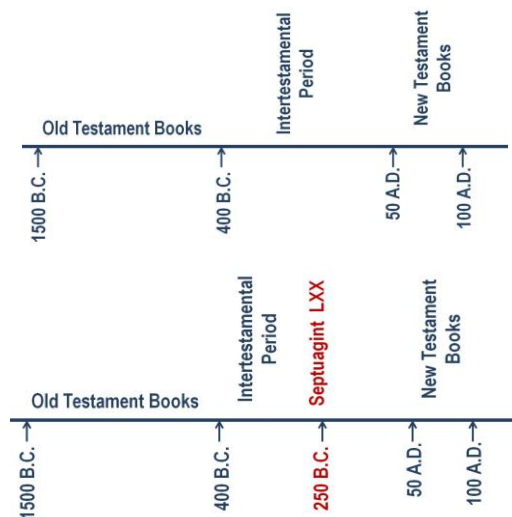
### Atheism

Definition: Atheism is the doctrine that God \_\_\_\_\_ exist.

**ONE** - The unexplained is not necessarily **unexplainable**.

**TWO** - Someone's flawed **interpretations** of Scripture doesn't mean the Scripture itself is flawed.

**THREE** - New Testament citations of the Old Testament \_\_\_\_\_ need to be \_\_\_\_\_.



**FOUR** - Difficult passages are to be interpreted by the more \_\_\_\_\_.

**Principle:** Biblical passages that are difficult to understand are to be interpreted using passages we \_\_\_\_\_.

Example: Regeneration

Reference: **John 3:3, 5** and **7** (see screen)

Mistaken regeneration formula:

Water (\_\_\_\_\_) + the Holy Spirit = regeneration

Contingent on how water was used, water has three basic representative or symbolic meanings in Scripture:

- \_\_\_\_\_ catastrophic amounts of water  
Reference: **Genesis 7:1-4**
- the \_\_\_\_\_ used in drinking  
Reference: **John 7:37-39**
- the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (Scripture) used in washing and cleansing  
Reference: **Ephesians 5:26** (see screen)

also see **Titus 3:5** and **I Peter 1:23**

Correct regeneration formula:

Water (the \_\_\_\_\_, i.e. \_\_\_\_\_) + the Holy Spirit = regeneration

Basic hermeneutic rule of thumb is "The \_\_\_\_\_ things are the \_\_\_\_\_ things, and the \_\_\_\_\_ things are the \_\_\_\_\_ things."

That is called the \_\_\_\_\_ (clearness) of Scripture.

**FIVE** - Doctrine is not to be built on \_\_\_\_\_.

Definition: Obscure passages are defined as a particular text where the subject matter of that text is mentioned only a small \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in Scripture.

Mormonism's doctrine of "baptism for the dead" is based on just one isolated verse:

Reference: **I Corinthians 15:29** (see screen)

then **I Corinthians 15:30** (see screen)