

HOW TO ADDRESS BIBLICAL DIFFICULTIES - Part IV

Reference: miscellaneous Scripture

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This is the conclusion to this series that addresses ten fundamental principles that can help us better understand the difficulties found in Scripture.

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 **do not** need to be **exact**.

FOUR - Difficult passages are to be interpreted by the more **obvious ones**.

FIVE - Doctrine is not to be built on **obscure passages**.

SIX - The fact there might be an error in a **copied** manuscript or translation does not mean there was an error in the **original** autographs.

SEVEN - Just because a biblical text seems to be _____ does not mean it is _____.

Question: Did Jesus meet _____ or _____ demoniac's?

Compare **Mark 5:1, 2** and **Matthew 8:28** (see screen)

The basis of all logic and all logical thinking is called the **law of non-contradiction** and that law states that something cannot be both ____ and _____ - ____ at the same time.

If someone can demonstrate from Scripture a violation of this law of non-contradiction then, and only then, can someone prove a biblical contradiction.

Question: Did Simon Peter deny Jesus before the rooster crowed _____ or _____?

MATTHEW'S PREDICTION:

Reference: **Matthew 26:31, 33** and **34** (see screen)

MATTHEW'S FULFILLMENT:

Reference: **Matthew 26:69-75**

According to Matthew's account Jesus predicted that **before the rooster would crow**, Simon Peter would deny him three times.

MARK'S PREDICTION:

Reference: **Mark 14:27, 29** and **30** (see screen)

MARK'S FULFILLMENT:

Reference: **Mark 14:66-72** (see screen)

According to Mark's account Jesus predicted that **before the rooster would crow twice**, Simon Peter would deny him three times

Question: Did Simon Peter deny Jesus before the rooster crowed once or twice?

Some historians have said that roosters actually crowed at three distinct times in ancient Jerusalem.

- the first time at about half an hour after midnight (_____ am)
- a second time about an hour after that (_____ am)
- and a third time at about an hour after that (_____ am)

Explanation: Jesus first made a _____ statement and told Simon Peter he would deny him before the rooster crowed and then because He felt it was necessary Jesus decided to be more _____ and told Simon Peter he would deny him before the rooster crowed twice.

EIGHT - General statements don't necessarily mean _____.

The book of Proverbs is a prime example of this principle because the proverbs are basically general statements of instruction. That means not each proverb is an absolute truism in all possible situations.

Reference: **Proverbs 26:4** and **5** (see screen)

NINE - Later biblical revelation supersedes _____.

Revelation is information from God that has been revealed to man and that divine revelation exists in two basic categories: general revelation and special revelation.

General revelation is information communicated from God to man through **creation**, human **conscience** and _____.

Special revelation is information communicated from God to man through _____ and evangelical Christianity teaches this special revelation was " _____ " in nature.

TEN - Passages are to be understood in their _____. Probably the most common mistake that opponents of Scripture make is to take a biblical text out of its textual context causing it to be misunderstood. I want us to see four circles of context:

