

HAND ME ANOTHER BRICK – Part XX
“Scripture Matters continued”
Reference: **Nehemiah 8:1-8**
Pastor Larry Webb

Throughout this series, we are discussing four basic hermeneutical principles. The first principle is the **literal principle**, meaning that we are to interpret Scripture in the normal literal sense of the term unless there is a definitive reason not to do that.

The principle under discussion this morning is the _____ **principle**.

It is important to understand that a passage of Scripture primarily means what it meant at the time it was written. To re-create the exact historical context for a particular text, we need to answer some critical questions.

- One: _____ made this happen?
- Two: _____ happened?
- Three: _____ did this happen?
- Four: _____ did this happen?
- Five: _____ did this happen?
- Six: _____ did this happen?

Resources that will help us answer these questions:

- Bible _____
- Bible _____
- Books on Bible _____
- Bible **Commentaries**:
 - _____ commentaries
 - _____ commentaries
 - _____ commentaries

Definition: Devotionalism tries to relate almost everything in Scripture to the _____.

Illustration: **II Samuel 4** (an unfortunate example from one of my earliest sermons☺)

- 1) **Mephibosheth** represents _____.
- 2) **King David** represents _____ the _____.
- 3) **Zeba** represents the _____.
- 4) **Jonathan** represents _____.

Rule: Nothing in the Old Testament should be considered a spiritual type _____ the New Testament **repeats it as a type**.

Reference: **John 3:14** (see screen)

Definition: Allegorizing Scripture is an attempt to find meaning in a text _____ the literal historical sense of the text

Reference: **Genesis 11:31** (see screen)

The **allegorized** rendering of this narrative:

Abraham’s trek to Palestine is actually the story of a Stoic philosopher that left Ur of the Chaldeans (which represented sexual understanding) and then stopped at Haran, meaning the human senses. Once Abram’s name is changed to Abraham, he becomes an enlightened philosopher, and for him to marry Sarah was to marry abstract wisdom.

Definition: Culturalization is the practice of limiting the application of a text to a particular _____ or to a particular _____ when there is no reason to do so.

Question: Are there any _____ in the immediate text that would limit the text to a particular time period?

Reference: **I Timothy 2:13** (see screen)

Question: Are there any _____ that would limit the text to a particular time period?

Principle: As a general rule, a passage should be interpreted to be applicable in the _____ time-sense possible.

If the historical setting can be established, then sometimes the passage can almost interpret itself.

Reference: **Matthew 5:39** (see screen)

On the surface, it seems that Jesus said we should allow someone to take advantage of us or harm us in some sense?

- Jesus Himself _____ literally turn the other cheek in all situations.
Reference: **John 18:19-23**

- Jesus actually encouraged _____ - _____
Reference: **Luke 22:36-38**

Reference: **Romans 12:19-21** (see screen)

Question: What does it mean to heap coals of fire onto someone’s head?

Answer: