



## I. Introduction – Review

Assignment from last week – Did you read some OT, and did you identify some of your pre-understanding? How will you keep your pre-understanding from leading to misinterpretation?

## II. Grammar and More, much more...

### A. Grammatical and syntactical analysis

#### 1. Terms

- a. Grammar –
- b. Syntax –
- c. Grammatical and syntactical analysis takes practice.
- d. Exegesis is the goal.

### B. Observation -

1. Identify the genre and consider your interpretive keys (from handout biblical genres)
2. Determining a pericope –
3. Read your pericope in a couple different translations. Ephesians 1:15
  - a. NASB – For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints,
  - b. NIV – For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people,
  - c. NET – For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints,

Look at another example: 1 Timothy 4:6

- d. NASB - In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, constantly nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following.
- e. NIV – If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed.

- f. NET – By pointing out such things to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, having nourished yourself on the words of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed.
4. Identify the grammar of the text - Who are the people involved? Who is doing the action? What is the action in the verse? Do not make too much or too little but make enough of what is really there.
- a. Nouns – objective or subjective
  - b. Verbs – active, passive, commands, future, present, past, kind of action... ongoing or undefined, past with ongoing effects.
  - c. Verbals – temporal, adjectival, causal...
    - 1) infinitives
    - 2) Participles
    - 3) adverbs
  - d. Identify the main clause.
    - 1) Types of sentences – simple, compound (two independent clauses), complex (1 independent with 1 or more dependent clauses) and compound-complex (more than 1 independent clause and one or more dependent clauses).
    - 2) The primary emphasis and a clear clue of meaning rests in independent clauses. Everything supports the independent clause.
  - e. Subordinate elements like conditional clauses, temporal clauses, causal clauses, prepositional phrases, indirect objects, adjectives, verbals...
5. Sentence diagramming can help –
- C. Lexical analysis – Two kinds of studies for each word that you must do when you do a word study:
- 1.
  - 2.
- Some helpful resources for lexical studies: New International Encyclopedia of Bible Words by Lawrence Richards is a great place to start. Vines Expository Dictionary and The Strongest NASB Exhaustive Concordance by Zondervan. Mounce’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Theology and Exegesis.
- D. Last make sure you pay attention to how the parts fit into the whole. Three characteristics you should pay attention to
- 1.
  - 2.

3.

**Emphasize the context above all other elements.**

- E. Combine all that you have done to identify the main idea of the pericope. Once we see or observe what the verse says, we are ready to ask, "What does the verse mean?"

III. John 3:16

- A. Genre and interpretive keys –

- B. Determine the pericope –

- C. Read in different translations:

1. NASB - For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.
2. NIV - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
3. ESV - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
4. NET – For this is the way God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

- D. Identify the grammar of the text

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

- E. Sentence diagramming

F. Lexical analysis –

1. Look further into the differences discovered in your reading of the translations. Only begotten - Hebrews 11:17, Luke 7:12 – only child. In reference to Christ it is a bit more. He is the only one of his kind, unique in kind – only, unique. There are many only children but there is only one Christ.
2. Identify any words you don't understand and find out what those words mean.
3. Make sure you understand the meaning of the most important words in this verse.
4. Understand the range of meanings and then allow the context to determine the choice of meaning.

G. Last make sure you pay attention to how the parts fit into the whole –

H. What does the verse mean?

IV. Assignment –

1. Begin to apply what we covered tonight to your Bible reading.
2. Begin each day and time in the word with humility and submission to the Spirit of the Lord.
3. Try a pericope on your own this week. Bring what you do to class if you are able to give it a try. If not just spend time reading Scripture and preparing your heart spiritually for next Wednesday night. We will work on another example passage together next week.

Books used in this study: 40 Questions about Interpreting the Bible, Robert L. Plummer; Exegetical Fallacies, D.A. Carson; Journey into God's Word, J. Scott Duvall, J. Daniel Hays; A Handbook of NT Exegesis, Craig Blomberg; Interpreting the NT Text, Darrell L. Bock, Buist M. Fanning; Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics, Walter C. Kaiser Jr., Moises Silva; Biblical Theology in the Church, Michael Lawrence; Interpreting the NT, David Alan Black, David S. Dockery, editors; Old Testament Theology, John Sailhamer.