

“Is the Bible from God?” (Psalm 119: Part 10)

Verse to Remember: “Give me understanding, that I may observe Your law and keep it with all my heart” (Psalm 119:34).

Can we make the Bible say anything we want it to say?

- We can't without distorting it. How should we approach the Word of God so we don't do that? We shouldn't do what Satan did, who began by challenging God's Word, saying it was false and given with bad motives (Gen 3:1-5). Satan later attacked God's Word not by dismissing it, but by distorting it (Matt 4:5-6).
- Jesus kept the Word of God in context and applied it faithfully (Matt 4:7).
- We need to do exegesis not eisegesis. 'Ex' means “out of.” 'Eis' means “into.” “Exegesis” means that we are receiving meaning from out of the text. “Eisegesis” means taking our own desires and putting them onto the text.

How do we do biblical exegesis?**1. Don't be swayed by culture and self**

- Culture can put powerful pressure on us, but we need to unashamedly stand firm and hold to what Scripture teaches (Psalm 119:46).
- Just because a scholar or another church teaches something, it doesn't mean that what they are teaching is really faithful to the Bible. We have to read and study it ourselves and do our best to understand the meaning in the text. We are absolutely not to gather teachers around us who will just tell us what we want to hear (2 Tim 4:3-4).

2. Listen to God's Word and Spirit

- We need to remember that we are listening to God's word and not putting our own thoughts onto the text.
- We need to have good Bible study methods and pay attention to the context.
- We need to pray and ask for God's help (Psalm 119:18, 27, 34, 66, 73, 125).

3. Apply God's Word

- Even if we are right in how we interpret a passage of Scripture, it doesn't help us much if we don't put what we learned into practice by applying the truth.
- We need to walk according to God's Word (Psalm 119:1-5, 11, 33, 112, 133).
- We should long to know God's word and want to put it into practice, because it is our light that guides our life and revives us (Psalm 119:105, 107, 149, 153, 156, 159, 170). And so, we should love God's Word for all it gives us (Psalm 119:40, 47-48, 72, 81, 97, 103, 123, 127, 131, 162).