

# Take Care of Yourself and of The Doctrine

Hermeneutics is a subject of great importance in Christian life, we will begin by saying that it is the Art of interpreting, and in this case biblical hermeneutics is of interpreting the sacred scriptures. According to the Strong G1329 concordance (διερμηνεύω) it is in Greek diermēneuo which means to interpret, to translate into a language that is understood, to explain the meaning of what is said, it comes from Strong's G2059 (έρμηνεύω) which is hermēneuo more directly "Hermeneutics", Our Lord Jesus Christ interpreted the Old Testament as the following verse indicates:

<u>Luke 24:27</u> And beginning from Moses and from all the prophets, <u>he interpreted</u> to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

During the last twenty centuries innumerable religious groups have been formed despite having the same Bible, what is the reason? The interpretation that each one gave to the scriptures! The correct interpretation brings blessing to our life, but the incorrect one can bring destruction, the Apostle Paul writes to one of his disciples:

<u>2 Timothy 2:15</u> Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a workman who does not need to be ashamed, who uses the word of truth well.

It is very important to interpret the writing correctly because what we understand will finally be what we will teach others and just as the teacher is, the students will be. The Lord Jesus formed students just like him, but this is also true in the wrong sense, a misinterpretation teaches the scriptures wrongly and instead of being a blessing it is of perdition as the Pharisees had understood the scripture in their own way and harmed everyone they instructed, the Lord told them:

<u>Matthew 23:15</u> Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you travel the sea and the land to make a proselyte (disciple), and when he becomes one, <u>you make him a son of hell</u> twice as much as you.

If we do not understand the scripture well, we will explain badly and we will divert many from the truth, it is very important to show diligence to learn to interpret it correctly, the enemy bases his attacks on the Christian life seeking to distort the scriptures, in it we will find very deep things that the natural man will never be able to understand, for example in the epistles written by the Apostle Paul we find mysteries hidden since centuries and that now the ignorant twist to their own perdition, the Apostle Peter warned about this referring to the deep things that God gave Paul to write:



<u>2 Peter 3:16</u> That's what he says in all his letters when he writes about these things. There are parts of his letters <u>that are hard to understand</u>, <u>and some people give a wrong meaning to them</u>. These people are ignorant and weak in faith. They also give wrong meanings to the other Scriptures. But they are destroying themselves by doing that. <sup>17</sup> Dear friends, you already know about this. So **be careful**. Don't let these evil people lead you away by the wrong they do. Be careful that you do not fall from your strong faith. <sup>18</sup> <u>But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ</u>. Glory be to him, now and forever! Amen.

Note that we must be firm, in several passages we are exhorted to be firm in the faith (1 Peter 5: 9, Philippians 1:27, 2 Corinthians 1:24, etc.), but to be firm in the faith we must know the word of truth and handle it properly, that is why the previous verse tells us that we grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we who are undoubtedly the last generation have had to live a time where God is revealing his word like never before, Daniel was told to seal the prophecies until the end time, but John in Revelations was told not to seal them because the time is short, God has promised to raise up a new generation of ministers according to his heart, ministers who will lead the people of God with knowledge and intelligence (Jeremiah 3:15).

We will approach this study in two parts:

- 1. Personal care
- 2. Doctrinal cares

We will base ourselves on the two cares that the Apostle Paul exhorts Timothy to take care of "Take care of yourself and take care of the doctrine ...", the first one tells us about the attitudes we must have to receive divine revelation, and the Second of the methods or rules of interpretation, it is useless to know the best methods of interpretation if we are not the right people to study the scriptures, we will begin by studying the personal care that anyone who wishes to be a teacher or guide must have to correctly interpret the scriptures.



# **Personal Care**

It does not matter that one knows the best methods of interpretation and that one has the right tools, it is useless if one invests hours and hours to understand the scripture if he first does not meet the personal requirements to receive God's revelation, write it and save it in his heart:

Before starting to learn the proper methods to receive the revelation of the word, we must be the right people, some say that everyone can understand the word of God, and others say that very few, the truth is that there is only one type of person who can understand the scriptures and we should try to meet those requirements.

# The Things of God are Spiritual

There is only one type of person who can understand the word of God, the Bible shows us the relationship that exists between the Spirit and the Word:

<u>Proverbs 1:23</u> Return to my rebuke; Behold <u>I will pour out my spirit</u> about you, AND <u>I will let you know my words.</u>

Notice the order, first comes the spirit and then the knowledge of the word, in the New Testament we also find this relationship:

**John 3:34** For He whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God, for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto Him.

As God gives the Spirit then the person has the words of God to be able to speak. But why does this relationship exist? The Lord Jesus explains this reality to us:

<u>John 6:63</u> It is the spirit that giveth life; the flesh profiteth nothing: <u>the words that I have spoken</u> <u>unto you are spirit and are life.</u>

The first point we must know is that the word of God is Spiritual and that is why we need to have the Spirit of God to understand it, this is not a matter of how intelligent someone can be, a genius, a scientist, a teacher of mathematics or philosophy. No matter how intelligent or wise, any person who has not been born again will never be able to understand the word of God, the born-again Christian, even if he is not intellectually prepared, will understand the word more than all of them.



Someone can get reasoning from the Bible, he can even create his own sect giving the scriptures the interpretation that he thinks is correct, but the truth is that without fulfilling the requirement of being born again he will be wrong and will mislead all who listen to him, the saying "blind guide of the blind" will be fulfilled, and both will fall into the same hole,

<u>1 Corinthians 2:7</u> but we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, even the wisdom that hath been hidden, which God foreordained before the worlds unto our glory: 8 which none of the rulers of this world hath known: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory: 9 but as it is written, Things which eye saw not, and ear heard not, And which entered not into the heart of man, Whatsoever things God prepared for them that love him.10 <u>But unto us God revealed them through the Spirit:</u> for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God

Now let's move on to the second point because there are several requirements that we must meet so that we are the right people, and we are able to learn the methods that will allow us to receive God's revelation.

# Be Spiritual

It seems the same as the above, but it is not, the same problem has a blind man to see something than one who is not blind but has his eyes closed, it is not enough to be born again we must be spiritual people, the Bible speaks of three types of man:

- 1. The natural man: this is anyone who has not been born again, however intelligent he may be, this includes scientists, artists, alcoholics, prostitutes, etc. everyone who has not been born again.
- 2. The spiritual man: he is the one who has been born again, and who lives a life guided by the Spirit, evidenced by the practical exercise of the word of God, this is the one who has the ability to receive God's revelation.
- 3. The carnal man: this is the one who has been born again but lives like the natural man, walks according to the flesh or the soul, although he has the spirit, he is not guided by it and as such cannot receive the revelation of God.

If someone has not been born again, he is a natural man and as such cannot touch the word of God, no matter how hard he tries, the natural man can never receive the revelation of the word:



<u>1 Corinthians 2:14</u> But the natural man does not accept the things that are of the Spirit of God, because <u>they are insanity</u>; <u>and can't understand them</u>, because they must be spiritually discerned.

But in the same way, a born-again Christian who has a carnal behavior, will not be able to understand God's revelation, remember that revelation comes by the Spirit:

<u>1 Corinthians 2:12</u> And we have not received the spirit of this world, but the Spirit that proceeds from God, so that we may know the things that God has given us freely. 13 Of these things we are speaking, not with the words taught by human wisdom, but with <u>those taught by the Spirit</u>, interpreting the spiritual to the spiritual.

In this last verse he shows us that we must be spiritual people "interpreting the spiritual to the spiritual", it is useless to have been born again if we live a life in the flesh, the Bible teaches us that the carnal in spiritual terms are children and as such can only receive milk, that is, the elementary teachings of the gospel:

<u>1 Corinthians 3: 1</u> And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, <u>but as unto carnal</u>, <u>as unto babes in Christ.</u> <sup>2</sup> I fed you with milk, not with meat; for ye were not yet able *to bear it*: nay, not even now are ye able.

The spiritual child can only receive milk (elementary doctrines) because his life is in the flesh as we mentioned a moment ago, the same problem has a blind person to see something that someone who, although not blind, has his eyes closed, "a carnal" is someone who has the born-again Spirit but does not use it to live a God-pleasing spiritual life.

This truth must be mentioned, although it is difficult to say, unfortunately in the congregations there are many, many people who, despite having years in the gospel, still do not understand the word and this only reveals that they are still in the flesh, the book of Hebrews tells us shows an example of this:

Hebrews 5:11 Of whom we have many things to say, and hard of interpretation, seeing ye are become dull of hearing. 12 For when by reason of the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need again that someone teach you the rudiments of the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of solid food. 13 For everyone that partaketh of milk is without experience of the word of righteousness; for he is a babe. 14 But solid food is for full-grown men, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern good and evil.



The fact that someone does not understand shows that he is a spiritual child, it shows that despite the time that has elapsed that he should be a teacher, he still needs to drink milk and cannot have solid food because this is for the spiritual, for the mature, for those who implement the word and as such they have grown to understand the will of God, what is good, pleasant and perfect, the word commands us to advance towards maturity and to pursue the deepest truths of God:

Hebrews 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, 2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. 3 And this will we do, if God permit.

The correct person who is in the capacity to receive the revelation of the word is the spiritual person, not only who has been born again but who lives according to the spirit, let's see some reasons why someone who has been born again continues in his childhood without being able to understand the word.

#### Lack of consecration

<u>Deuteronomy 29:4</u> Yet to this day the Lord has not given <u>you a heart and mind to understand</u>, nor eyes to see, nor ears to hear.

The word of God shows dozens of verses with the heart-understanding relationship, the problem of lack of understanding lies in our heart, King Solomon asked God to give him an understanding heart (1 Kings 3: 9) and once when the disciples did not understand the words of the Lord, the scripture shows us that their hearts were hardened:

<u>Mark 6:52</u> because <u>they had not understood</u> about the loaves. Instead, <u>their hearts were</u> hardened.

In the book of Ephesians, we are told that people are filled with ignorance because of the hardness of their hearts, and this keeps them estranged from the life of God:

**Ephesians 4:18** being darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardening of their heart.

Notice the clear relationship between lack of understanding and hardness of heart, in the parable of the sower we are told that the word is the seed and that the heart is the earth, but those who did



not understand the enemy came and stole the seed and it could not bear fruit, the whole problem lies in the heart, Daniel was a man of understanding because from his heart he sought to understand the word of God (Daniel 10:12), that is why the main commandment that God gives us is:

<u>Mark 12:30</u> And you will love the Lord your God <u>with all your heart</u>, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength. This is the main commandment.

This command calls us to total consecration, the Lord rebuked Israel because they honored him with their lips, but their hearts were far away and for that reason Israel was a people without understanding (Isaiah 1:3), there is no revelation from God if not before there is consecration, the problem for which people live for years without understanding the scriptures is their lack of consecration. God will not reveal his word to those who are not willing to fulfill it, before the revelation comes there must be a disposition in us to fulfill it, said in simple words, God says "Why do you want me to reveal the word to you if you are not willing to fulfill it?", we must separate ourselves for God, if we have all our hearts to serve the Lord then he will reveal his word to us, we will mature and reach all the blessing He have for us.

# Eye problem

To better understand the problem of consecration we will see the role of the eyes, the scriptures declare the relationship between heart, eyes and understanding:

<u>Proverbs 23:26</u> My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways. <u>Isaiah 44:18</u> They neither know nor understand; <u>because their eyes are closed so as not to see</u>, and their heart so as not to understand.

According to how our eyes see, that indicates our level of consecration, the word tells us that if our eye is good, we will be full of light, remember that the eye is the lamp of the body (Matthew 6:22), what does it mean to have a good eye? Let's look at the context of these verses:

Matthew 6:19 Do not lay-up treasures on earth, where moth and rust corrupt, and where thieves break into and steal; 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust corrupt, and where thieves neither break through nor steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. 22 The lamp of the body is the eye; so, if your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light; 23 but if your eye is evil, your whole body will be in darkness. So, if the light that is in you is darkness, how many will not be the same darkness? 24 no one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.



Before speaking of the principle of the eye, the Lord speaks of laying up treasures in heaven and not on earth, and then he speaks of the fact that you cannot serve two Lords, to have a good eye is to have our sight in the things of God and to serve, only God. Consecration is related to how we see things, where we have our eyes set, if we are born again we must have our eyes on Jesus Christ (see Hebrews 12: 2 and Colossians 3: 1-2), because if we are Seeing the earthly riches, our hearts will bow to the things of the world and not to consecration to God, the word tells us that whoever wants to befriend the world becomes an enemy of God (James 4: 4), when Solomon consecrated the temple The Lord declared that his heart and eyes would be in that house as He sanctified it:

<u>2 Chronicles 7:16</u> For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there forever: and mine eves and mine heart shall be there perpetually.

If we want to receive God's revelation, we must consecrate ourselves totally for God, and for that we must learn to see correctly, we cannot be thinking about the things of the world and wait for God to reveal his word to us, we must be willing to fix our gaze only on the things of the world. things from above God will take us from glory to glory, from revelation to revelation, here a virtuous circle begins:

If we dispose our hearts to serve God and put his word into action, he will bring us revelation, but each new revelation will bring greater demands for consecration, the moment we stop putting the word into action at that moment the revelation stops flowing, the point is to always live consecrated, to dispose our hearts to always obey and then his revelation will always come.

The revelation of God is not a simple knowledge that we did not have before, the revelation is life that is transmitted from God to our Spirit.

We can summarize the personal requirements in:

- 1. To be born again.
- 2. Being Spiritual
- 3. Being always consecrated to God

Paul prayed for the Spirit to give him revelation and wisdom to better know God and understand his purposes and the power that operates in us who believe:

**Ephesians 1:15** For this reason I also, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus that is among you, and of your love for all the saints, 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; 17 asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in a better knowledge of Him.



# Personal Attitudes

There are people who despite being born again and seeking God with all their hearts still do not reap results in the scripture, they may have even the spirit of revelation, but it is not enough to be the right person, we must also have the right attitude, yes, if we do not sow in the study of the word, we will never reap the revelation that God brings, in general we will mention some tasks that we must carry out in this process of study:

# 1. Daily reading

Every Christian has the duty to read the word of God, only through it can we know the riches that God has for us, Jesus told the Pharisees:

<u>Matthew 21:42</u> Jesus said to them: <u>Have you never read in the scriptures</u>: The stone that the builders rejected, has become the head of the corner. The Lord has done this, and is it a wonderful thing in our eyes?

We must be responsible in our reading of the word, we cannot read eight hours one day and another day not fifteen minutes, it is necessary that we form a discipline in reading we should not put burdens on ourselves that we will not allow us to fulfill our study goals, about thirty minutes a day to start would be enough, of course the ideal would be one or two hours but remember we must be responsible and do it every day.

## 2. Scrutinize

Daily reading alone is not enough, we must go to the degree of scrutinizing the scriptures, what is scrutinizing? To understand it better, let's imagine that we are looking for a garment in our closet, we know it is there, but we cannot find it, so we remove all the clothes until we get to it, this is scrutinizing, it is doing a detailed reading, and only informative but as a search for the truths of scripture, the Lord said to the Pharisees:

<u>John 5:39</u> <u>Search the scriptures</u>; because it seems to you that in them you have eternal life; and they are the ones who bear witness to me.

By searching we will begin to find how the scripture testifies of Jesus from Genesis to Revelation, the Apostle Paul came to Thessalonica to preach the gospel of Jesus to them, and the scripture



shows us that those from Thessalonica searched to see if what the Apostle Paul was telling them was truly stated:

Acts 17:11 And these they were more noble than those who were in Thessalonica, who received the word with all solicitude, searching the scriptures every day to see if these things were so.

We must do an informative daily reading, but we must also search to find the truths of the scripture, the Bible declares that those who search are more noble people than those who do not.

#### 3. Memorize

All these steps are complementary and necessary in our preparation to receive God's revelation, the scripture declares that the word of Christ must abound in us:

<u>Colossians 3:16</u> The <u>word of Christ abide in abundance in you</u>, teaching and exhorting one another in all wisdom, singing gracefully in your hearts to the Lord with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs.

How do we make the word abound in us? We must read it, scrutinize it but also memorize it, it is very important that we begin to memorize portions of the scripture, how could we correctly quote the word unless we memorize it? Memorizing it is filling ourselves with it in our hearts and minds, when we see the New Testament beginning with our Lord Jesus, he quoted the written word verbatim:

<u>Matthew 4:4</u> He answered and said: It is written: Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes out of the mouth of God.

The apostles throughout the book of Acts quoted the word verbatim, in the speech that Peter gave at Pentecost he quoted the book of Joel, then before the council he cited the Psalms:

Acts 2:16 Rather, this is what was said through the prophet Joel: 17 It will happen in the last days, says God, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Your sons and your daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams. 18 Verily, on my male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they will prophesy. 19 I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs on earth below: blood, fire, and vapor of smoke. 20 The sun will be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and glorious day of the Lord comes.



Acts 2:25 For David says of him: I saw the Lord ever before me; because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. 26 Therefore my heart is glad, and my tongue rejoices. Moreover, my flesh will rest in hope, 27 because you will not abandon me in Hades or allow your holy one to see decay. 28 You have revealed the paths of life to me; you will fill me with gladness in your presence. Peter did not say "more or less so the scripture says" NO! They cited correctly because they had memorized the texts and then the Holy Spirit was able to enable them at the right time. Memorizing the scriptures is something important, from what we do in our daily reading, let's take one or two verses and let's memorize it if we do it like that in a couple of years we will know hundreds of verses that the Holy Spirit will extract when necessary, this is how it works We memorize the revelation but it is the Lord who brings them out at the right time to bring us light on what we read, we fill ourselves with water but it is the Lord who turns it into wine, we must take as an example men like Stephen who could give a speech to those of the Jewish council, he summarized the scriptures from the call of Abraham, through Isaac, Jacob,

# 4. Compare

After we go to the level of scrutinizing, we are going to realize that in some passages we will not find everything we are looking for and then we will begin to search in parallel passages where the same topic is discussed, when we begin this, we must make comparisons because in some places there is more light than on others, and we will learn the Biblical principle:

**Psalm 119: 160** The sum of your word is true; all your righteous judgments are eternal.

To better understand a truth we must compare all the verses, chapters and even books that speak on the subject, for example to know about salvation, law, and grace we should at least read Romans, Galatians and Hebrews, to know more about the ministry of the Lord Jesus while he was on earth we must compare what the four gospels narrate, in the comparison we will realize that because some narrate an angle and others another angle, for example in John it is the only gospel where we see the expression "in truth Truly I tell you", what does this mean? When we begin to compare, we realize that John shows the Lord in his divinity, as a son of God and as God, in Matthew we see that we are given the genealogy of the Lord and all the prophecies that he fulfilled as the Messiah, Matthew shows us the Lord as the King, and so on we begin to discover and understand The Scriptures correctly. There are several things we must compare:

#### **Facts**



We begin to compare the facts and the attitudes of the characters in certain situations, and we will find tremendous truths, for example, the Lord Jesus had two different attitudes with two people who came to him to perform a miracle for them.

# The leper

Matthew 8: 2 And behold, a leper came and prostrated himself before him saying, "Lord, if you want, you can cleanse me!" 3 Jesus reached out and touched him saying, "I want to." Be clean! And immediately he was cleansed of the leprosy.

This man came with faith without doubting he told him if you want you can, paraphrasing it would be "I know that you can, only as long as you want", this man pleased the Lord and Jesus not only told him to be clean, he manifested his love because he said "I want to, be clean", so when we come to him with faith knowing that He can do everything, then we will find his answer" I want, receive your blessing", but we see the other case.

#### The man with the demonized son

<u>Mark 9:22</u> And many times he throws him into the fire and into the water, to kill him; <u>but if you can do something</u>, have mercy on us, and help us. 23 Jesus said to him: If you can believe, everything is possible to the one who believes. 24 And immediately the boy's father cried out and said: I believe; help my unbelief.

Notice the attitude of this other man if you can do something! He arrived without faith, without believing that Jesus can do everything, and the Lord reproaches him because the best translation of his answer is "as if you can, of course everything I can", evidence of this is that after the admonition the man realized that he did not have faith and cried out" help my unbelief", when we compare the attitude of the Lord in reflection of the attitude of the people we realize that He loves the one who approaches with faith, but to the unbeliever, he makes him see first his need for faith because the word declares that without faith it is impossible to please God. We cannot hope to receive from God if we arrive without faith, if we are lacking in faith and we recognize our condition then Let us cry out, Lord help my unbelief!

# **Collate the prophetic**

We must also keep in mind the eschatological part, as teachers we cannot neglect something so important, Jesus ordered us to be awake and attentive to future events to recognize the time of his coming so we must compare and see what prophecies speak about the same, Daniel in ancient times is a clear example of a student of prophetic events, despite being a prophet he scrutinized



other portions of the word given by another prophet and was able to understand the events of the future:

<u>Daniel 9: 2</u> In the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, <u>I could understand</u> in the books the number of years in which, by the word of the LORD <u>that was revealed to the prophet Jeremiah</u>, the desolations of Jerusalem were to be fulfilled: seventy years.

To understand about the prophecies that are in the second coming of the Lord we must first compare how the prophecies of the first coming were fulfilled and we will realize many truths that will transform our way of thinking and seeing the Word, Luke the writer of the gospel of the same name was someone who investigated everything and ordered to better understand things, the comparison implies investigating and ordering:

<u>Luke 1:3</u> So it also seemed good to me, <u>since I have carefully investigated everything</u> from the very first, to write to you in an orderly sequence, most honorable Theophilus,

And as good researchers who compare everything, we must learn to compare the two testaments, because as we said there are things that are spoken in many passages of scripture:

<u>Matthew13: 52</u> And He said to them: That is why every scribe who has become a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out new things and old things from his treasure.

We must know that the Old Testament is a shadow and figure of the new (Hebrews 10: 1), but that the new must be contained in the old as well, all apostolic doctrine is based on the Old Testament, Jesus said that it must be fulfilled. that is in the law, the psalms, and the prophets (this is a way of saying the Old Testament). We must investigate why we don't accept things just because they tell us about what we believe, let's be like those from Berea, let's compared to see if that's the case.

#### 5. Meditate

When we already read, scrutinize, memorize, and compare the writing, we can meditate on it. What is meditating on the word? It is having our thoughts on it at all times, it is trying to understand why? Of certain things, it is trying to receive from God the answer that makes us understand his purposes, it is seeking to know his will and go after everything he has for us, this is what God said to Joshua.

<u>Joshua 1:8</u> Never let this book of the Law depart from your mouth; rather, <u>meditate on it day</u> <u>and night</u>, so that you keep and fulfill everything that is written in it. That way you will be successful, and everything will be fine for you.



Meditation of the word opens the doors of blessing to us to know God more, we will begin to receive the understanding about the work of God, about the majesty of God, about his sovereignty, his magnificence, his glory, then our heart will begin to be transformed, David said:

<u>Psalm 119:15</u> In your commandments <u>I will meditate</u>; <u>I will consider</u> your ways. 16 <u>I will rejoice</u> in your statutes; <u>I will not forget</u> your words. 17 Do good to your servant; long live and <u>save</u> your word.

Meditation brings consideration about our life and the path we are taking, we rejoice when we understand God's purpose, and we do not forget to keep his word because it begins to be a greater delight every day, to meditate is to learn to listen to the voice of God in response to our need to know more about him and his word.

We must know that God wants to speak to us (Psalm 118: 5), and that we must develop the ability to hear God's voice, we must ask God directly as Job did (Job 38:1), wait for God's answer (Psalm 28:1) and treasure his answers, put the word into action, we should not only be hearers, but doers of the word.

Summarizing the attitudes, we can say that we must:

- Read daily
- Scrutinize
- Memorize
- Compare
- Meditate

#### Obstacles to Revelation

We are going to list some obstacles that can prevent us from receiving God's revelation:

# **Denominationalism**

Starting to carry doctrines of men that have no biblical foundation, or that are based on misinterpretations of texts, this can take away all the blessing of a correct interpretation, if we want to impose our truth, or our way of thinking we will not achieve the true revelation. We must remove all denominationalism and understand that the truth is one and we must be willing to rectify and correct our mistakes.



## **Men's traditions**

Another problem is wanting to establish as doctrine mandates that men in their religiosity have established, to continue like this is to put a barrier that prevents divine revelation, this made the Pharisees establish laws that had no foundation in the word:

<u>Titus 1: 3</u>This testimony is true. Therefore, reprimand them severely to make them sound in the faith, 14 ignoring Jewish myths and <u>to the commandments of men</u> who stray from the truth.

# **Prejudices**

We must remove all prejudice on account of gender, race, social status, etc. Some people believe that because they do not have professional studies in the secular, they are at a disadvantage to receive the revelation, but remember that it is not with our mind (soul) it is by the Spirit, it is not human wisdom, it is divine wisdom.

#### Culture

Unfortunately, culture has affected us many times as far as the appreciation of the truth, we want to believe that something is from God for the simple fact that the majority say so, but here it does not depend on the majority, but on the word of God, we must understand that the only and absolute truth is that revealed in the Bible, when we give importance to other sources of teaching we are deviating from the path to God's truth.



# **Doctrinal Care**

Now that we have learned how to be the correct people, with the correct attitudes and the correct position then we are able to learn about the interpretation methods, we will start talking about the tools that every hermeneut must have.

# Tools of a Hermeneut

Although we have already said that revelation is something that comes from the Spirit, we are not to think that we just fall asleep and revelation is coming, every good hermeneut must have enough material to facilitate the understanding of the sacred scriptures:

# 1. Bibles

The best version of the Bible is to have several, remember that the only infallible version is the original, the translations contain errors, "translation errors", and that is why we must have several versions to compare them and be able to see clearly the meaning of the passages.

#### 2. Concordances

It is necessary to have these books that have cross references on the different topics that the Bible deals with, there is one in particular that is vital for Bible study and it is the Strong's concordance, in it we will find the meaning in the originals of each word of the scripture, as well as its reference in all the passages that it is used.

#### 3. Dictionaries

It is essential to have biblical and secular dictionaries that help us to know in depth the meaning of the words in the verses that we are studying, there are dictionaries of names



that facilitate the understanding of certain passages in particular. There are dictionaries that give us historical reviews of some of the words and are very useful to frame how people lived at the time a certain portion of the scriptures were written.

#### 4. Biblical Atlases

It is very helpful to know the geography and to be able to locate the places mentioned in the different passages that we are studying, so we can realize how close or long the routes were, or in what situation the characters were at the time of a certain event.

#### 5. Biblical Comments

Today there are a large number of theologians who have commented on each passage of the Bible according to their appreciation, we must be very careful not to make their comment infallible, it is useful to check them after we have studied and compared the texts.

All these tools can be found simplified in computer programs that greatly facilitate their use.

# Elements of the Bible Language

Now that we have the appropriate tools, we are going to enter into interpretation, the first thing we must know is that the Bible uses different elements of language to convey its message to us, we will mention seven main elements or forms.

#### 1. Simile

It is a comparison between two things to give a living and effective idea of one of them. In the following example they compare a God-fearing man to a well-planted tree that bears fruit in its season.

<u>Psalm 1: 3</u> he will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither; in everything he does, he thrives.

In the following example the wicked are compared to serpents.



#### Psalm 58

<sup>3</sup> From the womb the wicked are misled; from birth those who speak lies go astray. 4 They have venom like snake venom; they are like a deaf cobra that closes its ear, 5 that does not hear the voice of those who enchant, not even the most skillful enchantress.

# 2. Metaphor

It is to transfer an idea by representation, it is to transfer a virtue using figurative language, in the following example the protection and source of life that God provides using the sun and shield are represented.

<u>Psalm 84:11</u>For sun and shield is the LORD God; grace and glory gives the LORD; nothing good denies those who walk in integrity.

In this other metaphor God is compared to a builder who builds the nation of Israel.

# Psalm 69

<sup>35</sup> For God will save Zion and build the cities of Judah, so that they may dwell there and possess it.

# 3. Allegory

Comparing things by implication, is a symbolic representation of abstract ideas by means of figures or attributes. It is using consecutive metaphors implying one thing expressed by another. There are some beautiful passages that exemplify an allegory that gives us a profound teaching on law and grace:

<u>Galatians 4:21</u> Tell me, those of you who wish to be under the law, don't you listen to the law? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the bondwoman and the other by the free woman. 23 But the son of the handmaid was born according to the flesh, and the



son of the free woman by promise. 24 This contains an allegory, for these women are two covenants; one comes from Mount Sinai that begets children to be slaves; this is Hagar. 25 Now, Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to the present-day Jerusalem, because she is in bondage with her children. 26 But the Jerusalem above is free; this is our mother. 27 For it is written: REJOICE, O BARREN, THE WHO CANNOT CONCEIVE; BREAK OUT AND CRY, YOU WHO DO NOT HAVE BIRTH PAINS, BECAUSE THE CHILDREN OF THE DESOLATED ONE ARE MORE THAN OF THE ONE WHO HAS A HUSBAND. 28 And you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. 29 But just as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so it is now. 30 But what does the Scripture say? KEEP OUT THE SERVANT AND HER SON, FOR THE SON OF THE SERVANT WILL NOT BE THE HEIR WITH THE SON OF THE FREE. 31 So, brothers, we are not children of the handmaid, but of the free woman.

This allegory teaches us the reality of the two covenants, the one that was on Mount Sinai and was through the law of Moses, and the new covenant on the mount of God, which was through the sacrifice of Christ, the old covenant, gives birth to slave children, the new to free children, Hagar and Sarah are the figures that represent the pacts.

# 4. Figures or Types

It is a comparison that serves as an example, it is something that represents or figures something else.

The scripture declares in Romans 5:14 that Adam is a figure of Christ, that is to say that what is said about Adam was a representation of what is really said about Christ, for example:

• Adam was lord of creation, but we know that the true Lord of all creation is Jesus because by him, in him, and for him all things are created.



• From Adam's rib they take Eve, when Jesus dies on the cross, his side is opened and water and blood come out representing the Church, who like Eve became Adam's wife, the Church will become the wife of Christ.

There are many figures and types throughout the scripture, it is important to take into account the names of the characters or the cities, because deep down they have deep truths, for example the book of Ruth.

A story appears of a woman who together with her family left her land because there was a terrible famine, but when she left she only found destruction and family loss, when she returns to her land she comes with one of her daughters-in-law and begins her restoration, it seems like a story. nothing else, but if we consider the names we realize the tremendous teaching that we receive.

Ruth 1: 1 It came to pass that in the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the country. And a man from Bethlehem of Judah went to reside in the fields of Moab with his wife and two children. 2 The man's name was Elimelech, and his wife's name was Naomi. The names of his two sons were Mahlon and Quelion, Ephraim of Bethlehem of Judah. And they came to the fields of Moab and there they stayed. 3 And Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons.

They were in Judas' Bethlehem, Bethlehem means house of bread, Judah means praise, Elimelech's name means "God is King", and Naomi his wife which means pleasant, what do these guys tell us? This family represents the redeemed Church whose house should be characterized by bread and praise, where God is King and life is pleasant, but despite this we see that God sends trials to his people, because here they had a tremendous hunger, they had We had to stay but when they left the place where God is king, where his bread is, and his praise is, we only find destruction, her husband and children died, and Naomi changed her name to Mara ,which means "bitter", that's how we find ourselves when we have turned our back on God, or when we flee from his treatment, we also see that God in his mercy brings her back to her place, and restores her life,



In this example we see Isaac as the figure of Christ, as the son whom the father sacrifices (John 3:16) to redeem us from judgment on sin.

Genesis 22:10 Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to sacrifice his son.

#### 5. The fable

Literary composition in verse or prose by means of an allegorical fiction, we see an example of these in scripture:

<u>2 Kings 14: 9</u> King Jehoash of Israel sent word to King Amaziah of Judah, saying, "The thistle in Lebanon once sent a message to the cedar in Lebanon, saying, 'Give your daughter to my son as a wife.' Then a wild animal in Lebanon passed by and trampled the thistle.

This King by means of a fable threatens another king so that he does not ask for his daughter's hand. Let's see another example:

#### Judges 9

7 Amaziah killed ten thousand Edomites in Salt Valley. He took Sela in battle and called it Joktheel, which is still its name today. 8 Amaziah then sent messengers to Jehoash son of Jehoahaz, son of Jehu, king of Israel, and challenged him: "Come, let's meet face to face." 9 King Jehoash of Israel sent word to King Amaziah of Judah, saying, "The thistle in Lebanon once sent a message to the cedar in Lebanon, saying, 'Give your daughter to my son as a wife.' Then a wild animal in Lebanon passed by and trampled the thistle. 10 You have indeed defeated Edom, and you have become overconfident.[a] Enjoy your glory and stay at home. Why should you stir up such trouble that you fall—you and Judah with you?" 11 But Amaziah would not listen, so King Jehoash of Israel advanced. He and King Amaziah of Judah met face to face at Beth-shemesh that belonged to Judah. 12 Judah was routed before Israel, and each man fled to his own tent. 13 King Jehoash of Israel captured Judah's King Amaziah son of Joash,[b] son of Ahaziah, at Beth-shemesh. Then Jehoash went to Jerusalem and broke down two hundred yards[c] of Jerusalem's wall from the Ephraim Gate to the Corner Gate. 14 He took all the gold and silver, all the articles found



in the Lord's temple and in the treasuries of the king's palace, and some hostages. Then he returned to Samaria. 15 The rest of the events of Jehoash's reign, along with his accomplishments, his might, and how he waged war against King Amaziah of Judah, are written in the Historical Record of Israel's Kings.

The trees represented the seventy sons of Gideon, and the bush represented Abimelech. Jotham's point was this: a productive person would be too busy doing good to waste time with political powers. On the other hand, a useless person would be glad to receive the honor, but would destroy the people he ruled. Abimelech, like a bush, was unable to offer Israel real protection or security. The parable of Jotham came true when Abimelech destroyed the city of Shechem

# 6. Euphemisms

It is a way of expressing ideas gently or decorously so as not to make a strong impression, it is used a lot in scripture, for example:

<u>Genesis 24: 2</u> And Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his house, who was steward of all that he owned: Please put your hand under my thigh,

The thigh is used as a euphemism to not directly say that it is a genital part, so we see it in the Strong H3409 (ירך) yarêk concordance that means genital organs, it is also used when the scripture narrates that Jacob was disjointed by the angel, what they ministered to Jacob was the sexual area.

In this other example, the euphemism of foot washing is used to refer to the sexual act.

#### **2 Samuel 11**

<sup>7</sup>And when Uriah came to David, David asked him how Joab and the army were doing, and what news of the war was there. 8 Then he ordered him to go home and wash his feet. As soon as Uriah left the royal palace, the king sent him special food as a gift; 9 But Uriah,



instead of going home, spent the night at the palace gates with the soldiers of the royal guard.

#### 7. By Parables

A parable is a narration of an event from which a profound truth is deduced (by comparison or similarity), this was the way of speaking of Jesus:

<u>Matthew 13:34</u> All this Jesus spoke in parables to the multitudes, and he spoke nothing to them without a parable,

The Lord revealed profound mysteries through parables, in the same scripture it was prophesied that he would do so:

Psalm 78: 2In parables I will open my mouth; I will speak proverbs of old,

For the religious and unbelievers these parables will only be simple stories (Matthew 13:11), that is why Jesus said "whoever has ears to hear", that is, for those who have understanding (Luke 8:10). All the scripture is a great parable. We need to acquire understanding to be good "Hermeneuts". But there is even more, if we see the originals of Psalm 78: 2 it tells us that a parable is a superior mental action in riddles, a complex riddle, of things from the quedem that is the OLAM. The parable are dark expressions that speak to us through riddles of things that happened in the first creations, even before creating the earth, in allegories. It is like giving us a clue and we must investigate the complement in the BIBLE to obtain the complete story.

The account of Nehemiah is restoration of the Jerusalem that was destroyed, a figure from the ancient times when the devil ruled and Jerusalem was corrupted and destroyed. There was a king and priest who fell. Ezekiel 28 (priest) and Isaiah 14 (kings), Luzbel was king and priest and was corrupted, Jesus the new star replaces kings and priests.

The Good Samaritan, from Jerusalem to Jericho, beat a man, a Levite and a priest could not attend to him, but the Good Samaritan did pick him up and leave him at the inn. It is like us who came from heavenly Jerusalem to earth and we were assaulted and we came to



earth wounded, but Jesus picked us up. Samaritan = half Jew and Gentile, God and man. Two denarii, one denarius payment per day, two denarii for two days, two thousand years.

In this parable the Lord speaks to us of the reality of the gospel, now we are in the time of fishing, but the final day will come when the angels will separate the righteous from the wicked, and God will judge each group.

Matthew 13:47 The kingdom of heaven is also similar to a trailing net that was thrown into the sea, and collected fish of all kinds; Matthew 13:48 and when it was full, they took her out to the beach; and they sat down and gathered the good fish into baskets, but they threw out the bad ones. Matthew 13:49 So it will be at the end of the world; the angels will come out, and will bring out the wicked from among the righteous, Matthew 13:50 and will throw them into the fiery furnace; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

# Biblical Symbology

In order to understand the meaning of the biblical stories we must make use of symbolism, this is a crucial point since many symbolize everything and others take everything literally, but we will see how scripture teaches us when it is symbolic and when it is not, remember that each An element used in the scriptures has a representation that we must know in order to have a correct interpretation, it should be noted that some symbols have several meanings, but it is important not to ignore the rule of symbology, it is the same scripture that teaches us what it means Each symbol, no one can add a meaning to something that the Bible does not support. Let's see some examples of symbols and for that we are going to use the tabernacle of Moses which was a figure of Christ:

Exodus 25: 1 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 2 Tell the children of Israel to take an offering for me; of everyone whose heart moves him to do so, you will take my offering. 3 And this is the offering that you will take from them: gold, silver, and bronze; 4 blue, purple and scarlet cloth, fine linen and goat hair; 5 ram skins dyed red, porpoise skins and acacia wood; 6 oil for the light, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense; 7 onyx stones and setting stones for the Ephod and for the breastplate. 8 And make a sanctuary for me, so that I may dwell among them.



Element	Meaning	Comment
Gold	Divinity	Is God
Silver	Redemption	Is our redeemer
Bronze	Judgment	He carried our judgment
Blue fabric	The Celestial	Son of God
Purple Fabric	The royalty	King
Scarlet Cloth	The blood	The Savior
Fine Linen Fabric	The pure	His sinless perfection
Sheep Skins	Our substitute	The one who took our place
Porpoise Skins	Ugliness	When he put himself in our place, he had no beauty
Acacia wood	Incorruptible body	His body saw no corruption, he resurrected
Lamp Oil	Anointing and Light	He is the Light, he is the anointed one (Christ)
Aromatic Spices	Fragrant aroma	He is our fragrant aroma before God
Stones for Efod	Living Stones	The Church is Living Stone and he carries he in his chest, in his heart.



This tabernacle represents the work of Jesus Christ, being God, he redeems us, carrying our judgment, the 4 fabrics tell us about his ministerial development, 4 gospels, in John he is manifested as the son of God (Blue Cloth), in Matthew he is manifested as King (Purple Cloth), in Mark as servant and savior (Scarlet Cloth) and Luke as the perfect sinless son of man (Fine Linen Cloth), the sheepskins represent that he was our substitute, a ram was the one who substituted Isaac so as not to die, so Jesus dies for us, the Porpoise skins were ugly, it represents that when we brought our judgment, He lost his beauty, the acacia wood is his body that did not see corruption, and thus we can continue to see every detail and we realize that this symbology can be used not only here, but in all scripture, there are other symbols that we can find:

Seed = word, seed.

Water = word

Feet = walking.

Hands = works.

Washing feet = ministering.

Oil = anointing, Holy Spirit

Potter = God

Vessels = we servants that God uses.

Sword = word.

Sheep = sons of God

Kids (goats) = children of the devil

Trees = men, ministers

Field = world

Angels = stars

Candlesticks = Churches

Cloaks = Cover

Rivers, Paloma = Spirit

Oxen = Ministers

Birds = Unclean Spirits

Lamb = Jesus

Perfume = pleasant offering

Dress = coverage.

Mountains = places of government.

Crown, Vine = woman



Head = man, husband, authority

Tail = false prophet

Dog = false minister

Leprosy = contamination of  $\sin$ .

Hair = coverage, thoughts

Skull = mind

Bread and Wine = new covenant

Wine = joy

Fire = Power of God

Cloud = Cover. Presence of God

Judah = Praise

Honey = revelation

etc., there is much more but everything must be based on the same scripture

#### There is also the symbology of the numbers

One = unity, God

Two = complement, confirmation

Three = Tri-unity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), Tripartite (Spirit, Soul and Body)

Four = Balance, Gospels, Cardinal Points

Five = Grace

Six = Number of Man

Fourteen = Good Testimony

Fifteen = Grace in Spirit, Soul and Body (5 + 5 + 5)

Eighteen = Comprehensive Rebellion (6 + 6 + 6)

Forty = Test

Fifty = Jubilee

Three hundred = Number of Pleasing God

Seven = Fullness, Divine Totality

Eight = Restart

Nine = Fruit of the Spirit

Ten = Responsibility

Eleven = Divine Work

Twelve = Government

Thirteen = Rebellion

Six Hundred Sixty Six = Number of the Beast

Etc



We can discover in the light of the word the meaning of the numbers, it is important to know that the same scripture teaches its meaning, it is not to be seeing what meaning we put them, for example when Jesus explains the parables He gives us the meaning, he says "The field represents the world, the seed the children of the Kingdom, etc." (Matthew 13:38), just as we read in Revelation that the lampstand and the stars mean:

<u>Revelation 1:20</u> Regarding the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

When we see in the song we find how the scripture itself tells us the meaning of its symbolism (lilies, apple tree, type of shadow, etc.):

<u>Songs 2: 2</u>As the lily among the thorns, so is my beloved among the maidens. 3 As the apple tree among the trees of the forest, so is my beloved among the young. In its pleasant shade I have sat, and its fruit is sweet to my palate.



# The False Hermeneuts

Since the days of our Lord Jesus, people and groups have arisen who call themselves "Hermeneuts" but who distort the truth and want to stop the eternal purpose of God with respect to his Church in Christ, these Hermeneuts or Interpreters reject the purpose of God and they generally have the following points in common:

#### **Enforcing the law of Moses**

Luke 7:29 When all the people and the tax collectors heard him, they recognized the righteousness of God, being baptized with the baptism of John. 30 But the Pharisees and the interpreters of the law rejected God's purposes for them by not being baptized by John.

The ones we see in the previous verse are the "Hermeneuts" who were in the days of the Lord Jesus, but they did not understand the purpose of the law that God had given them through Moses, they did not correctly interpret the scripture. In the New Testament we find that the law was given to show our sin (Romans 7: 7) and lead us to the Savior, to make us understand that no one is saved by works (Romans 3:20), but only by faith in Jesus Christ the son of God. God and that baptism was to identify us with this reality:

Galatians 3:24 So the law has become our schoolmaster (Teacher) to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor, 26 for you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

We are not under the law of Moses (Romans 6:14), we are under grace, but the interpreters of the law did not "interpret it well" and rejected God's purpose, which is salvation through faith in Christ Jesus our Lord. and Salvador.

Luke 11:45 Responding one of the interpreters of the law, he \* said: Teacher, when you say this, you also insult us. 46 And He said, Woe also to you, you interpreters of the law, because you load men with loads that are difficult to carry, and you do not even touch the loads with one of your fingers.



The Interpreters of the law that have resurfaced in this century like the first refuse to receive the gospel of Christ and continue to put burdens on those who ignorantly fall into their nets, but the Lord revealed by his Spirit and by his Apostles from the early days of the gospel that we are saved by grace:

Acts 15:10 Now then, why do you put God to the test by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? 11 Rather, we believe that we are saved by the grace of the Lord Jesus, in the same way that they are also saved.

The Lord Jesus himself said that the law of Moses should no longer be announced, because we enter the dispensation of grace, where the gospel must be announced:

Luke 16:16 The law and the prophets were proclaimed until John; since then the good news of the kingdom of God has been announced, and everyone strives to enter it.

The Lord severely admonished these "bad hermeneuts" because in their error they were dragging many, preventing them from reaching the truth that is Christ:

Luke 11:52 Woe to you, interpreters of the law, because you have taken away the key of knowledge; You did not enter yourselves, and you prevented those who were entering.

How severe is the admonition "Many of you do not become teachers because you will bring greater condemnation" (James 3: 1), because when one misinterprets something for oneself, only one is affected, but when one teaches a heresy to others, we affect divert many from the truth, let us be careful to teach sound doctrine that is according to piety, let us see some cautions regarding heresies.

Heresy is a term that indicates any deviation from sound doctrine, that is, a contrary or distorted teaching of the word of God, then heretics are those who introduce teachings contrary to those of the word of God, the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians:

1 Corinthians 11:19 For there must be factions among you, so that those who are approved may appear among you.



The word "sides" in Greek is "hairesis" which means heretics, that is to say that even in the Church it is necessary for heretics to appear to know who is from God and who is not. Let's look at some ways in which heresies are evidenced:

# They deny the Lord Jesus

There are groups that call themselves of God and although they accept Jesus as their savior or their Messiah, deny his divinity, deny that he is God the Son made flesh (1 Timothy 3:16), this is a fundamental point of our faith, that Jesus is God, that was not denied by the Pharisees and that is why the Lord declared to them:

John 8:24 That is why I told you that you will die in your sins; because if you do not believe that I am, you will die in your sins.

If someone does not believe that Jesus is the "I am" he cannot be saved, he is not from God. There is an interesting fact that this word of heretics is the same one used by the Apostle Paul in Acts 26: 5 to say that he belonged to the "sect" of the Pharisees. We must be careful with these sects, with these groups, the Lord Jesus himself warned today there are many who say that they come in the name of the Lord, performing miracles but the Lord said that we must see their fruits, that is, their testimony, their way of life, if it is holy, see if they are consecrated to God, or see if they are following the things of the world, the Apostle Peter also declared of these heretics that they would enter the midst of the people to separate many from the true path that is Jesus:

2 Peter 2: 1 But false prophets arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will covertly introduce destructive heresies, denying even the Lord who bought them, bringing sudden destruction upon themselves. 2 Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them, the way of truth will be blasphemed.

Beware of those who say Lord, Lord on their lips but who do not recognize that Jesus is God, let us also be careful not to fall into heresies by misinterpreting the word of God:

## Misinterpreting a text



I'll give you a simple example, a supposed teacher (preacher, evangelist, prophet, etc.) appears stating that you have to leave your family to be a disciple of Christ and bases his heresy on a biblical text saying "This is not said by me it is Jesus speaking to you":

Luke 14:26 If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.

One can look in the Bible for verses that say anything, but the truths of God are repeated throughout the scripture, what the Lord is saying here is that we must love Him before everything else, remember, the first commandment is you will love the Lord your God above all things, but God does not want a husband to abandon his family because of the gospel, in all scripture we see the importance that God makes of the family, He has promised "believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved and all your house "(Acts 16:31), He has also stated that he hates divorce (Malachi 2:16), obviously this teaching to abandon his family is simply heresy for misinterpreting the word of God. This happens by taking a verse out of context,

Amos 5:23 Remove the noise of your songs from me, for I will not even listen to the music of your harps.

No one can do doctrine of a verse, the truths of God, his will is declared throughout the scripture, in the previous verse God is telling the people that they sing music for Him but they do not feel it, in the previous verses He tells them that although they make parties supposedly to honor him, their way of life is contrary to their will, that is, "a people who praise God with their lips but their heart is far from Him" and that is why God tells them that he does not even want to listen to their music, but heretics use this text to say that God is not to be praised when scripture shows us that God is to be praised at all times, David said "his praise will be forever in my mouth" (Psalm 34: 1), the Scripture commands it in a large number of verses (some are Psalm 33: 1, Ephesians 5:18, Hebrews 13:15 and Psalm 150). There is another group that is totally different from the Pharisees, since the Pharisees "confessed a holiness that they did not have", but this other group "confesses a grace that is not from God."

#### Turning grace into debauchery



Jude 1: 4 For some men have covertly infiltrated, who long before were marked for this condemnation, wicked who turn the grace of our God into debauchery, and deny our only Sovereign and Lord, Jesus Christ.

There are some heretics who say that it is not our spirit that sins, it is only our flesh and that is why we can go about doing worldly things, let no one deceive you, the scripture commands us to show that we are children of God, and this is manifested by the Spirit and reject the works of the flesh, since those who practice the works of the flesh will not inherit the kingdom of God (Galatians 5: 19-20). Everyone who makes debauchery of grace has never really received grace, because grace itself leads us to holiness to live by the Spirit:

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God has been manifested, bringing salvation to all men, 12 teaching us, that denying impiety and worldly desires, we live in this world sober, just and godly, 13 awaiting the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior Christ Jesus,

If the grace of God is manifested in a life in holiness consecrated to God, the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians that He truly lived in the grace of God:

2 Corinthians 1:12 For our satisfaction is this: the testimony of our conscience that in the holiness and sincerity that comes from God, not in carnal wisdom but in the grace of God, we have led ourselves in the world and especially towards you .

The Lord Jesus Christ clearly warned, "See that no one deceives you" (Matthew 24: 4), today there are so many people who claim to be "Christians" when in fact they are members of some sect that sometimes even calls itself "Church of Christ", the scripture is clear when it tells us that there would be religious movements originated by darkness that would seek to confuse people about the realities of God, this great harlot known in the Bible as" Babylon "seeks to corrupt the earth by misinterpreting the word of God.

#### **Denying the Rapture**

The enemy knows that if he fights head-on against the true Church he would be torn to pieces and what he does is "dress as an angel of light", that is, he presents himself as a Christian and



subtly distorts the truth just as he did with Eve in the garden, do not think that the serpent came frightening Eve, it came speaking the word of God to her, then maliciously and premeditatedly it began to introduce heresies causing Eve to finally sin, nowadays the enemy infiltrates the Churches posing as a "Christian", and sometimes in the midst of the churches "leaders" arise with false doctrines, seeking to divert the chosen from the truth. This phenomenon is not new, the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthian church:

2 Corinthians 11: 1 If only you would put up with me a little foolishness; and you really support me. 2 Because I am jealous of you with a jealousy of God; for I married you to a husband to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. 3 But I fear that, just as the serpent with his cunning deceived Eve, your minds will be diverted from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

Note that the apostle clarifies that the purpose of being with them is to prepare them as a pure virgin to be presented before Christ, that is the purpose of every minister to build up the Church to meet the loved one, but some false ones appear that with cunning they want to twist the truth, what truth? The truth that Christ will soon return and that we must be without spot and without wrinkle. The enemy has risen up through false ministers who seek to deny this reality, in that same chapter the apostle says it with reference to those who want to separate them from preparing for the beloved (2 Corinthians 11:13). Beloved brother, beware of the sects that call themselves "churches", but what really are groups of people led by ministers of Satan, who want to corrupt the true Church so that it does not prepare in justice, holiness and truth, these heretics deny the rapture, some of them say that Matthew 24 and many other prophecies about the Lord's coming have already been fulfilled, and that the Lord has already come for his people, a lie of the devil who wants to deceive us, and that this day it catches us asleep, but we will not allow it to enter the church because we have the light of the Holy Spirit that guides us to the truth. Note that the point of these sects is that Christ is not coming or that he will come in a distant time, but this appearance of these heretics is a sign to us that Christ is coming soon.

2 Peter 3: 3 First of all, know this: that in the last days scoffers will come, with their sarcasm, following their own passions, 4 and saying: Where is the promise of his coming? Because since the parents slept, everything continues as it was from the beginning of creation.

#### **Denying primary ministries**



Some false ones declare that the 5 ministries were only for the beginning and that they should no longer exist, but scripture reveals that the ministers will exist until the Body of Christ is built up to the stature and holiness of Our Lord Jesus. You can see to this day there are still many things that we lack to be like the Lord and that is a sign that the ministries are still there to train the saints and to reach maturity to meet the Beloved.

## **Denying the Person of the Holy Spirit**

Another fundamental point of heretics is that they deny the person of the Holy Spirit, and next to this they deny his gifts and his ministry (2 Corinthians 3: 8), but the scripture amply reveals the divinity and the person of the Holy Spirit and his ministry as Lord of the Church (2 Corinthians 3:17), it is he who leads us to Christ, Jesus said that no one went to the father except through him, but we can say that no one comes to Christ except through the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12: 3). His gifts are necessary to carry out the work of perfecting us and preparing us for the encounter with our beloved. Brother beware of the bad brothers who form their sects and pose as true Christians but act like the serpent.

I pray that you will read through and study this material and share it with your REMI leadership, I have encountered far too many people who called themselves pastors or ministers of some kind but who really do not have a life of study of meditation in the Word of God, it is essential we rise up to our priority to our calling. This is prayer and the Word, if we really begin to have a life of relationship, commitment, fear of God and surrender we will see things change in our ministry.

Pastora Betzy Córdoba



# Rules of Interpretation

Although there are many rules that we must take into account, we are going to talk about the main ones to facilitate our introduction in the interpretation of the scriptures, but first it is important to mention the three levels in which we are progressing and we will take the tabernacle as a three-level figure:

- 1. Fundamental Doctrine: This is for those in the outer court, Disciples.
- 2. Kingdom Mysteries: This is the doctrine of the holy place, Teachers.
- 3. The God's secrets: this is the doctrine of the Holy of Holies, those who are beloved.

#### A. Literal

We must take the passages of the Bible in their literal and natural sense as far as possible, it is true that the Bible uses a lot of symbolic language but it tells us when something is a symbol and when it is not. We should always try to see the passage as literal as possible, examples:

#### Common mistakes

The Catholic Church twists the passage that says on this rock I will build my church that refers to Peter, this has to be taken literally, but when we cannot take it literally the same context will tell us the meaning because if we see this passage only literally it would be telling us that Jesus builds his church on a rock however, If we see the context it is talking about the revelation because Peter had received a revelation that Jesus was the Christ, and 1 Corinthians 10: 4 tells us that Christ is the rock then Christ builds his Church on him. He is the builder and He is the foundation, when we compare other passages we realize that it is so (1 Corinthians 3:11, Ephesians 2:20).

Mormons twist the passage that says "because they are baptized for the dead", but they do not understand that it refers to those who are baptized without believing in the resurrection, the scripture is not authorizing that, in the context it speaks of believing in the Resurrection, baptism is our confession of becoming one with Christ, but it is something that no one can do for us, much less already dead.



The spiritualists twist the passage when Saul invokes Samuel through a fortune teller, and they believe that he answered him, but the context says that Saul never spoke to Samuel again, so it was not Samuel who answered, when making a detailed study of the passage we give ourselves account that Saul did not see Samuel, says that Saul "knew" that it was him because of what he said, but it was not Samuel.

Jehovah's Witnesses deny the person of the Holy Spirit, they twist the meaning of the word spirit that comes from pneumatic, and they say that a pneumatic is moved by air, that is to say that the force that sustains it is in the bones, but it is not thus it refers to the pneuma of God. We see many texts in scripture where we are shown that the Holy Spirit is a person of the triunity of God.

Those of reincarnation twist the passage that John the Baptist was Elijah, but in another passage it is made clear to us that he came with the power of the Spirit of Elijah, it is not that he had reincarnated.

The new age twists where Jesus says that we are gods, and they maintain that we are all gods, and that we do not need another God, but they did not read the context that says "but you will die as men."

# B. Passage in Context

Any text that we take from the Bible must be evaluated in its context, this will avoid that we misunderstand some verses and that it seems that the word is contradicting itself, when it is not, some do not dance because of the verse that says "I will not hear your songs anymore" but the Context shows us that God rebukes them because they honor him only with their lips but not with their hearts, when we realize all the scripture we will discover clearly and unequivocally that we have been created to praise his name, from Genesis to Revelation we find the command to praise God .

Some want to say that they leave their wife for the ministry because the Lord said that whoever does not leave everything to follow him is not worthy of him, but the context emphasizes putting the Lord first, God never authorizes someone to leave their family, the he hates divorce, everyone who is called to the work of doing it by family, God's call in all scripture is by family.

C. The Bible Interprets the Bible



The Bible interprets the Bible this is a very important rule, we do not interpret with our "intelligence" let the Spirit show us the truth, Daniel studying Jeremiah knew the time of the end, so when we read a passage that we do not understand, let's go to other passages and the same Bible will give us the meaning, for example, David when fighting against the giant Goliath took five stones, why? When we read the scripture we realize that there were actually five main giants that were in Canaan and not just Goliath, so some passages of a book have their explanation in another place that is why we must investigate and compare to realize that the Bible explains the Bible.

### D. Shadows and Figures

We must know that the scripture declares us that the law is a shadow of the good to come, that is to say that when reading the ordinances of the law we will find the shadow but in the new testament there will be the essence, all the feasts point to the work of the Lord, such as lamb that dies for us (Passover), as the first to rise from the dead (Firstfruits), as the reward for finding the one who died without sin (unleavened bread), the one who sends his companion (Pentecost), the one who He comes and gathers all his people with the sound of the trumpet (rapture), the one who cleanses Jacob "atonement" (tribulation of Israel), as the one who tabernacles among us (tabernacles), and so we can find in the light of the explanation that the new testament is not understood by what we think or believe but to what the Bible says. For example, in Revelation when he talks about the candlesticks he tells us that the candlesticks represent the Churches, we also see that the Churches do not really represent several Churches because in Ephesians and Corinthians we are told that there is only one Church so these candlesticks represent the different congregations, and in the midst of all of them the Lord moves.

#### The Disclosure Process

- 1. Information: fill ourselves with water, with words (read, scrutinize, memorize).
- 2. Illumination: when we begin to compare and meditate, the Spirit comes and illuminates words, sentences, passages that we did not understand before, now we see them clearly.
- 3. From Logos to Rhema: the spirit comes and reveals truths to us that we must begin to put into action, then the word goes from being a simple letter, to being life in us, when we no longer do it just because we have to do it, but because it is part of us.
- 4. Testimony: As the word becomes life, our entire life begins to be transformed, and we begin to bear witness with our deeds, we bear fruits that glorify God, we begin to be sensitive



to the heart of God, the facts and narratives of writing they take on a greater dimension for us, we can connect with the spirit behind each writing.

5. Manifestation: it is evident that we walk guided by the Spirit, the life of Christ is manifested in us, in our actions, and our works, in us the Lord is revealing himself.

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with our faces uncovered, contemplating as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, we are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, as by the Lord, the Spirit.