

Bible Study Methods
Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

Interpretation – Context

Lesson #3

June 19, 2016

Context Matters

“There is no God”

Psalm 14:1

Context Matters

**The fool has said in his heart,
"There is no God."**

**They are corrupt, they have
committed abominable deeds;
There is no one who does good.**

Psalm 14:1

Bible Study Methods

1. Preparation

- Saved and sanctified and praying

2. Observation

- What does the text say?
- **Psalm 119:18** “Open my eyes, that I may behold Wonderful things from Your law.”

Bible Study Methods

1. Preparation

2. Observation

3. Interpretation

- What does the text mean?
- **2 Timothy 2:15** ...“accurately handling the word of truth.”
- Continue to avoid study helps at this time.

Bible Study Methods

- 1. Preparation**
- 2. Observation**
- 3. Interpretation**
- 4. Application**
 - How do I respond?

You must do all the steps in this order!!!

Can you make the Bible mean whatever you want it to mean?

- The author, not the reader, determines the meaning of the text
 - I see a trunk
- There is one correct meaning with multiple applications
- Your birth and death do not change the meaning of the text

Hermeneutics

A set of rules used to interpret the Bible

Literal

- Every word has the same meaning it would have in normal usage
- There are metaphors, figures of speech etc....

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 **Grammatical**

○ The meaning of the text is in the grammar of the text

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Historical

- Time
- Culture
- Geography
- Language (Hebrew/Aramaic, Greek)

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 **Literary**

- Different genres have unique characteristics.