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....
Hermeneutics

A set of rules used to interpret the Bible

- Grammatical
  - The meaning of the text is in the grammar of the text
Hermeneutics

A set of rules used to interpret the Bible

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

A set of rules used to interpret the Bible

- Literary
  - Different genres have unique characteristics.