

Is the Bible God's dictation? NO!!

The Bible is 100% the product of God and 100% the product of humans, such that we have what is needed and what is sufficient for our salvation.

All of it is God-breathed. All of it matters.

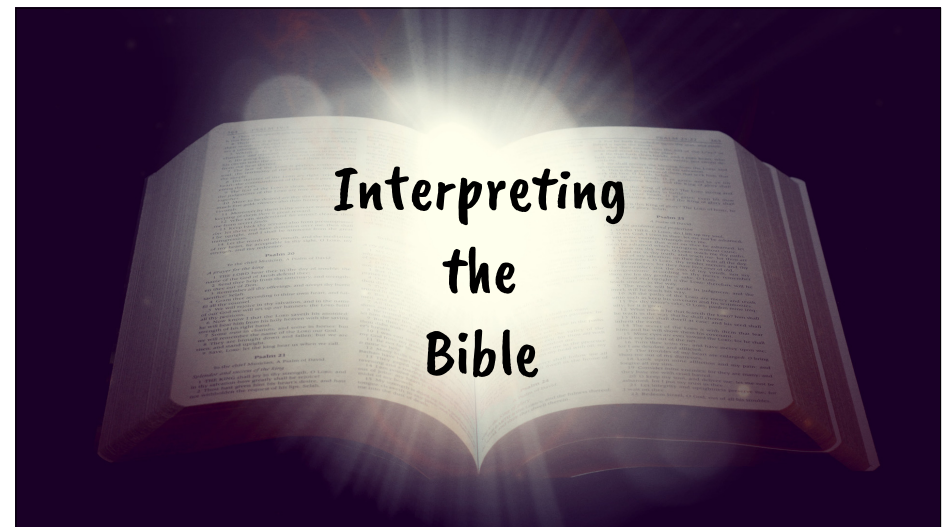
2 Timothy 3:16–17 (NIV)

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Article XIII

We affirm the propriety of using inerrancy as a Theological term with reference to the complete truthfulness of Scripture.

We deny that it is proper to evaluate Scripture according to standards of truth and error that are alien to its usage or purpose. We further deny that inerrancy is negated by Biblical phenomena such as a lack of modern technical precision, irregularities of grammar or spelling, observational descriptions of nature, the reporting of falsehoods, the use of hyperbole and round numbers, the topical arrangement of material, variant selections of material in parallel accounts, or the use of free citations.



Four Tasks

1. Reading the passage carefully
2. Placing the passage in its canonical context
3. Relating the passage to our situation today
4. Living the passage

Reading the Passage Carefully

1. Grammar, vocabulary — What does it actually say?
2. Context in the ancient world: culture, geography, social, religious — every bit of the ancient world context you can bring to bear
3. Context on the page
4. Context in the book

Warning: exegesis v. eisegesis

“Exegesis”

The systematic recovery of the meaning of the passage in its original context – the meaning the author intended

Placing the passage in its canonical context

- We read Scripture in the light of the whole. What does the rest of the Bible have to say?
- Begin by running down the quotes and allusions to the Old Testament — 25% of the NT.
- Begin learning to connect dots.

Relating the passage to our situation today

Application to your life has to come after the first two steps. You can't know what the passage means for you until you know what it mean for those to whom it was written. Sound exegesis is the only curb on us finding in the Bible whatever we are looking for.

Living the Passage

This is the most challenging step in the process!!

