



PRACTICAL TOOLS TO HELP YOU

STUDY THE BIBLE



Where does this text fit in with the grand narrative?

Understanding where the text fits in context of the entire biblical narrative allows you to approach the text with integrity and greater understanding. Do some background work to become familiar with biblical history.



What would the original hear-ers have understood from this text?

God revealed His actions and words to specific people at a specific time. It's important to understand its original meaning. We want to grasp what God was saying through the human author to the original audience.



How does the Christ-event affect the meaning of this text?

All of the biblical story moves towards Christ, and Jesus is the final interpretation of the text. If we don't encounter the living Word in the interpretation of the written word, we have come up short.

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How does the message of the New Testament comment on the text?

When reading from the Old Testament, remember that the New Testament explains it and shows how it is fulfilled. The Bible is a narrative. The climax is Jesus.

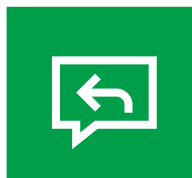


What in this text applies to me and my responsibility?

Remember: We cannot ask this question until the others are answered first!

We should want to know:

- What does it mean to me as a person who is “in Christ”?
- What part of the inheritance is mine to claim here?
- What capability is specified here that is mine because of my relationship with Jesus?
- How does the truth of this text empower me to enjoy and express the life of Jesus?

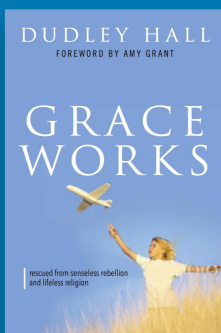


What actions do I take today as a result of interacting with this text?

Correctly interpreted, the text can correct me, inspire me, change me and encourage me. What must be my response to this message?



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