

Systematic Theology: *The Doctrine of Scripture*

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Hermeneutics

{
Basic Rules
Translation & Interpretation

Teaching: My Starting Point, ALWAYS

“Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a greater condemnation.”

- James 3:1

My purpose in this class is not to tell you what the Bible says, but to teach you how to properly understand it for yourselves.

“To Light a Fire, Not Fill A Bucket”



Basic Rules of Interpretation

{ In No Particular Order,
except Rule #1



Rule #1: read, Read, READ, and READ *Scripture!*

Commit to reading the Bible 4x more than everything else you read combined.

- THIS SINGLE PRINCIPLE HAS IMPACTED ME MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE I HAVE EVER HEARD, READ, OR LEARNED.
- Don't limit Bible reading to some morning or evening quiet time.
- Read it as often as you can, even if it is just a little.
- If you don't know what to read, then Read the Proverb Chapter corresponding to the date. It's short, easy to read anywhere, and the repeated pattern will help your mind absorb it. And will keep you motivated.



Rule #1: read, Read, READ, and READ *Scripture!*

Commit to reading the Bible 4x more than everything else you read
combined.

*“O satisfy us in the morning with Your lovingkindness,
That we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.”*

Ps 90:14

*“O how I love Your
law!*

*It is my meditation
all the day.”*

Ps 119:97

“Your statutes are my songs

In the house of my pilgrimage.

*O Lord, I remember Your name in the night,
And keep Your law.”*

Ps 119:54–55

*“At midnight I shall rise to give thanks to You
Because of Your righteous ordinances.”*

Ps 119:62



Rule #1: read, Read, READ, and READ *Scripture!*

DO NOT: OVERESTIMATE the benefit of Bible reading plans.

- They are rigid, which stifles the teaching work of the Spirit (1 Jn 2:20–21). They make you think that if you read a certain amount of scripture that you have gained in understanding.
- They are formal, which steals your joy and love of reading the Word. It forces you to read long boring texts, which is demotivating, rather than reading what you want to read.



Rule #1: read, Read, READ, and READ *Scripture!*

DO NOT: OVERESTIMATE the benefit of Bible reading plans.

They inhibit, what scholars refer to as:

Chasing Rabbit Trails

Which is how you find meaningful connections and patterns in scripture. The Spirit wrote scripture in patterns, and the Spirit illuminates divine truth via patterns. Chase down the patterns when you find them.

- I cannot overstate the benefit of a good bible software like Logos.
- Find a software that you like and use it to quickly reference verses that it cites, to keep multiple bibles opened on different texts, and a way to keep digital notes for future study. (See Resources Slide)



Rule #1: read, Read, READ, and READ *Scripture!*

DO NOT: OVERESTIMATE the benefit of Biblical commentaries, Study Bible notes, or books written about the Bible or doctrine.

- IT IS TRUE that These resources *can* provide limited help:
 - Original language and Word Studies
 - Historical and Scriptural Contexts - *and* -
 - In opening your mind to various ways to interpret the text

BUT . . .



Rule #1: read, Read, READ, and READ *Scripture!*

- They will never provide you with a deep familiarity with the Bible itself. That can only come by reading Scripture.
- These resources are like spiritual Junk Food.
- These resources are written by fallen and biased human authors who are not inspired, and who you more than likely have not observed their spiritual walk or their moral character (2 Tim 1:13; 2:2; Phil 3:17; 4:9; 1 Cor 2:10–16; Jas 1:21–27).



THEN,
Who Should We Listen To?

{ Scripture is clear that we need someone to help us to grow mature in the faith.

BUT who can we trust to teach us?

First, Remember:

1. All True Believers Know The Voice of the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ:

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.”

- John 10:27–29



First, Remember:

2. All True Believers Have Been Baptized By The Spirit Who Teaches You:

“I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you for His name’s sake.

I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father.”

1 John 2:12–13.

“These things I have written to you concerning those who are trying to deceive you. As for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him.”

1 John 2:26–27.



Listen To:

1. Those whose TEACHING conforms to the Gospel of Jesus Christ:

“But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!

As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!”

- Gal 1:69.



Listen To:

2. Those whose LIFE and MORAL CONDUCT conforms to the Apostles of Jesus Christ:

“The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”
2 Tim 2:2.

“The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.” Phil 4:9



Watch Out For False Teachers:

“Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves.

“You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they?

“So, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit.

“A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit.

“Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“So then, you will know them by their fruits.

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.

“Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’

“And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’ “

Matthew 7:15–23.



Watch Out For False Teachers:

“Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us.

For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, that they are enemies of the cross of Christ, whose end is destruction, whose god is their appetite, and whose glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things.”

Phil 3:17–19 (see also 2 Peter 2; Jude)

Therefore: Listen to the teaching of those who you can confirm by observation, are living according to the scriptures.



Rule #2: Think and Talk About Scripture All The Time And To Everyone

The Shema (Deut 6:4–9):

“Hear, O Israel! The LORD (Yahweh) is our God, the LORD is one!”

“You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart.

You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.

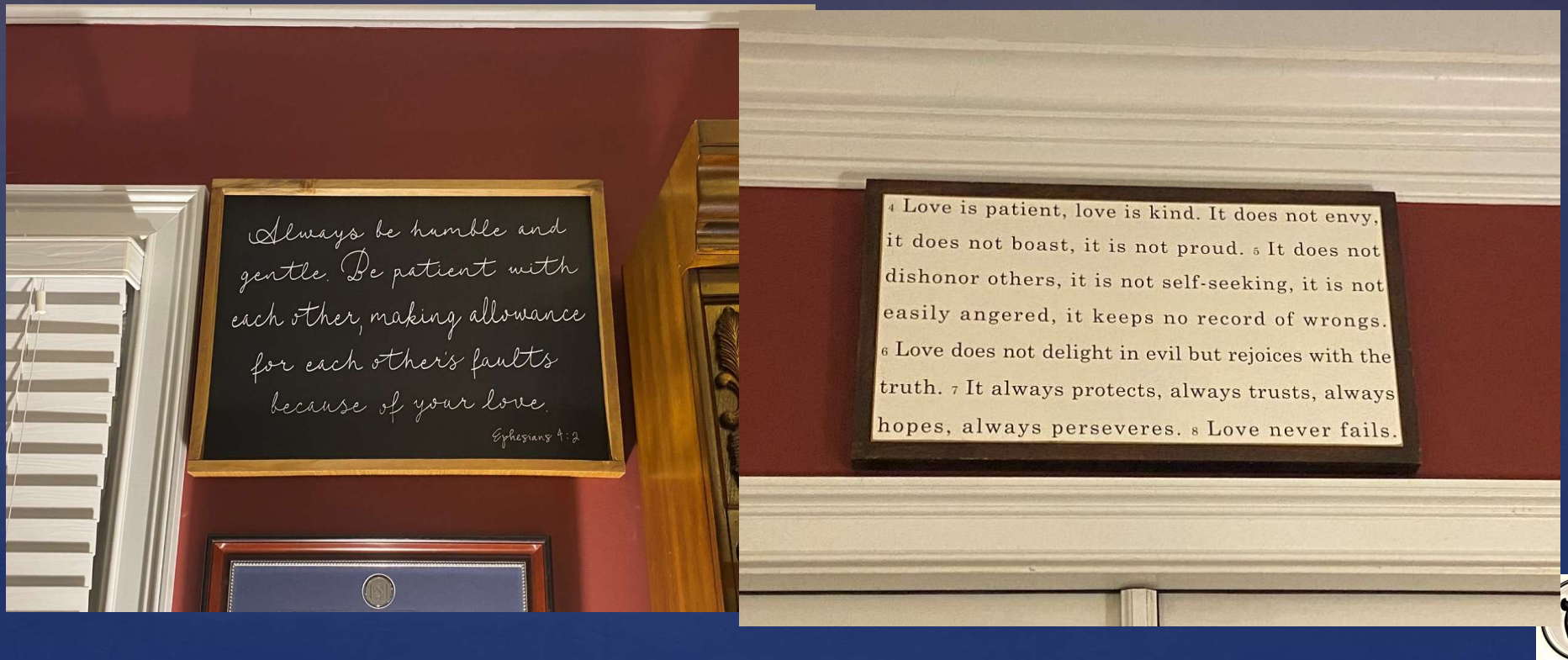
You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead.

You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”



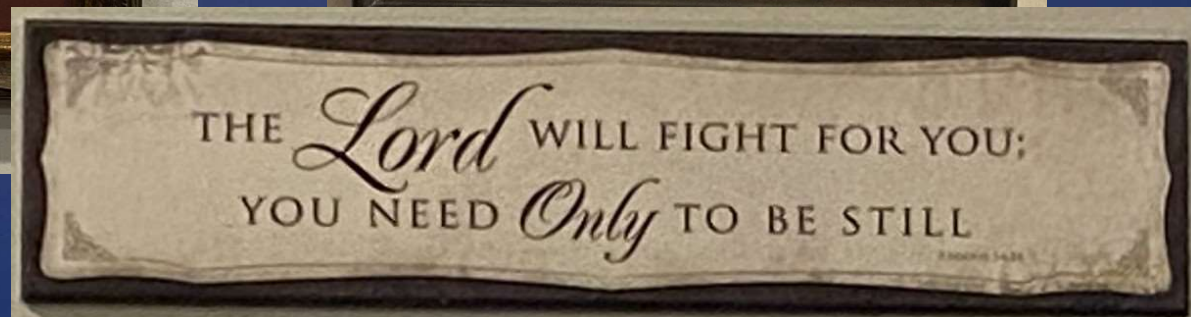
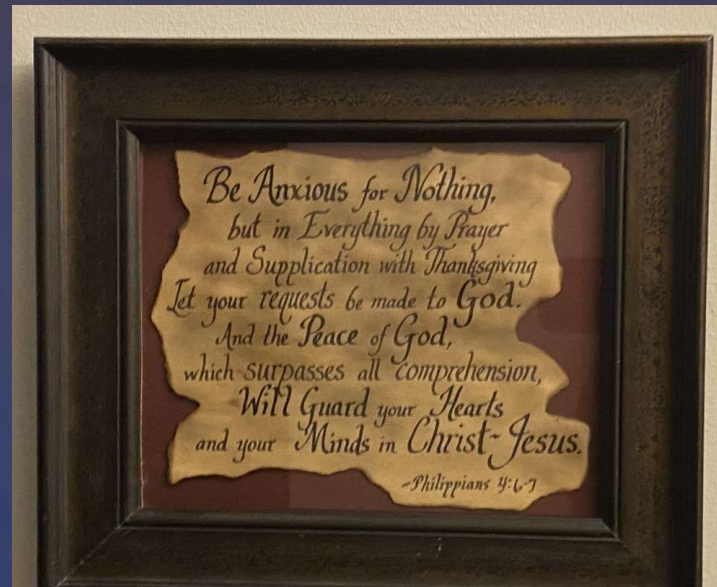
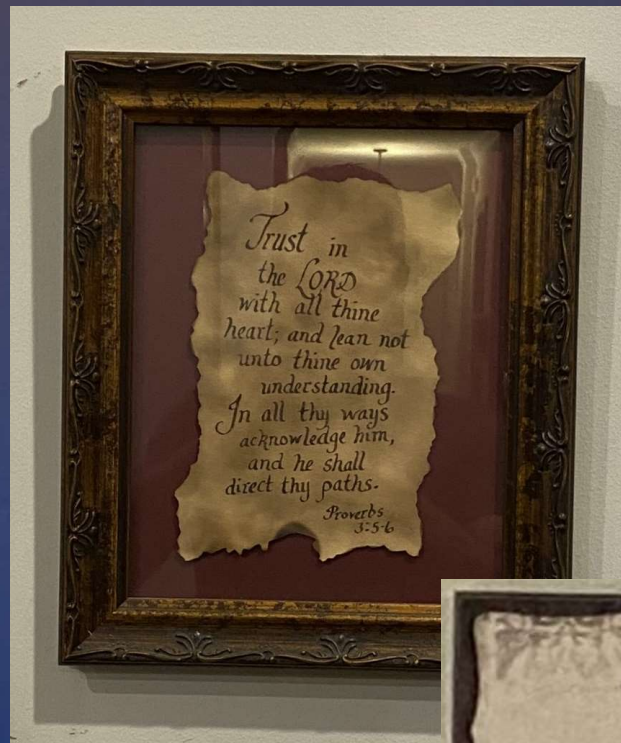
Rule #2: Think and Talk About Scripture All The Time And To Everyone

TIP: Post scripture throughout your house and everywhere you go.



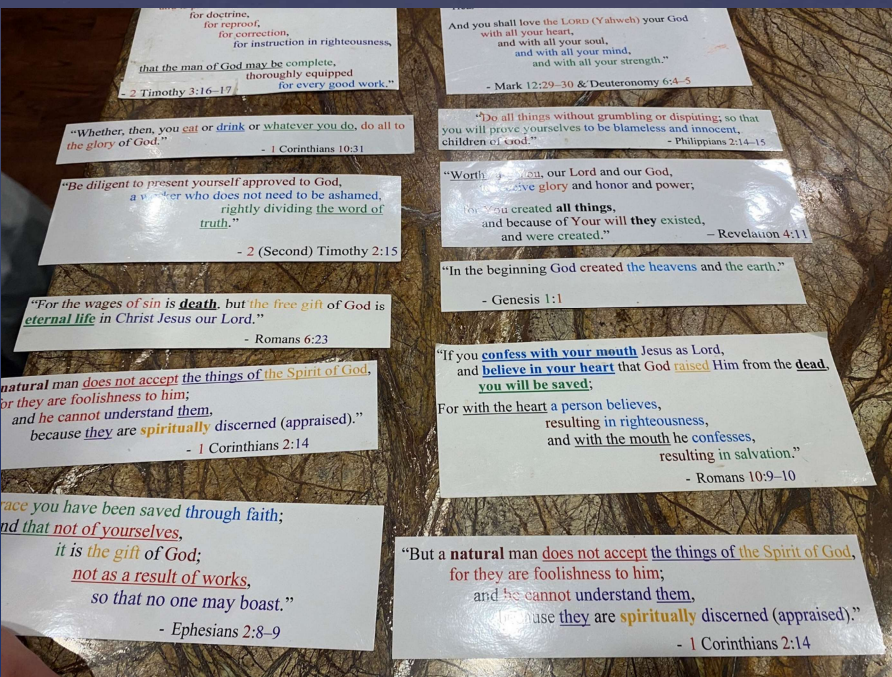
Rule #2:

TIP: Post scripture that signify major events in your life when the Lord acted powerfully for you.



Rule #2: Think and Talk About Scripture All The Time And To Everyone

TIP: Laminate scripture and post where your kids eat. Rotate them from time to time.



Rule #3: Do Not Overly-Sanctify The Biblical Text As If It Was Written In Some Divine Or Angelic Language

Examples of Over-Sanctifying the Text:

1. The Catholic Church history of conducting scripture reading in Latin only, even though the people stopped speaking and understanding it.

REMEMBER: The Bible was written in the language of the people.

2. Some once thought that the Greek that the NT was a “Holy Ghost language” that God created just for the Bible to be written in. But later they found out that it was simply the common dialect that everyone spoke. They called it Koine Greek, lit. “the common dialect.”



Rule #3: Do Not Overly-Sanctify The Biblical Text As If It Was Written In Some Divine Or Angelic Language

Problems It Causes:

1. Reinforces the belief that only trained professionals or the clergy can tell us what it says.
2. Promotes the error that scripture is hard to understand and interpret.
3. Implies that there are many hidden meanings, and because of that, there are many interpretations. Anyone can make the Bible say anything they want it to say.
4. Promotes sloppy interpretation and sloppy theology.

REMEMBER: The Bible was written in the language of the people.



Rule #4: Interpret Based On The Literal Method, A.K.A. The Historical-Grammatical Method

Read the text in order to understand:

The Author's Intended Meaning.

Take Consideration Of:

1. The historical context of the writing
2. The purpose of the writing
3. The culture of the one writing and the original recipients
4. The genre of the writing
5. The language and idioms used by the author and culture



Rule #5: No Doctrine Is Ever Fully Established On The Basis Of One Text

That is to say, that no true doctrine stands or falls on the basis of one text.
(E.g. Exodus 20:11; Rev 20:1–6).

No doctrine is fully explained in any given text. (2 Tim 2:15).

The Analogy of Faith: *Scripture never contradicts Scripture;*
therefore,
Scripture interprets Scripture.



Rule #6: The Correct Doctrine Cannot Be Understood Apart From The Historical Church

“I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.”

- 1 Timothy 3:15

And the work of the Holy Spirit in guiding the church throughout history.

(John 14–17; Matthew 16:13–19; Matthew 28:19–20)



Rule #7: Do Not Become Committed To A Particular Theology, System, or Denomination. Only Jesus Christ is Lord

1. Theological Systems and Frameworks are a necessary evil.
 - Like what Paul said about the Law: “The Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ” (Gal 3:24).
 - So also, theological systems help the immature to get a quick understanding of the central message of Scripture, which is salvation from our sins through repentance unto Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - But in the spirit of the Reformers’ Principle: *ecclesia reformata, semper reformanda*, “The Church Reformed, Always Reforming,” **We should always be updating our theology as we study scripture to be better aligned with the truth.**

REMEMBER:

At BEST, Theological Systems were developed by fallen, imperfect, sinful people, albeit Spirit-filled, who themselves recognize that they must continue reforming their belief and practice.

*****Revised and Updated*****



Translation & Interpretation

{ Things To Take Note Of

Doctrine of Translation

Unspoken Truth: Translation is inherently a theological process.

- Several widely accepted historical doctrines have been significantly impacted by translation errors.
- The only remedy is to go back to the original words and their definitions.



Translation & Interpretation: Words Added For Clarity

These are seldom talked about but impact your ability to see connections that you should be able to see:

- a. Some translations indicate what words have been added by italicizing the words. These include, but not limited to:
 - The New American Standard (NASB)
 - King James (KJV)
 - New King James (NKJV)
 - Young's Literal Translation (YLT)
- b. Other translations do not provide any indication what words are added:
 - English Standard Version (ESV)
 - Christian Standard Bible (CSB)
 - Holman Christian Standard Bible (HCSB)

Note: Neither list above is exhaustive. It is merely a sampling.

Unspoken Truth: Translation is inherently a theological process.



Translation & Interpretation

Persistent Translation Errors:

These are errors in translation that continue in later versions and other translations simply due to precedent:

1. Transliterating a Greek or Hebrew word that should have been translated.
 - Baptism (from *Baptizo*; Translation: Immersion; Immerse)
 - The most influential early English translation was the King James Version. At the time, both Catholics and Protestants practiced infant baptism by sprinkling. Both groups were burning Anabaptists at the stake for practicing believer's baptism by immersion. KJV Translators chose to transliterate the word meaning "immerse" to evade the theological firebomb.

Unspoken Truth: Translation is inherently a theological process.



Translation & Interpretation

Persistent Translation Errors:

2. Translating a technical word that should have been transliterated.
 - There are two Greek words in the NT that have been translated as “coming,” thereby blurring the distinction between them. They are NOT synonyms:

THE FIRST WORD TRANSLATED AS “COMING”:

ἔρχομαι *érchomai* (Strong’s #2064): The normal Greek word for “to go/to come.”

- The emphasis of this word is on the travel from one place to another, NOT the arrival to the destination.

Unspoken Truth: Translation is inherently a theological process.

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Translation & Interpretation

SECOND WORD TRANSLATED AS “COMING”:

παρουσία parousía (Strong’s #3952): “arrival, presence.”

- The emphasis of this word is on the arrival and subsequent presence after that arrival. So, there is a time element associated to the word, which is the time in which one remains present.
- Parousia is also a technical word in the Greek with both a political and a religious associations beyond the simple meaning of “arrival, presence”.
- In every case where this word is used in reference to Jesus Christ, it conveys both the political and religious technical aspects of the word (**For a full analysis and evaluation of the implications of this word on the second coming of Jesus Christ, see Whitlock Dissertation, 138–76).**

Parousia is translated as “coming” in Matt 24:3, 27, 37, 39; 1 Cor 15:23; 16:17; 2 Cor 7:6, 7; Phil 1:26; 1 Thess 2:19; 3:13; 4:15; 5:23; 2 Thess 2:1, 8, 9; Jas 5:7, 8; 2 Pet 1:16; 3:4, 12; 1 John 2:28.

Parousia is Translated as “presence” only in 2 Cor 10:10 and Phil 2:12.

Revised and Updated



Translation & Interpretation

Persistent Translation Errors (Later Translations Follow Earlier Translations Due To Precedent):

The Tense of a Verb: 2 Thessalonians 2:2–3

1. “Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming (*Parousia*) of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him,
2. that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.” (literally, “is present”)

Addition of Words:

- 3 Let no one in any way deceive you, for ~~it will not come~~ unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, . . .”

Unspoken Truth: Translation is inherently a theological process.



Translation & Interpretation

Better Translation (see [Whitlock Dissertation, pgs. 211–18 for a full explanation and significant supporting scholarship on the translation provided here](#)):

The following provides the best sense of the word “**to be**” because the “**Day of the Lord**” is an extended period (approx. 1,000 years), not a 24-hr day (Ps 90:4; 2 Pet 3:8):

“Now we request you, brethren, with regard to the coming (*Parousía*) of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him,

that you not be quickly shaken from your composure or be disturbed either by a spirit or a message or a letter as if from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord **is present**.”

Revision of the Added Words based on “is present”:

“Let no one in any way deceive you, for **that day will not be present** unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, . . .”

2 Thessalonians 2:1–3

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Unspoken Truth: Translation is inherently a theological process.



Translation & Interpretation

As previously noted, Paul is speaking in half sentences and calling the Thessalonians to remember the teaching he had given them previously (2 Thess 2:5).

Many have argued that there is no way to know what Paul's teaching was, the events that he lists are found in several Biblical texts:

1. Daniel 9:27 (Apostasy = Signing of the Covenant; Abomination at the middle of the week (3.5 yrs))
2. Daniel 11:30–35 (Apostasy = Jewish traitors; Abomination = desecrate the sanctuary, etc.)
3. Daniel 11:36–45; 12:1–13
4. Matthew 24:3–15 (Apostasy = Many Christs deceiving many, turning against true believers. Abomination in v. 15).
5. Revelation 12–13 (Apostasy = 1/3 stars fall from heaven (of Israel) when they sign the 7-year covenant with the Beast (the exact same events prophesied in Daniel 9:27). Abomination occurs when he makes all worship him and His image. Again, this is a repeat of previous types of the antichrist, and exactly what Paul declares in 2 Thess 2:3).

And a type of the future events was historically fulfilled by Antiochus Epiphanes beginning in 171 B.C. by removing the existing High Priest, Jason, and installing his own High Priest, Menelaus.

In each text, the order is the same: The apostasy (the falling away) occurs first, and then lawless one sitting in the Temple and demanding worship. The second of these is the same event that Daniel and Jesus call the Abomination of Desolation (Dan 9:27; Matt 24:15).

Both these events occur in the future within the time period known as the Day of the Lord. The apostasy begins that period, and the middle of the 7 years the abomination of desolation is set up.

Added Slide

No Doctrine is established on the basis of one text.



Translation & Interpretation

As previously noted, Paul is speaking in half sentences and calling the Thessalonians to remember the teaching he had given them previously (2 Thess 2:5).

Many have argued that there is no way to know what Paul's teaching was, the events that he lists are found in several Biblical texts:

1. Daniel 11
2. Matthew 24:3–15
3. Revelation 12–13.

In each text, the order is the same: first the apostasy (the falling away) occurs first, and then lawless one sitting in the Temple and demanding worship. The second of these is the same event that Daniel and Jesus call the Abomination of Desolation (Dan 9:27; Matt 24:15).

Both these events occur within the time period known as the Day of the Lord. The apostasy begins that period, and the middle of the 7 years the abomination of desolation is set up.

Added Slide



Translation & Interpretation:

Names for God/gods/Yahweh/Adonai

God or gods = *Elohim*

- *Elohim* is a plural word in the Hebrew and usually refers to the true God, *Yahweh*.
- The translation into English as “God” or “gods” depends on whether the verb associated with it is singular or plural.
- Like the English for nouns like: Deer or Fish.

The gods (*Elohim*) are created beings.

God (*Elohim*) is the creator



Translation & Interpretation:

Names for God/gods/Yahweh/Adonai

Examples:

Elohim (the gods, spirits) are created beings.

Elohim (God) is the Creator



Who Are The gods (*Elohim* [Plural])?

TWO OPTIONS:

1. Dead Idols, which are worshipped as gods (Isa 37:19–20; 45:20; Jer 2:26–28) and are used by demons to be worshipped (1 Cor 10:19–21).
2. Living Beings, created by God Almighty, the Most High (Yahweh) (Gen 6:2; Exodus 12:12; 15:11; Num 33:4 Deut 32:8–9; Job 1:6; 38:7; Ps 82; 97; cf. 1 Cor 8:1–6).



Who Are The Living Beings Scripture Refers To As Elohim [Plural]?

“Elohim” is used to refer to numerous living beings of the spiritual realm:

- The sons of God (Gen 6:1–4; Deut 32:8–9; Ps 82)
- Watchers (Dan 4:17)
- Angels (Hebrews 1:6 says, “Let all the angels of God worship Him,” while Psalm 97:7 says, “Worship Him, all you *Elohim*.”)
- Spirits (i.e., the spirit of Samuel in 1 Samuel 28:13)

Revised and Updated



Who Are The Living Beings Scripture Refers To As Elohim [Plural]?

Scripture indicates that there are many types of *Elohim*, and that there is a hierarchy:

- Daniel refers to “Princes,” which are clearly beings of the heavenly realm (Prince of Persia, Prince of Greece, Michael (the Prince of Israel) (Dan 10:13, 21; 12:1; Rev 12:7).
- Paul refers to “Thrones, Dominions, Rulers, Authorities, Principalities, Powers,” which are all in “the heavenly places” (Eph 1:20; Col 1:16; 2:15).

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Who Are The Living Beings Scripture Refers To As Elohim [Plural]?

Some *Elohim*, the sons of God (a.k.a. “watchers”), are members of the Divine Council, which is progressively revealed in Scripture:

- **Deut 32:8–9 (LXX)** – At Babel, when God confused their language, and separated the nations, those nations were divided according to the number of the sons of God. But Israel was taken as Yahweh’s inheritance. In other words, each nation was given a son of God to be its god, just as Yahweh took Israel to be its God.
- **Psalm 82** – God judges among the gods (*Elohim*) of the nations who did not uphold righteousness in their respective nation. They are all called gods (*Elohim*, v. 1, 6), which Jesus cites from in John 10:34 as His justification for calling Himself the Son of God.

Michael Heiser, *The Unseen Realm*, 12, states, "Psalm 82 states that the gods were being condemned as corrupt in their administration of the nations of the earth."

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Who Are The Living Beings Scripture Refers To As Elohim [Plural]?

Some *Elohim*, the sons of God, are members of the Divine Council, which is progressively revealed in Scripture:

- 1 Kings 22:19–23 (Yahweh decides among the suggestions of the host of heaven).
 - In every instance, Yahweh makes the final decision, but the Divine Council is somehow a part of the process.
- Daniel 4:13, 17 (Note that the decree and command is from the watchers)
- Daniel 7:9–10 (Thrones are set up and the Ancient of Days sat on His throne to judge the nations [the four beasts])
- Revelation 4 (Mirrors Dan 7:9–10, where there are 24 thrones with 24 elders around the Throne of God)
- Revelation 5 (Mirrors Dan 7:13–14, where the Son of Man is given dominion as a decree of the Divine Council, which is ruled by the will of God Almighty)

Michael Heiser, *The Unseen Realm*, 12, states, "Psalm 82 states that the gods were being condemned as corrupt in their administration of the nations of the earth."

Revised and Updated



Translation & Interpretation:

Names for God Almighty/Yahweh/Adonai

God = *El*, the singular form of *Elohim*.

God Almighty = *El Shaddai*

אל שד

God Most High = *El Elyon*

אל עליון



Translation & Interpretation:

Names for God Almighty/Yahweh/Adonai

The Shin (ש), represents the number 300.

(ש) also represents **flames of fire**.

Could also be seen as teeth. Fire consumes, and teeth make food ready for consumption.

(ש) Shin is the letter inscribed on the Phylactery Prayer Box and the box on the doorposts (mezuzah, means “doorpost”) of Jewish homes.

(ש) Stands for Shaddai, “Almighty” (שדי)

Shaddai is an acronym for “Shomer Daltot Yisrael” (שומר דלתות ישראל)

(Guardian of the gates of Israel). Jesus is the Door, the Gate, through whom all must pass in or to enter. Jesus is God Almighty.

Revised and Updated



Translation & Interpretation:

Names for God Almighty/Yahweh/Adonai

LORD = *Yahweh* (יהוה' *YHWH** or JHWH), the Tetragrammaton.

Masoretic Text (MT):

Yahweh is the conjugation of the verb “I Am” from the name God gives Moses at the burning bush, “I AM that I AM.”

The Septuagint (LXX) :

“**I am the One who exists.**” And (then) he said, “Thus you will say to the sons of Israel, ‘**The One who exists has sent me to you.**’”



Translation & Interpretation:

Names for God Almighty/Yahweh/Adonai

So, when Jesus repeatedly declared “I Am” as recorded in the Gospel of John, He was declaring that He was Yahweh.

John 8:24, 58; 18:5, 6, 8. Likewise, the seven “I am . . .” statements by Jesus are held by many scholars as direct attestations of His identity as Yahweh.



Translation & Interpretation:

Names for God Almighty/Yahweh/Adonai

Each letter of the Hebrew alphabet multitasks. Each can denote a letter, a number, or a thing.

YHWH (יהוה) = Behold ה

Nail ו

Behold ה

Hand י



Hermeneutics

{ Literary Devices: How To Identify &
Understand How They Help

Literary Devices

– The Recognition Formula

Recognition Formula, “then you will know that I am the LORD . . .”

In Rescue (Exodus 6:6–7; see also Exodus 16:12; Isaiah 41:20; 49:23, 26; 60:16)

“Say, therefore, to the sons of Israel, ‘I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their bondage. I will also redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. ‘Then I will take you for My people, and I will be your God; and **you shall know that I am the Lord your God**, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.’”

In Judgment (Ezekiel 6–7)

“So throughout all their habitations I will stretch out My hand against them and make the land more desolate and waste than the wilderness toward Diblah; thus **they will know that I am the Lord**.” ‘ Ezekiel 6:14.

NOTE: The Recognition Formula clearly teaches that God fulfills His prophecy in a concrete, observable manner in history.



Literary Devices

– The Recognition Formula

In rescuing Israel from the Nations (Ezekiel 38–39)

“And I will send fire upon Magog and those who inhabit the coastlands in safety; **and they will know that I am the Lord.**

“**My holy name I will make known** in the midst of My people Israel; and I will not let My holy name be profaned anymore. **And the nations will know that I am the Lord, the Holy One in Israel.** . . .

. . .

“And I will set My glory among the nations; and **all the nations will see My judgment** which I have executed and My hand which I have laid on them.

“And **the house of Israel will know that I am the Lord their God** from that day onward.

“**The nations will know that the house of Israel went into exile for their iniquity** because they acted treacherously against Me, and I hid My face from them; so I gave them into the hand of their adversaries, and all of them fell by the sword.

“According to their uncleanness and according to their transgressions I dealt with them, and I hid My face from them.” ’ ’

*NOTE: The Recognition Formula clearly teaches that God fulfills His prophecy **in a concrete, observable manner in history.***



Literary Devices - *Inclusio*

Inclusio – Also known as “Bracketing” or an “Envelope Structure”

An *inclusio* is formed by the repetition of material, such as a phrase or sentence, at the beginning and end of a section of text.

The purpose is to draw the reader’s attention to a particular theme throughout the bracketed text, which is usually related to the bracketing phrase.



Literary Devices – *Inclusio* Examples

Jeremiah 1:1 and **51:64** – The reference to the words of Jeremiah indicates that the material between is what was written on the scroll and lends credence to the claim that Jeremiah 52 was added later.

Jeremiah 1:10 and **24:6** – “To pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow” (1:10) versus “I will build them up and not overthrow” “Plant them and not pluck them up” (24:6)

Psalms 118:1 and **29** – “Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; . . .”

Matthew 1:23 and **28:20** – “God with us” and “I am with you always, even to the end of the age”

Matthew 3:7 and **23:33** – “You brood of vipers . . .”

Matthew 5:17 and **7:12** – “the law and the prophets”

Matthew 4:23 and **9:35** – Jesus’ teaching and miracles

Genesis 4:25 and **5:29** – The explanation for the naming of the first and last in the genealogy encourages the reader to discover what the names of the remaining in the genealogy means.

Revised and Updated



Literary Form of Theophany In Scripture

Literary Elements of Theophanic *Gattung*:

1. Introductory Description, Third person, sometimes in first person
2. Deity's utterance of the name of the (mortal) addressee
3. Response of the addressee
4. Deity's self-asseveration
5. His quelling of human fear
6. Assertion of his gracious presence
7. The *hieros logos* ("*Holy Word*") addressed to the particular situation
8. Inquiry or protest by the addressee
9. Continuation of the *hieros logos* with perhaps some repetition of elements 4, 5, 6, 7, and/or 8
10. Concluding description in the third person



Resources

Online Resources:

Logos.com

<https://logos.refr.cc/give-100-get-100/u/jasonwhitlock>

We both get \$100 off if you buy a logos base package.

Starter Package: Logos 10 software with 68 Bible and Theology resources



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