

Hermeneutics - Chapter 15  
Grammatical Principles of Interpretation - Rules 10-12

**Rule 10 - Scripture has only one meaning and should be taken literally.**

In order to communicate, you must assume (1) that the true intent of speech is to convey \_\_\_\_\_ and (2) that language is a reliable medium of communication.

Questions to consider before interpreting a passage in an other-than literal interpretation

1) Am I questioning this passage being literal because I do not want to \_\_\_\_\_ it? (pg 180)  
(Example - 1 Cor. 14:34 - women being silent in the church)

2) Am I interpreting this passage figuratively because it does not fit my preconceived theological \_\_\_\_\_? Example - 2 Kings 2:23-24 - Elisha calling bears to maul 42 disrespectful youths

Determine the usual and \_\_\_\_\_ sense of words and consider that to be the correct meaning unless the context demand otherwise (pg. 181)

No statement may be considered to have more than \_\_\_\_\_ meaning (Exception: prophetic passages may have both near and distant fulfillment) - No word can have more than one meaning as it is used in a passage - though multiple uses of the word in a passage may convey additional meanings. (181)

**ASSIGNMENTS - Pg. 241**

**Rule 11 - Interpret words in harmony with their meaning in the time of the author.** Pages 183-186

A Bible dictionary (lexicon) is helpful in defining words in according to their \_\_\_\_\_ usage

A writer can give a his own meaning to a word - as determined by the \_\_\_\_\_ (John 2:14f - temple)

Do not skip over words you do not understand - find out their \_\_\_\_\_. Even words you may otherwise understand should be examined, for an incorrect translation can lead you astray.

Determine the following four things about a word you are studying:

1) Its use by the writer - how does the \_\_\_\_\_ use the word?

2) Its relation to its immediate context - what does the \_\_\_\_\_ indicate about the word's meaning?

3) Its current use at the time of the writing - what did it mean \_\_\_\_\_?

4) Its root meaning - what is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the word?

\_\_\_\_\_ translations - but be careful of paraphrases

You are seeking to determine the \_\_\_\_\_ meaning when he wrote it.

## ASSIGNMENTS - Pg. 242

### Rule 12 - Interpret a word in relations to its sentence & context. Pages 186-188

Example 1: Faith (186-187)

Galatians 1:23 - faith is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the gospel

Romans 14:23 - faith is the \_\_\_\_\_ that this is what God wants you to do

1 Timothy 5:11-12 - faith is a pledge or promise made to the Lord - \_\_\_\_\_

Example 2: Blood (pg. 187-188)

Acts 17:24-26 - blood refers to a group of \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 1:7 - blood refers to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus on the cross

Hebrews 9:6-7 - blood refers to the \_\_\_\_\_ in the veins and arteries of the animal

Example 3 - 1 Corinthians 7:1 - touch (pg. 188)

Context indicates Paul is referring to \_\_\_\_\_ physical contact - sexual, not just common contact in common social settings - shaking hands, helping her up or down, etc.

Note: Remember that the ancient manuscripts did not have punctuation marks or chapter or verse designations. These were added by translators as aides to clarity, so even the context may extend in either direction more than what the punctuation and verse designations may suggest. - example Eph. 1:4-5

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