

Listen and Obey: The Application of Scripture to Everyday Life

Application must be *discerning*. (What does it mean?)

Transhistorical meaning: "The message intended for readers of a passage _____ the original readers."

Romans 15:4 (NKJV)

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

Excluded elements of transhistorical meaning:

- Covenantally _____ elements. (Leviticus 11:1–8)
- Personally and locally _____ elements. (Romans 16:1–2; 2 Timothy 4:13)
- Culturally _____ elements. (Romans 16:16)

Universal truths and applications.

- Universal (declared) truths that we should believe.
 - Teaching about the character of God (unchanging) that elicits a response from the original audience.
 - Teaching about the nature of man or reality that we must accept.
- Universal (declared) applications (commands) that demand we do or not do certain things.

The Holy Spirit's work of _____ enables us to understand God's word.

Application is connected to _____. (What does it mean to me?)

Application must flow from right _____

- All doctrine is _____. (Titus 1:7–9; 2:1–10)

"All doctrine is practical, and all practice must be based on sound doctrine. Doctrine that is not practical is not healthy doctrine and practice that is not doctrinal is not rightly based."[†]

- _____ is the application of Scripture.

"Theology is the application of Scripture, by persons, to every area of life."[‡]

Example – thinking in paradigms.

1 Timothy 5:17-20 (NKJV)

17 Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. 18 For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer is worthy of his wages." 19 Do not receive an accusation against an elder except from two or three witnesses. 20 Those who are sinning rebuke in the presence of all, that the rest also may fear.

What is the recognized pattern?

What is the contemporary application?

Application is connected to _____.

Thomas Watson's Rules for Meditation.[§]

- It must be _____.
- It must be _____-_____.
- It must be preceded by _____.
- It must include _____.
- It must include _____.
- It must lead to _____.

Scriptures related to meditation.

Psalms 1:1-6 (NKJV)

1 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;
2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.
3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.
4 The ungodly are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind drives away.
5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Joshua 1:8 (NKJV)

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

^{*} Ken Casillas, *Beyond Chapter and Verse*, 208.

[†] Charles C. Ryrie, *Balancing the Christian Life*, (Chicago: Moody, 1994), 69.

[‡] John Frame, *Systematic Theology*, (Phillipsburg, New Jersey, P&R, 2013), loc 1256.

[§] Jennifer C. Neimeyer, "Thomas Watson: The Necessity of Meditation." *Puritan Reformed Journal* 2, no. 1 (January 2010): 172.