

Herman Who? How to Interpret the Bible for Today

Romans 15:1-6, Leviticus 11:1-12

November 18, 2018

- Bacon wrapped scallops.
- Leviticus says we can't eat pork or shellfish.
- Let me introduce you to hermeneutics.
- Hermeneutics can help you get the most out of God's Word.

1. We interpret and apply the teaching of Scriptures for today by using the art and science of Biblical Hermeneutics.

Luke 24:27 ***And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted (διερμηνεύω) to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.***

- You're already doing hermeneutics. This will help you do it well.
- Ask me for a copy of the chapter. RodPin@aol.com
- Love God with your mind. Think.

■ Humpty Dumpty.

2. We must ask three hermeneutical questions.

2.1 Ask what the passage says.

■ Mike's birthday card

- "Dear Dad, Happy birthday. We are so blessed to have a father like you in our lives. A father who is spiritually wise, loves courageously and teaches generously. You have always been a great role model for us all and we know you'll be a great Papa to Liliana ... *and* the newest addition to our family. Love Mike, Sarah, Baron, Skye (our grandpuppies) *and Baby Pinder.*" (Italics added.)

Leviticus 11:7, 8, 10 ***7 And the pig, because it parts the hoof and is cloven-footed but does not chew the cud, is unclean to you. 8 You shall not eat any of their flesh,***

and you shall not touch their carcasses; they are unclean to you. ... 10 But anything in the seas or the rivers that does not have fins and scales, of the swarming creatures in the waters and of the living creatures that are in the waters, is detestable to you.

2.2 Ask what the passage meant.

Exodus 20:17 ***You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.***

- When was the last time you coveted your neighbor's donkey?
- Escalade. Cadillac.

2.3 Ask what the passage means.

Romans 15:4 ***For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.***

- We're going to look at 5 guidelines.
- They're really pretty simple.

3. Read the plain sense of Scripture.

- Should we interpret the Bible literally? Sometimes.
- John 3:16. (Gospel)
- But Psalm 91:4 ***He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge.***

John 10:6,11 ***11 I am the good shepherd.***

This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ... "11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

- Parables, metaphor, hyperbole, poetry ...

4. Look for the eternal principle.

Matthew 6:17-18 ***But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18 that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.***

- Vitalis, Butch Wax, Brylereem.
- Jesus' point was that we shouldn't draw attention to our piety.
- (So no, you can't covet your neighbor's Escalade.)

5. Let Scripture interpret Scripture.

Mark 7:18-19 ***Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, 19 since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.)***

- So bacon wrapped scallops are back on the menu!
- This is one of the reasons it's so important to read the Bible a lot! The whole thing.
- Matthew 22:29 ***But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God."***

6. Follow the rule of love.

- The Bible is the Book of Love.

I John 4:19 ***We love because he first loved us.***

Matthew 22:37-40 ***37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."***

- Love isn't always permissive.

II Timothy 3:16 *All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training παιδείαν in righteousness,*

Revelation 3:19 *Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline παιδεύω, so be zealous and repent.*”

7. Above all, listen to the Holy Spirit.

John 16:13 *When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.*

NOTE: This sermon is reduced from a chapter of Pastor Rod's forthcoming book, *Nasty Rumors: Can You Believe What They're Saying about the Bible?* If you would like a copy of the whole chapter, email RodPin@aol.com or call 407.282.LOVE(5683)