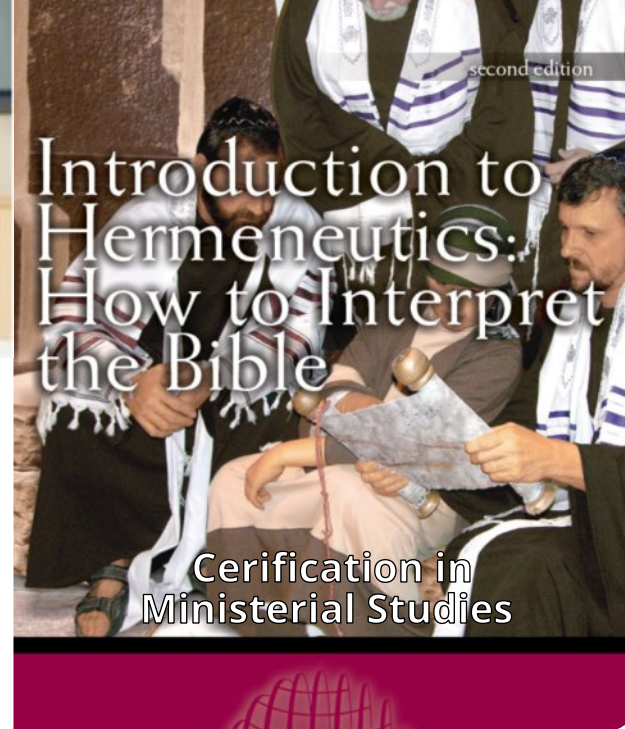




Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to

1. Explain the need for hermeneutical principles to guide interpretation.
2. Summarize the qualifications, tools, and goals of a biblical interpreter.
3. Identify key issues in the history of hermeneutics.
4. Analyze the historical and literary contexts of a given passage of Scripture.
5. Analyze word meanings and relationships in a given biblical passage.
6. Contrast figurative and literal language, and the keys for interpreting each.
7. Distinguish between biblical genres, and the principles for interpreting them.
8. Summarize the relationship between the Old and New Covenants and God's kingdom.
9. Value and identify timeless, cross-cultural principles based on a passage of Scripture.
10. Discuss the role of the Holy Spirit in interpreting, using, and applying Scripture.



Course Description

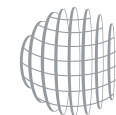
BIB121

Introduction to Hermeneutics.

(4 ECTS)

This is an introductory course on the principles for interpreting Scripture. It summarizes the need for hermeneutical principles, and explores the qualifications, tools, and goals of a biblical interpreter.

Berean School of the Bible



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UNIT 1 Using the Bible

Chapter 1 Introduction to Hermeneutics

Lessons

1.1 The Definition of and Need for Hermeneutics

1.2 The Qualifications of a Biblical Interpreter

1.3 The Tools of a Biblical Interpreter

1.4 The Goals of a Biblical Interpreter

Chapter 2 Past and Present Methods of Interpreting Scripture.

Lessons

2.1 Jewish Interpreters, the Apostles, and Church Fathers (200 BC–AD 600)

2.2 The Middle Ages to the Reformation (AD 600–1500)

2.3 The Reformation to the Present (AD 1500–the present)

UNIT 2 General and Specific Principles for Interpreting Scripture

Chapter 3 The Historical-Cultural Background

Lessons

3.1 Examining the Historical-Cultural Background

3.2 Practice Examining the Historical-Cultural Background

Chapter 4 Circles of Literary Context

Lessons

4.1 Discern the Need to Examine the

Literary Context

4.2 Interpret a Text in the Circle of Its Local Context

4.3 Interpret a Text in the Circle of Its Book Context

4.4 Interpret a Text in the Circle of Its Whole Biblical Context

Chapter 5 Word Meanings and Relationships

Lessons

5.1 Nouns and Pronouns

5.2 Verbs, Adverbs, Adjectives, and Conjunctions

5.3 Analyze Word Relationships

Chapter 6 Principles about Language

Lessons

6.1 Literal and Figurative Language

6.2 Interpreting Figures of Speech: Simple Comparisons

6.3 Interpreting Figures of Speech: Complex Comparisons

6.4 Interpreting Figures of Speech: Contrasts, Overstatements, and Relations

UNIT 3 Understanding the Genres in the Bible

Chapter 7 Genres: Historical Narrative, Stories of History

Lessons

7.1 Separate the Enduring from the

Temporary

7.2 Discern the Author's Purpose: Part 1

7.3 Discern the Author's Purpose: Part 2

Chapter 8 Genres: Old Testament Law

Lessons

8.1 Salvation under the Old Covenant and the New

8.2 Three Types of Old Testament Laws

Chapter 9 Genres: Poetry

Lessons

9.1 Keys to Interpreting Poetry: Historical Context, Parallelism, and Figurative Language

9.2 Keys to Interpreting Psalms: Types and Forms

Chapter 10 Genres: Wisdom Literature

Lessons

10.1 Proverbs: The Building Blocks of Wisdom Literature

10.2 Job, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon

Chapter 11 Genres: Prophecy and Apocalyptic Literature.

Lessons

11.1 The Old Testament Prophets

11.2 The Apocalyptic Literature

Chapter 12 Genres: Gospels, Acts, and the Epistles.

Lessons

12.1 Gospels: Portraits of Christ

12.2 Gospels: Teaching Methods of Christ

12.3 Acts: An Interpretive History

12.4 Epistles: Occasional Documents

UNIT 4 Applying Scripture

Chapter 13 The Covenants and the Kingdom

Lessons

13.1 The Relationship between the Old and New Covenants

13.2 The Relationship between the two Covenants and the Kingdom of God

13.3 The Already and Not Yet Aspects of the Kingdom of God

Chapter 14 Timeless, Cross-Cultural, Biblical Principles

Lessons

14.1 Recognizing and Valuing Principles

14.2 Guidelines for Stating Principles

Chapter 15 The Role of the Holy Spirit in Interpreting, Using, and Applying Scripture

Lessons

15.1 The Role of the Holy Spirit in Interpreting Scripture

15.2 The Role of the Holy Spirit in Using and Applying Scripture