

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

The Clarity (Perspicuity) of Scripture

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

This week's sermon will be a topical message on the clarity of scripture. The sermon will be surveying many passages rather than one single passage. Therefore, we will not be examining a block diagram this week. Rather the goal will be to consider many passages that relate to scripture's clarity.

Briefly examine these passages (Genesis 1:26-30, 2:15-16, 3:8-19, 12:1-9, 17:1-22).

1. To whom does God speak in the above passages?
2. Is God's communication clear? Explain.
3. Examine Exodus 24:1-8 and 2 Peter 1:20-21.
4. What means does God use to communicate in these passages?
5. Whose words are communicated?
6. Consider Genesis 3:1-13. Were Adam and Eve able to understand the command of God?
7. Read Genesis 11:1-9. Were the builders of Babel able to understand the commands of God?

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❖ Day 2

8. Read Matthew 4:1-11. How did Jesus respond to the devil's twisted application of scripture?
9. Read 2 Peter 3:15-16. What is the response of immature individuals to scriptures that are difficult to understand?
10. Review your answers to the last four questions. What is the greatest block to understanding the scriptures?
11. The scriptures are the word of God and therefore reflect his nature. What does the nature of God and his communication with man tell us about the clarity of scripture?
12. Read Deuteronomy 6:6-7. How does this passage witness to the clarity of scripture?
13. Read Deuteronomy 30:11-14. Are the commands of God too difficult to be understood or obeyed? How distant is the word of God?
14. Read Psalm 19:7, Psalm 119:130, Psalm 119:105. What does the Word of God provide?

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15. What do these three passages from the Psalms teach us about the clarity of scripture?

❖ Day 3

16. Read Matthew 12:3, 5; 19:4; 21:42; 22:31. What is the repeated phrase in these passages?

17. What is the working assumption of Jesus when he asks the question from the above passages in Matthew?

18. Read 1 Timothy 4:13. What is Paul's focus in this passage?

19. Why would Paul give this instruction to Timothy? What presuppositions about the clarity of scripture does Paul have?

20. Consider all of the passages that have been examined. How would you describe the clarity of scripture to a fellow church member? How would you describe the clarity of scripture to an unbeliever?

21. If scripture is clear, how does this affect you personally?

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22. If scripture is clear what could keep you from understanding it?

23. In light of the clarity of scripture how should you pray as you prepare to study it?

24. If scripture is clear how should the Church body engage with it? What priority should it have in our gathering?

25. What should our hearts response be to the clear communication that God has blessed us with in His Word?

In preparation for Sunday, pray thanking God for communicating with us clearly in his Word. Ask God to reveal any sin in your hearts that keeps you from rightly understanding and submitting to his Word.