

Practical Theology – Lesson 10 – “Scripture”

“Timeless Nature of Scripture”

Matthew 5:17-20 - Establishes authority, timeliness, and plenary inclusion of the Word of God

- V17 – The “Church Age” does not disqualify the Old Testament as the Word of God
 - We are not outside the timetable of Scripture – one reason why Bible Prophecy is important -**Ezekiel 37:24-28** (Ch 37-38) (Ezekiel ~200 yrs after David) – but Jesus did NOT set up his kingdom at the first advent, compare to Revelation **19:11-22:5**
- V18 (v18-19) – The plenary, verbal, authority of the written Word – none is excluded
- V20 – The Personal Relationship – in context of the authority of Scripture, as prelude to v21+

Aspects of the Timeless Nature of the Word of God

- The Inspiration, and therefore Inerrancy and Authority, of the Word of God – **2 Timothy 3:16**
- The Timeless Nature of God (Psalm 90:1-5) coupled with the Omniscience of God **Psalm 147:4-5**, **Hebrews 4:12-13** (11-16)
- The personal aspect, compare Hebrews 4:12-13 to Ephesians 6:17 “Sword of the Spirit”)

A Personal Relationship with a Living God who communicates via Scripture

- The Illumination of the Holy Spirit and the Discernment of the Believer
 - **I Corinthians 2:12** (11-16)
- The Requirement for Daily Scripture – living in the NOW with God
 - **I Thessalonians 5:17** Pray without ceasing
 - **Deuteronomy 6:7** (3-9)
 - Sermon on the Mount – Daily emphasis; **Matthew 6:11, 34** (25-34)

The Rub: Three Examples of Scripture at odds with Modern Culture

- Sanctity of Marriage
 - Adam and Eve – **Genesis 2:22-24**
 - Jesus on Divorce – **Matthew 5:31-32** (context Deuteronomy 24)
- Prohibition of Homosexuality – Leviticus 20, Romans 1:24-32, I Corinthians 6:9, and **I Timothy 1:8-10** expresses the rebellious nature of homosexuality
- Gender Roles
 - Family – **Ephesians 5:22-33** (also Colossians 3:18-19)
 - Authority of women restricted – **I Timothy 2:12** (9-15) (also I Corinthians 14:34-35)
- Qualifications for an Elder/Pastor – **I Timothy 3:1-7** (1-13) (also Titus 1:6-9)

The Problem of Interpretation regarding Dispensational, Historic, and Cultural Context

- Why we invest time and money in continuous study
 - The vastness of Scripture - While Scripture best explains Scripture, there’s SO MUCH Scripture to search through, compare, and understand – we use our resources and do what we can...
 - The Problem of Ignorance of History, Language, and Culture
- The Solution of personal application in concert with Scripture and the Holy Spirit
 - The importance of Daily prayer and Scripture