

# GENESIS

**1 The beginning**  
In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

3 And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light. 4 God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light 'day', and the darkness he called 'night'. And there was evening, and there was morning – the first

day. 6 And God said, 'Let the water under the sky be gathered to a mass, and let me gather the waters under the sky into a reservoir, and let the dry ground appear.' And God said, 'Let the water under the sky be gathered to a mass, and let me gather the waters under the sky into a reservoir, and let the dry ground appear.' And God said, 'Let the water under the sky be gathered to a mass, and let me gather the waters under the sky into a reservoir, and let the dry ground appear.'

24 And God said, 'Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds, the wild animals of the earth and the livestock, and all the creatures that creep on the ground, and the wild animals of the earth and the livestock, and all the creatures that creep on the ground according to their kinds.' And God saw that it was good.

# Introduction to Hermeneutics

Sovereign Grace Academy (BIB101)

## Introduction to Hermeneutics (BIB101)

# Class 01 - What is Hermeneutics?

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1. Discuss the Syllabus
  2. Why People Don't Study
  3. Why Study the Bible
  4. Overview of the Process
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# Introduction - What is Hermeneutics?

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**Hermeneutics is the art and science of interpretation.**

- The name is from Hermes, messenger of the gods in Greek mythology.
- Hermeneutics is about relaying the message of the **AUTHOR** to the **AUDIENCE**.
- Biblical Hermeneutics is an application of 2 Timothy 2:15.

# Introduction - What is Hermeneutics?

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## 2 Timothy 2:15 KJV

*"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."*

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# Part 1

## Why Don't People Study?

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# **PART 1 - Why People Don't Study**

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**Dr. Hendricks points out several reasons why people do not study:**

- 1. Failure to recognize the relevance of the Bible**
- 2. Feeling of inadequacy for the task**
- 3. Fear of too much time needing to be invested**
- 4. Finding the difficulties of the Bible too problematic**
- 5. Forgetting that the experience should be joyful**

# **PART 1 - Why People Don't Study**

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**Two additional thoughts about why people do not study:**

**1. The Rise in Easy-Believism**

**2. An Anti-Intellectual Mindset**

# PART 1 - Why People Don't Study

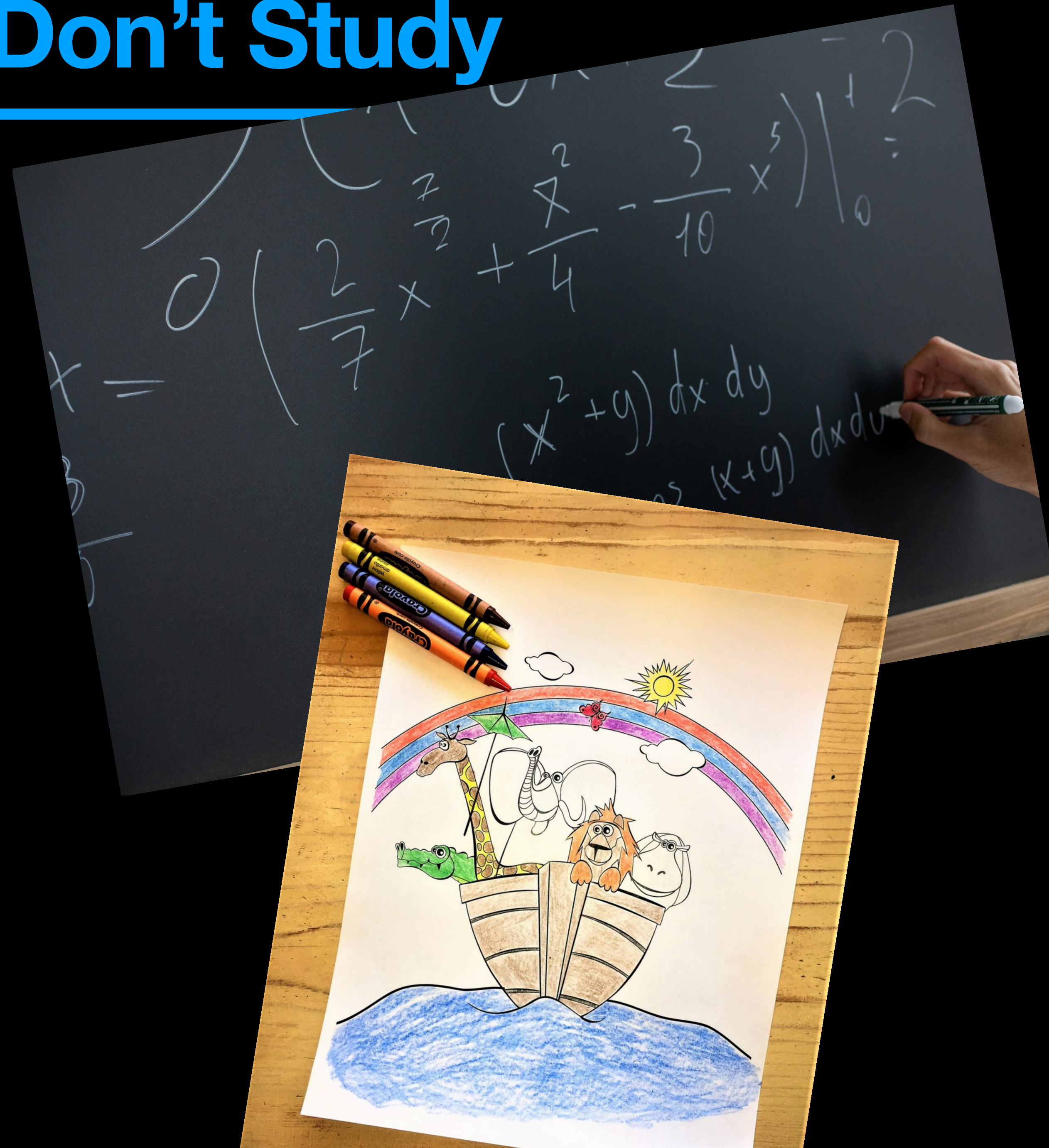
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Anti-Intellectualism is relatively recent in church history. The church was once a source for art, literature, and even scientific inquiry. But now we engage in a massive “dumbing down” of material.



# PART 1 - Why People Don't Study

The same teenagers who are expected to learn advanced calculus in high school are coloring pictures of Noah's Ark in Sunday school.



# PART 1 - Why People Don't Study

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## Romans 12:1-2

*“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”*

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## **Part 2**

# **Why Study the Bible?**

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# **PART 2 - Why Study the Bible?**

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**Dr. Hendricks points out 3 reasons we need to study:**

- 1. It is essential to our spiritual growth**  
(1 Peter 2:2)
- 2. It is essential to spiritual maturity**  
(Hebrews 5:11–14)
- 3. It is essential to spiritual effectiveness**  
(2 Timothy 3:16–17)

# **PART 2 - Why Study the Bible?**

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**Additionally, we should study the Bible because of WHAT IT CLAIMS TO BE**

**QUESTION: What does the Bible claim to be?**

**ANSWER: The Word of God.**

# PART 2 - Why Study the Bible?

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The Bible claims to be of divine origin.

This leads to the conclusion that the Bible must be both INERRANT and INFALLIBLE.

Inerrancy means it *does not* have any errors.

Infallible means it *cannot* have any errors.

# **PART 2 - Why Study the Bible?**

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**Christians believe that the Bible was written by men but superintended by the Holy Spirit of God – and that God has maintained the integrity of the Bible down through the ages to ensure that we can have confidence that what we are reading is God’s Word.**

# PART 2 - Why Study the Bible?

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**Dr. Voddie Bauchem**

**“I choose to believe the Bible because it is a reliable collection of historical documents written down by eyewitnesses during the lifetime of other eyewitnesses. They report [of] supernatural events that took place in fulfillment of specific prophecies and claimed that their writing are divine rather than human in origin.”**





## **PART 2 - Why Study the Bible?**

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**IMPORTANT: While the Bible is God's Word, and it bears the authority of God Himself, it is still a book. As a result, it has the same interpretive rules as do other books.**

- Yes the Holy Spirit is the ultimate author.**
- Yes it says that it is not able to be rightly understood by the unspiritual person.**
- But this does not mean that it violates the rules of grammar.**

## **PART 2 - Why Study the Bible?**

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**There is no “Holy Ghost Greek”.**

**In the Bible, a noun is a noun, a verb is a verb, an adjective is an adjective, etc.**

**So when we come to the issue of interpretation, there are guidelines which can be used to determine whether or not an interpretation is within the bounds of what the text is saying.**

# PART 1 - Why People Don't Study

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**BREAK**

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# Part 3

# Overview the Process

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# **PART 3 - Overview of the Process**

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**The outline given in our Textbook is as Follows:**

## **1. OBSERVATION**

*What does the text SAY?*

## **2. INTERPRETATION**

*What does the text MEAN?*

## **3. APPLICATION**

*How does it work?*

# PART 3 - Overview of the Process

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This method seeks to ensure that  
we are engaging in

EXEGESIS rather than EISEGESIS.

- Eisegesis is reading into the text something that is not there.
- Exegesis is drawing out of the text what is contained within.

**Exegesis is the basis for Hermeneutics.**

# **PART 3 - Overview of the Process**

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## **Good Exercise:**

**Write down 10 observations from  
Romans 12:1-2**