

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

According to the kind, each kind was good. ⁶ God blessed them, and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds on the earth.' ⁷ And there was evening and there was morning – the fifth day.

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

Introduction to Hermeneutics

Sovereign Grace Academy (BIB101)

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Class 03 - Observation Part 2

1. Six Things to Look For
 2. Practice Observation Skills
 3. Break
 4. Go Over WB Assignment
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Lecture Introduction

A comment on Biblical literacy by Dr. Albert Mohler:

**“Researchers George Gallup and Jim Castelli put the problem squarely: “Americans revere the Bible--but, by and large, they don't read it. And because they don't read it, they have become a nation of biblical illiterates.” How bad is it? Researchers tell us that it's worse than most could imagine. Fewer than half of all adults can name the four gospels. Many Christians cannot identify more than two or three of the disciples. According to data from the Barna Research Group, 60 percent of Americans can't name even five of the Ten Commandments. “No wonder people break the Ten Commandments all the time. They don't know what they are,” said George Barna, president of the firm. The bottom line?
“Increasingly, America is biblically illiterate.”**

Lecture Introduction

Illustration: The Fishing Hole Quiz

I know by experience these are not exaggerations. Each year, we set up an evangelism booth at a fair in Callahan.

I put a big sign up inviting people to take a bible quiz. This is in a rural, mostly religious, small town setting. Yet, many of the people cannot tell me how many books are in the Bible, how many testaments there are, how many Gospels were written and by whom. These are rudimentary, Sunday school level questions, which have simply fallen into relative obscurity.

Lecture Introduction

I want to challenge you about something that I believe will go a long way toward increasing you as a student of the Bible. Commit to memory your Bible basics including:

- How many books in each testament? (39+27)
- What are the names of the Books of the Bible?
(Can you name all 66? / Easier if you group them)
- Who wrote the books and when were they written?

Lecture Introduction

#1 Good Observation Question: *WHERE*
am I in the Bible?

- The Bible is not ordered
CHRONOLOGICALLY in all of its contents.
- The Bible is ordered CATEGORICALLY in
many places.

Lecture Introduction

#2 Good Observation Question: WHEN am I in the Bible?

- The Bible was written over 1500 year period, and spans a time period much greater than that.
- Being able to see where each books lands in the timeline of redemptive history is helpful.

Part 1

Six Things to Look For

Part 1 - Six Things to Look For

When I first asked you to give me ten observations on Romans 12:1-2, some were not quite sure what I was asking you to do.

- In the textbook, Dr. Hendricks gives the example of a doctor looking in our throat when it is sore.
- We could look all day and not know what was causing the problem.
- But because the Doctor knows what he is looking for, he knows how to identify it when he sees it.

Part 1 - Six Things to Look For

1. THINGS THAT ARE EMPHASIZED (KEYWORD).

- Amount of space given to something
- Stated purpose
- Order
- Movement from lesser to greater, and vice versa

Part 1 - Six Things to Look For

2. THINGS THAT ARE REPEATED

- Terms, Phrases, Clauses
- Characters
- Incidents and Circumstances
- Patterns
- New Testament use of Old Testament passages (Ps 110:1 & Lev 19:18 among most quoted OT passage in NT)

Part 1 - Six Things to Look For

3. THINGS THAT ARE RELATED

- Movement from the General to the Specific
- Questions and Answers
- Cause and Effect (“If” which leads to “then”)

Part 1 - Six Things to Look For

4. THINGS THAT ARE ALIKE

- Similes (uses “as” and “like”)
- Metaphors (comparison without “as” or “like”)

Part 1 - Six Things to Look For

5. THINGS THAT ARE UNLIKE

- Use of “But” (Always changes things — At times, the most beautiful word in the bible)
- Metaphors (Sometimes show contrast, “unrighteous judge” in Luke 18)
- Irony (Luke 8:45 — Jesus asks “Who touched me?”)
- Sarcasm (1 Kings 18:27 — Elijah and the prophets of Baal)

Part 1 - Six Things to Look For

6. THINGS THAT ARE TRUE TO LIFE

- What does this passage tell us about reality? (Cf. Noah and the deluge)
- What aspects of the text resonate with your experience? (Cf. Gen 22 offering of Isaac)
- What life principles is it reliant upon or proposing? (Cf. Incident with David and Bathsheba)
- Dr. Hendricks mentions using “Sanctified Imagination” (feel, emote, experience what is happening)

Part 1 - Some Additional Things...

GRAMMATICAL CONSTRUCTION

- Identify the nouns, verbs, etc.
- Discuss sentence diagrams
- NOTE: This again gives reason as to why we need a solid bible translation.

Part 1 - Some Additional Things...

TRANSLATION DIFFERENCES AND CHOICES

- Look at the passage in another translation (or even several).
- Note where different translators make choices in their language.
- Examine the original language (if possible).

Part 1 - Some Additional Things...

CONSIDER PARALLEL PASSAGES

- Has this story been told elsewhere?
- Does this subject come up in other passages?
- Is there a need to harmonize an account? (such as with the various resurrection narratives)
- Will another passage shed light on this passage?

"We must read our
Bibles like men digging
for hidden treasure."

- J.C. Ryle



Part 2

Practice Observation Skills

Part 2 - Practice Observation Skills

Matthew 16:13–20 “Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

14 And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

15 He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”

16 Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

17 And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.

18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

20 Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.”



PART 1 - Why People Don't Study

BREAK

Part 3

Workbook Overview

PART 3 - Go Over WB Assignment

Read over exercises 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38 in the workbook –

Choose and complete one to discuss