

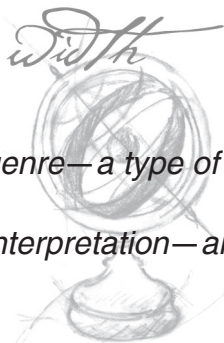


Studying the Bible for All Its Worth: Lecture One



Notes

“We are not alone”—a simple phrase, but what does it mean? It depends, of course, on the context. Who is being quoted? In what situation are they making the statement? Who is being included in “we”? What is meant by “alone”? The meaning we assign to this phrase will be different if it is spoken by a scientist who has just discovered evidence of microbial life on a distant planet, by a government official asserting international support for a proposed initiative, by a pastor encouraging Christians in their walk in Christ, or by a character in a horror movie who has just heard strange noises coming from the basement. Our reading of even this briefest and simplest of sentences forces us to do a bit of interpretation. In everyday life, of course, when we read a newspaper or a novel, listen to the radio or watch television, we instinctively ask ourselves—or already know the answer to—questions like those above, questions of genre and context. We have some sense of what to expect of an article in our favorite magazine or of a poem by a well-known poet. We can usually interpret correctly what we read and hear because we have familiarized ourselves with how people communicate in different contexts through different forms. This lesson suggests that when we read Scripture we are facing the same sort of interpretive questions. But because the various books that make up our Bible were written to people who in certain respects were quite different from us and who may have been familiar with different forms of communication than we usually use today, we need ask these questions more deliberately. We need to work a little harder to be sure we don’t misunderstand the original meaning of Scripture and thereby miss its message to us today. If we want to understand the Bible, we cannot ignore the manner in which it is communicated.



genre—a type of literature; a literary category

interpretation—an explanation of the meaning of a text

Studying the Bible for All Its Worth

Notes

height

What was the intended audience for the book *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*?

Why should we be cautious of “unique” interpretations of the Bible?

“The Holy Spirit never inspired nonsense. It was always the purpose of God to have people understand his word. God designed his word for everybody, not just for an elite.”

What is the difference between saying the Bible has a “plain” meaning and saying that a person can read it and immediately understand it?

What does Dr. Stuart mean by the “eternal relevance” of the Bible, and how is this related to the Bible’s “historical particularity”?

Give an example of how the Bible provides clues to what things are eternally relevant.

What is the implication of the fact that Scripture is more than a list of “do’s” and “don’ts”?

length

Have you ever had a bad experience with how someone “interpreted” the Bible—either in a way you strongly disagreed with or with an attitude about interpretation that you found bothersome?

Introduction

In your experience, what is the role of “scholars” or “professionals” in biblical interpretation? Give an example of a time you found the advice of a “professional” helpful.

Notes

Depth

Has the approach to interpreting Scripture changed over the history of the church? If so, how?

How do Roman Catholic and Orthodox Christians approach the interpretation of Scripture?

Gerald Bray. *Biblical Interpretation: Past and Present*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1996.

William W. Klein, Craig L. Blomberg, and Robert L. Hubbard, Jr. *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*. Dallas: Word, 1993.

“The Bible itself contains statements that help you to know that the cross story was not just an [incidental] event and that its location in time and space is not irrelevant. It helps you know that God sent his Son to die once for all, for everybody, that all sins might be forgiven.”

一、緒論

筆記



「我們不孤單」——簡單的句子，但是什麼意思呢？當然，那要決定於上下文。這是引述誰的話？講這句話的場合是什麼？「我們」包括誰？「孤單」是指什麼？如果說這句話的是一位剛剛發現遙遠星球上有微生物生命的科學家，或是一位聲稱某個提案有國際支援的政府官員，或是一位鼓勵基督徒要跟隨基督的牧師，還是恐怖電影中一位聽到地下室有奇怪聲音的角色，我們對這句話的理解都會不一樣。即使解讀這麼簡短、簡單的句子，我們都還必須做一點解釋。當然，在日常生活中，當我們讀報紙或小說，聽收音機或看電視，我們都會直覺地問類似這樣的問題，就是關於文體與上下文的問題。對我們最喜愛的雜誌裡的文章或著名詩人的詩，我們都大概知道可以預期什麼。我們通常能正確地解釋我們所讀到或聽到的，因為我們熟悉人們在不同場合所用的不同溝通方式。這個功課告訴我們，我們讀經時也同樣要面對解釋的問題。但是因為聖經不同書卷的寫作對象，在某些方面與我們非常不同，他們熟悉的溝通方式可能與我們今天不同，因此我們需要更蓄意地提問這些問題。我們需要更辛苦一些才能確定，我們沒有誤解經文的原始意義，因此沒有錯失它對我們今日的信息。如果我們要明白聖經，我們就不能忽視它所用的溝通方式。



文體(genre)：一種文學形式，文學類型

解釋(interpretation)：解釋一段文字的意思

筆記



《讀經的藝術》一書的寫作對象是誰？

為什麼我們應當對「獨特」的聖經解釋很小心？

(1)聖經經文有「明顯」的意義，(2)任何人都可以讀了就立刻明白，以上兩種說法有何不同？

「聖靈從來沒有默示過沒有道裡的東西。神的目的一直都是要人能明白祂的話語。神設計祂的話語是要給所有人，不是只給高手。」

史督華博士說的聖經的「永遠的適用性」是什麼意思？這與聖經的「歷史特性」之間如何關連？

對哪些是永遠適用的，聖經提供了線索，試舉例說明。

聖經不只是一系列的「該做什麼」與「不該做什麼」，這意味什麼？



你曾經驗過很糟糕的別人「解釋」聖經嗎——無論是因為你對他的解釋極為不同意，或是他對解釋的態度讓你很困擾？

在你的經驗裡，解釋聖經的「學者」或「專家」的角色是什麼？請舉例你曾從「專家」得到的幫助。

筆記



在教會歷史中，解釋聖經的方式曾否改變？若有，如何改變？

羅馬天主教與正統基督教如何解釋聖經？

Gerald Bray 《聖經解釋的今昔》(Biblical Interpretation: Past and Present). Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1996.

William W. Klein, Craig L. Blomberg, and Robert L. Hubbard, Jr. 《聖經解釋導論》(Introduction to Biblical Interpretation). Dallas: Word, 1993.

「聖經自己就含有陳述要幫助你認識，十字架的故事不是只是一個【偶然的】事件，發生在何時何地沒什麼關係。神差遣祂的兒子一次地為所有人而死，好叫所有的罪都得赦免。」

一、绪论

笔记



「我们不孤单」——简单的句子，但是什么意思呢？当然，那要决定于上下文。这是引述谁的话？讲这句话的场合是什么？「我们」包括谁？「孤单」是指什么？如果说这句话的是一位刚刚发现遥远星球上有微生物生命的科学家，或是一位声称某个提案有国际支援的政府官员，或是一位鼓励基督徒要跟随基督的牧师，还是恐怖电影中一位听到地下室有奇怪声音的角色，我们对这句话的理解都会不一样。即使解读这么简短、简单的句子，我们都还必须做一点解释。当然，在日常生活中，当我们读报纸或小说，听收音机或看电视，我们都会直觉地问类似这样的问题，就是关于文体与上下文的问题。对我们最喜爱的杂志里的文章或著名诗人的诗，我们都大概知道可以预期什么。我们通常能正确地解释我们所读到或听到的，因为我们熟悉人们在不同场合所用的不同沟通方式。这个功课告诉我们，我们读经时也同样要面对解释的问题。但是因为圣经不同书卷的写作对象，在某些方面与我们非常不同，他们熟悉的沟通方式可能与我们今天不同，因此我们需要更蓄意地提问这些问题。我们需要更辛苦一些才能确定，我们没有误解经文的原始意义，因此没有错失它对我们今日的信息。如果我们要明白圣经，我们就不能忽视它所用的沟通方式。



文体(genre): 一种文学形式, 文学类型

解释(interpretation): 解释一段文字的意思

笔记



《读经的艺术》一书的写作对象是谁？

为什么我们应当对「独特」的圣经解释很小心？

(1)圣经经文有「明显」的意义，(2)任何人都可以读了就立刻明白，以上两种说法有何不同？

「圣灵从来没有默示过没有道里的东西。神的目的一直都是要人能明白祂的话语。神设计祂的话语是要给所有人，不是只给高手。」

史督华博士说的圣经的「永远的适用性」是什么意思？这与圣经的「历史特性」之间如何关连？

对哪些是永远适用的，圣经提供了线索，试举例说明。

圣经不只是一系列的「该做什么」与「不该做什么」，这意味着什么？



你曾经经验过很糟糕的别人「解释」圣经吗——无论是因为你对他的解释极为不同意，或是他对解释的态度让你很困扰？

在你的经验里，解释圣经的「学者」或「专家」的角色是什么？请举例你曾从「专家」得到的帮助。

笔记



在教会历史中，解释圣经的方式曾否改变？若有，如何改变？

罗马天主教与正统基督教如何解释圣经？

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「圣经自己就含有陈述要帮助你认识，十字架的故事不是只是一个【偶然的】事件，发生在何时何地没什么关系。神差遣祂的儿子一次地为所有人而死，好叫所有的罪都得赦免。」