BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION

7

APPLICATION
Application Types

**Historic Application** – narrative or instruction directed toward historic entities.

**Prophetic Application** – Future historic application. Indication of events that will come to pass in the future. These could be prophecy and fulfillment, or they could be pattern.

**Spiritual Application** – Narrative example that illustrates a spiritual truth. Information that contains a devotional benefit which may give peace, assurance, joy, or even righteous indignation.

**Doctrinal Application** – direct instruction regarding a policy, principle or procedure by which God operates, or by which Christians should operate, or regarding a “truth” that must be believed and kept. (1 Tim. 3:16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17, Salvation, mysteries, conduct, polity, etc...)

**Principle application** – specific instruction geared toward specific types of people in a certain culture may not directly apply since circumstances can be vastly different. But the underlying principles can be extracted for contemporary application.

**Moral Application** – “morals” of the story that modern day readers can glean from historic applications. (i.e. with Elisha and Naaman, one moral could be to do what God instructs, even if it is not understood at the time.)

**Direct, Practical Application** – straight-forward instructions that the contemporary reader can and should directly obey.
Beware of the tendency for nostalgia to turn into doctrine. Traditions and preferences often get venerated and preached and practiced as doctrinal truth. Avoid that trap. Back away from your current scenario, and see the bigger picture.
1. OBSERVATION
2. INTERPRETATION
3. APPLICATION
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2. INTERPRETATION
3. APPLICATION

SEPARATION
There are three classes of people recognized in the New Testament. Which one are you?

1 Corinthians 10:32 (KJV)
32 Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God:

There are three classes of people recognized in the New Testament. At which group(s) is the passage under consideration aimed?

There are multiple key events and circumstances in the New Testament. Between which events, and/or during which circumstance does the passage under consideration occur, or at which is it aimed?

There are multiple key events and circumstances in the New Testament. Between which events, and/or during which circumstance do you exist, and how does that affect the application of the passage under consideration?
Staving off False Accusations

• Kevin doesn’t think the whole Bible is for today
• Kevin teaches we shouldn’t read the old testament
• Kevin teaches that we shouldn’t read or obey Jesus
• Kevin teaches that we shouldn’t read the Gospels
• Kevin says ‘Hebrews’ doesn’t have any doctrine for today

Since people cannot substantively refute what I am saying, they attack personally with accusations about what I’m NOT saying.
Spokes Person

Romans 11:13 (KJV)
13 For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:

Acts 22:21 (KJV)
21 And he said unto me, Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles.

Galatians 1:16 (KJV)
16 To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

Galatians 2:7-9 (KJV)
7 But contrariwise, when they saw that the gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me, as the gospel of the circumcision was unto Peter;
8 (For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles:)
9 And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision.
Romans 15:8-16 (KJV)

8 Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers:

9 And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name.

10 And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people.

11 And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people.

12 And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.

13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

14 And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

15 Nevertheless, brethren, I have written the more boldly unto you in some sort, as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God,

16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.
Three Most Voluminous NT Writers

• John
  • Gospel of John
  • 1, 2, 3 John
  • Revelation
• Luke
  • Luke
  • Acts
• Paul
  • Romans
  • 1, 2 Corinthians
  • Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians
  • 1, 2 Thessalonians
  • 1, 2 Timothy, Titus
  • Philemon
Historic Application – narrative or instruction directed toward or regarding historic entities. (*i.e.* Gideon)

**Job 12:6 (KJV)**
6 The tabernacles of robbers prosper, and they that provoke God are secure; into whose hand God bringeth abundantly.

**Genesis 6:14 (KJV)**
14 Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.

**2 Kings 5:10 (KJV)**
10 And Elisha sent a messenger unto him [Naaman], saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.

**Matthew 10:5-6 (KJV)**
5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:
6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

**1 Corinthians 7:26 (KJV)**
26 I suppose therefore that this is good *for the present distress*, I say, that it is good for a man so to be.
Prophetic Application – Future historic application. Indication of events that will come to pass in the future. These could be prophecy and fulfillment, or they could be pattern.

Revelation 1:19 (KJV)
19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

Revelation 4:1 (KJV)
4 After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Ezekiel 36:22-28 (KJV)
22 Therefore say unto the house of Israel, thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went.
23 And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.
24 For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.
25 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.
26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.
27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.
28 And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.
Prophetic Application – Future historic application. Indication of events that will come to pass in the future. These could be prophecy and fulfillment, or they could be pattern.

Genesis 3:15 (KJV)
15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Judges 9:53 (KJV)
53 And a certain woman cast a piece of a millstone upon Abimelech's head, and all to brake his skull.

1 Samuel 17:49 (KJV)
49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

Habakkuk 3:13 (KJV)
13 Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people, even for salvation with thine anointed; thou woundedst the head out of the house of the wicked, by discovering the foundation unto the neck. Selah.

Romans 16:20 (KJV)
20 And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

Psalm 74:13-14 (KJV)
13 Thou didst divide the sea by thy strength: thou brakest the heads of the dragons in the waters.
14 Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness.

Revelation 19:1-20:2 (KJV)
Historic & Prophetic Application

Daniel 11:31 (KJV)
31 And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.

Matthew 24:15 (KJV)
15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)
Spiritual Application – Narrative example that illustrates a spiritual truth. Information that contains a devotional benefit which may give peace, assurance, joy, or even righteous indignation.

Judges 3:22 (KJV)
22 And the haft also went in after the blade; and the fat closed upon the blade, so that he could not draw the dagger out of his belly; and the dirt came out.

Psalm 2:8 (KJV)
8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.

Psalm 91:3-4 (KJV)
3 Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.
4 He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

• Just about anything found in a Southern Baptist/Lifeway Sunday School Quarterly.
• Just about anything found in a “Daily Bread” devotional.
• Inspirational Christian section at the book store.
• Starts with a daily human struggle, then looks to scripture for remedy. Great, but high risk of being unbalanced and/or instigation confusion regarding the context and doctrinal impact of the text.
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Amillennialists and Covenantal Theologians spiritualize and dismiss prophecies about the future of Israel in favor of replacement theology. This is the mistake of interpreting in favor of a presuppositionally desired application. They make a spiritual application when the doctrinal or historic application is not desirable.
Spiritual Application — Narrative example that illustrates a spiritual truth. Information that contains a devotional benefit which may give peace, assurance, joy, or even righteous indignation.

Ephesians 4:15 King James Version (KJV)
15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

1 Corinthians 5:8 King James Version (KJV)
8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

John 4:24 King James Version (KJV)
24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Ephesians 5:9 King James Version (KJV)
9 (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)

Most great untruths of within Christendom stem from an unbalanced proportion of TRUTH in exchange for the following virtues:

- Truth – love - Ecumenicalism, social gospel
- Truth – sincerity - Pluralism
- Truth – Spirit - Charismatic Movement (2 Cor. 11:4)
- Truth – goodness/righteousness - Legalism
UNITY AT ANY COST
OR
UNIT AS A BYPRODUCT OF GENUINE SPIRITUALITY
“Solidarity is great for a group that needs to work in unison or march into battle. Solidarity engenders trust, teamwork, and mutual aid. But it can also foster groupthink, orthodoxy, and a paralyzing fear of challenging the collective. Solidarity can interfere with a group’s efforts to find the truth, and the search for truth can interfere with a group’s solidarity. The Greek historian Thucydides saw this principle in action over two thousand years ago. Writing about a time of wars and revolutions in the fifth century BCE, he noted that “the ability to understand a question from all sides meant that one was totally unfitted for action.”


Ephesians 4:3 (KJV)
3   Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

James 3:17 (KJV)
17  But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

1 Timothy 6:5 (KJV)
5   Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.

2 Timothy 3:5 (KJV)
5   Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

2 Thessalonians 3:6 (KJV)
6   Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

Romans 16:17-18 (KJV)
17  Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.
18  For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.
Doctrinal Application – direct instruction regarding a policy, principle or procedure by which God operates, or by which Christians should operate, or regarding a “truth” that must be believed and kept. (1 Tim. 3:16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17, Salvation, mysteries, conduct, polity, etc...)

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (KJV)
16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:
17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

1 Timothy 3:16 (KJV)
16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.
Joel 2:23 (KJV)
23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.
Titus 1:5 (KJV)
5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:

1 Corinthians 14:40 (KJV)
40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

Acts 2:47 (KJV)
47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

1 Corinthians 5:13 (KJV)
13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

Romans 10:15 (KJV)
15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Conventions:
Conventions are means of accomplishing known objectives devised by leaders on the ground in the absence of more specific guidance. Biblical obscurity is very wise and intentional by the divine author. It allows leaders to innovate expedient manners of scriptural compliance across a wide array circumstances that differ financially, governmentally, economically, socially, physically, etc... The leader on the ground has freedom to maneuver.
- church buildings
- nursery
- minister of education
- children’s ministry
- bus ministry
- meeting days/times
- offering
- Addiction therapy
- Relationship and bereavement counseling
- Alters & Alter calls
- Order of service during meeting
- Invitations
- Church membership
Not a license – lessons learned
De-centralized command
1 Corinthians 11:3-16 (KJV)

3 But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.
4 Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head.
5 But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven.
6 For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered.
7 For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man.
8 For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man.
9 Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.
10 For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels.
11 Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord.
12 For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of God.
13 Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?
14 Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?
15 But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.
16 But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God.

Principle application:

1 Corinthians 7:1 (KJV)

1 Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman.

In order for a symbol to convey a meaning, it must be assigned a meaning, and that assignment must be agreed upon by those who would employ the symbol to execute message delivery.

Observations:
- being shorn or shaven has negative connotation
- Corinthians to judge in themselves (decentralized command)
- there is not custom for head-coverings
1 Corinthians 1:11 (KJV)
11 For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you.

1 Corinthians 7:1 (KJV)
1 Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman.
Moral Application – “morals” of the story that modern day readers can glean from historic applications. (i.e. with Elisha and Naaman, one moral could be to do what God instructs, even if it is not understood at the time.)

- Adam and Eve
- Cain and Abel
- Jacob and Esau
- Noah and the Ark
- Elisha and Naaman
- Samson
- Gideon
- David and Goliath
Direct, Practical Application – straight-forward instructions that the contemporary reader can and should directly obey.

1 Thessalonians 5:14-22 (KJV)

14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men.
15 See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.
16 Rejoice evermore.
17 Pray without ceasing.
18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.
19 Quench not the Spirit.
20 Despise not prophesyings.
21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.
22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.
This series on biblical interpretation is by no means exhaustive. We may commit entire videos to this topic in the future. But for now, this series will serve as a baseline for the sake of reference in future videos, and of course, for individual study and message preparation. When presenting understandings of various passages, I may refer back to one of these videos to indicate the means whereby the material I’m presenting was formulated. The inductive method and the related principles covered in this series are critical to mission success and spiritual growth. I hope that you will continue to reference this material, and extrapolate additional instances for how it is employed in your own study and delivery.
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CLOSING

• I hope you enjoyed this video.
• Remember that there are 6 videos that come before this one. It’s most beneficial to watch this series in order from start to finish.
• Please share these videos by word of mouth, social media…any way you can.
• Thanks to all of you who financially support this ministry. It wouldn’t be possible without you.
• If you’re not a subscriber, subscribe to the channel for future videos so that you never have to wallow in un-remedied ignorance for too long.
• Thanks for watching. May the Lord Bless you, and Good day.