

2 Peter 1:19-21

God has Determined the
Meaning of the Bible

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Who Grounds The Meaning Of The Text?

- The false teachers were not claiming revelation from God, but were questioning the Apostle's interpretation.
- This enabled the false teachers to claim that there was no literal, bodily return of Christ.

2 Peter 1:16-18 Apostles were eyewitnesses!

2 Peter 1:19-21 God grounds the meaning of the Bible – the Apostles have the correct interpretation!

The Correct Interpretation Was Confirmed

2 Peter 1:19 So we have **the prophetic word made more sure**, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts.

Three Views

1. Written prophecies more certain than transfig.
2. The word of God is entirely reliable.
3. The transfiguration made the correct interpretation certain (Jesus is returning bodily)

The Morning Star

Numbers 24:17-18a I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A star shall come forth from Jacob, A scepter shall rise from Israel, and shall crush through the forehead of Moab...Edom shall be a possession, Seir, its enemies, also will be a possession...

Revelation 22:16 I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.

God Is The Author of Scripture

2 Peter 1:20-21 But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a *matter* of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Application

1. We must believe that the author of the Bible (the Holy Spirit) "grounds" the meaning of the text.

➤ **1928 - E.D. Hirsch**

the author "grounds" the meaning

➤ **1900-2002 Hans-Georg Gadamer**

reader + author = meaning

➤ **1930-2004 Jacques Derrida**

the reader defines meaning

1. God Grounds The Bible's Interpretation

"Whether we realized it in the past or not Sola Scriptura has never been possible. It just can't work" (Tony Jones - disciple21century.com).

"I now believe that GLBTQ [people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender/transsexual, queer] can live lives in accord with biblical Christianity (at least as much as any of us can!) and that their monogamy can and should be sanctioned and blessed by church and state" (Tony Jones - disciple21century.com).

1. God Grounds The Bible's Interpretation

Matthew 22:29 But Jesus answered and said to them, "**You are mistaken**, not understanding the Scriptures nor the power of God.

2 Peter 3:16 ...things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort...

2 Peter 1:20 But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one's own interpretation...

1. Isn't The Bible A "Living" Text?

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Isaiah 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire.

Application

2. We can trust that the Bible is without error because it was inspired by God.

What is inerrancy? The original autographs were inspired by God and written by the prophets and apostles so that they are without error in all they teach and affirm.

➤ Phenomenological language:

Ecclesiastes 1:5 Also, the sun rises and the sun sets; And hastening to its place it rises there *again*

2. Defining Inerrancy

➤ The Bible Uses Rounded Numbers:

2 Chronicles 4:2 Also he made the cast *metal* sea, ten cubits from brim to brim, circular in form, and its height was five cubits and its circumference thirty cubits.

Pi = C/D

3

3.14

We all use rounded numbers!

3.14159

3.14159265

2. Defining Inspiration

Verbal Plenary Inspiration: The Holy Spirit moved the Biblical writer to such an extent that the very word in which God desired was brought to the original manuscript. God does this while maintaining the personality of the human writer as well.

2 Peter 1:21b ...but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

2. Defining Inspiration

Jeremiah 30:4 "These are the words which the LORD spoke concerning Israel and Judah"

2 Samuel 23:2 "The Spirit of the LORD speaks by me, His word is upon my tongue."

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is **inspired by God** and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

2. God Inspired Every Word!

Matthew 22:42-45 What do you think about the Christ, whose son is He?" They said to Him, "*The son of David.*" He said to them, "Then how does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying, 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I PUT YOUR ENEMIES BENEATH YOUR FEET" '? "If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his son?"

John 10:35 If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken)...
