

Student Handbook



40 QUESTIONS ABOUT
Interpreting the Bible

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Table of Contents

THOSE CONTRIBUTING:	II
QUESTION BANK	5
SECTION 1	5
<i>PART 1: GETTING STARTED: TEXT, CANON, AND TRANSLATION</i>	
Question 1: What Is the Bible?	
Question 2: How Is the Bible Organized?.....	
SECTION 2	7
Question 3: Who Wrote the Bible --- Humans or God?.....	
Question 4: Does the Bible Contain Error?.....	
SECTION 3	11
Question 5: Were the Ancient Manuscripts of the Bible Transmitted Accurately?.....	
Question 6: Who Determined What Books Would Be Included in the Bible?	
SECTION 4	15
Question 7: Which Is the Best English Bible Translation?.....	
<i>PART 2: APPROACHING THE BIBLE GENERALLY</i>	
<i>SECTION A: QUESTIONS RELATED TO INTERPRETATION</i>	
Question 8: Why Is Biblical Interpretation Important?.....	
Question 9: How Has the Bible Been Interpreted Throughout Church History?.....	
SECTIONS 5	18
Question 10: What Are Some General Principles for Interpreting the Bible? (1)	
Question 11: What Are Some General Principles for Interpreting the Bible? (2)	
SECTION 6	21
Question 12: How Can I Improve as an Interpreter of the Bible?	
Question 13: What Are Some Helpful Books or Tools for Interpreting the Bible?	
SECTION 7	24

SECTION B: QUESTIONS RELATED TO MEANING.....

Question 14: Who Determines the Meaning of a Text?

Question 15: Can a Text Have More Than One Meaning?.....

Question 16: What Is the Role of the Holy Spirit in Determining Meaning?

SECTION 8..... **27**

Question 17: What Is the Overarching Message of the Bible?

Question 18: Is the Bible Really All About Jesus?

SECTION 9..... **31**

Question 19: Do All the Commands of the Bible Apply Today?

Question 20: Why Can't People Agree on What the Bible Means?

SECTION 10..... **34**

PART 3: APPROACHING SPECIFIC TEXTS.....

SECTION A: SHARED GENRES (QUESTIONS APPLY EQUALLY TO OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS).....

Question 21: How Do We Identify Literary Genre and Why Does It Matter?

Question 22: How Do We Interpret Historical Narrative?.....

SECTION 11..... **37**

Question 23: How Do We Interpret Prophecy? (General Guidelines)

Question 24: How Do We Interpret Prophecy? (Typology)

SECTION 12..... **40**

Question 25: How Do We Interpret Apocalyptic Literature?

Question 26: How Do We Interpret Exaggerated Or Hyperbolic Language?.....

Question 27: How Do We Interpret Figures of Speech?.....

SECTION 13..... **44**

SECTION B: PRIMARILY OLD TESTAMENT GENRES.....

Question 28: How Do We Interpret Proverbs?

Question 29: How Do We Interpret Poetry?.....

SECTION 14..... **46**

 Question 30: How Do We Interpret the Psalms? (Classification of Psalms).....

 Question 31: How Do We Interpret the Psalms? (Principles of Interpretation).....

SECTION 15..... **49**

SECTION C: PRIMARILY NEW TESTAMENT GENRES.....

 Question 32: How Do We Interpret Parable? (History of Interpretation).....

 Question 33: How Do We Interpret Parables? (Principles of Interpretation).....

SECTION 16..... **53**

 Question 34: How Do We Interpret Letters or Epistles? (Structure and Nature).....

 Question 35: How Do We Interpret Letters Or Epistles? (General Guidelines).....

SECTION 17..... **56**

 PART 4: ISSUES IN RECENT DISCUSSION.....

 Question 36: What Does the Bible Tell Us About the Future?.....

 Question 37: What Is the Biblical Criticism?.....

 Question 38: What Is “Speech Act Theory”?.....

 Question 39: What Is the “Theological Interpretation of Scripture”?.....

 Question 40: What Are Some Other Recent Trends in Biblical Interpretation?.....

ANSWERS TO QUESTION BANK..... **60**

Question Bank

Section 1 (Ch. 1-2)

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What does the word "testament" mean?
 - a. Testimony
 - b. History
 - c. Covenant
 - d. Canon
2. How many books are in the Old Testament?
 - a. 39
 - b. 36
 - c. 27
 - d. 63
3. Jews refer to their Scriptures (our Old Testament) as what?
 - a. The Talmud
 - b. The Pentateuch
 - c. The Tanak
 - d. The Holy writ
4. In the English Bible the Old Testament is organized____.
 - a. Alphabetically
 - b. Topically
 - c. Chronologically
 - d. By size
5. The Jewish organization of the Scriptures (our Old Testament) ends in what book?
 - a. Ecclesiastes
 - b. 2 Kings
 - c. Malachi
 - d. 2 Chronicles

6. How many books of the New Testament did Paul write?
 - a. 12
 - b. 10
 - c. 13
 - d. 19
7. Which of the following are considered part of the “Law”?
 - a. Genesis
 - b. Joshua
 - c. Numbers
 - d. Both a and c
8. Which of the following are considered “Major Prophets”?
 - a. Isaiah
 - b. Ezekiel
 - c. Lamentations
 - d. All of the above
9. Paul’s epistles are arranged according to____?
 - a. Alphabetical order
 - b. Size
 - c. Chronological order
 - d. Range of distribution
10. The last book of the Old Testament, Malachi, was written around when?
 - a. 430 B.C.
 - b. 430 A.D.
 - c. 1400 B.C.
 - d. 43 A.D.

True/False Questions

- T F 1. The word “testament” means “covenant” or “agreement.”
- T F 2. The final authority in Doctrine and Deed is not the Bible.
- T F 3. The New Testament was written in Aramaic only.
- T F 4. Early Christian apologist Tertullian first used the word “testament” to describe the divisions of the Bible.

- T F 5. Song of Solomon is a part of the Law.
- T F 6. Hosea is a “Minor Prophet.”
- T F 7. The Hebrew Bible begins with Genesis.
- T F 8. Zechariah is the last martyr in the Hebrew arrangement of the Old Testament.
- T F 9. The Book of Revelation was actually written early in the first century.
- T F 10. The authors added chapter and verse divisions when they wrote the Scriptures.

Short Answer Questions

1. What does the passage 2 Timothy 3:16 assert?
2. In its basic division, the Bible is divided into what two covenants?
3. What are the first five books of the Old Testament?
4. What language(s) was the Old Testament written in?
5. Over what time-span was the Old Testament composed?
6. What does the word TANAK mean?
7. How are the Hebrew Scriptures arranged?
8. What is the Ben Asher family credited with doing around 900 A.D.?
9. What is Robert “Stephanus” Estienne credited with doing in 1551?
10. What is one theory of how the letters of James, Peter, and John (non Pauline epistles) are arranged?

Essay Questions

1. What is the purpose of the Bible?
2. Explain the difference in arrangement between the Jewish (Hebrew) Scriptures and the Christian Old Testament.

Section 2 (Ch. 3-4)

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Which of the following is not a recognized theory of inspiration of the Bible?
 - a. The Intuition Theory
 - b. The Illumination Theory
 - c. The Domino Theory

- d. The Dictation Theory
 - e. The Verbal Plenary Theory
2. The name of the evangelical theologian from whom Plummer derives the summary of the five theories of Biblical Inspiration?
 - a. Millard Fillmore
 - b. Millard Erickson
 - c. Millard Studebaker
 - d. Millard Hall
 - e. Millard Stewart
 3. Which of the following are NOT valid implications of Dual Authorship of the Bible? (more than one answer is possible)
 - a. The conscious purpose of the human author is a good place to start in understanding the text.
 - b. Authorship is the opposite of editing.
 - c. God included patterns or foreshadowing of which the human authors were not fully aware.
 - d. An editorial team wrote all the books of the Bible.
 4. "Christian" scholars have argued about potential errors in the Bible for about:
 - a. 400 years
 - b. 1000 years
 - c. 4000 years
 - d. 2000 years
 - e. 50 years
 5. The claim that that the Bible is completely truthful in all things that the Biblical authors assert is called
 - a. Inerrancy
 - b. Infallibility
 - c. Inspiration
 - d. Neo-orthodoxy
 - e. Authoritative
 6. Which of the following is NOT a qualification of Inerrancy?
 - a. Inerrancy applies only to the original autographs (copies of scripture).

- b. Inerrancy allows for partial reporting, paraphrasing, and summarizing.
 - c. Inerrancy allows for the reporting of speech without the endorsement of the truthfulness of that speech.
 - d. Inerrancy allows for the reporting of phenomena as they are observed and experienced.
 - e. Inerrancy means that the Bible provides definitive information on every topic.
7. Recommendations for dealing with difficult texts do NOT include which of the following: (more than one answer is possible)
- a. Be sure you are interacting with real texts.
 - b. Seek council when dealing with difficult texts.
 - c. Pray about a difficult text.
 - d. Approach the text with skepticism.
 - e. Seek to find an answer now.
8. Neo-orthodoxy is a theological movement supported by theologians such as (choose 2)
- a. F. F. Bruce
 - b. Karl Barth
 - c. Robert Plummer
 - d. Wayne Grudem
 - e. Emil Brunner
9. Much of the Bible comes to us as
- a. Situational literature
 - b. Abstract poetry
 - c. Newsreels
 - d. Autobiographical literature
 - e. Fairy Tales.
10. Investigating the truth of Christianity is to be encouraged. The jealous, distrustful behavior of Herod the Great presented in the Gospel of Matthew is supported by the ancient historian ____.
- a. Augustine
 - b. Josephus
 - c. Papias
 - d. Polycarp
 - e. Eusebius

True-False Questions

- T F 1. The Bible does not make claims about its truthfulness.
- T F 2. Papias says that the events recorded in the Gospels are not in chronological order.
- T F 3. The Dynamic Theory of Inspiration says that God gave definite, specific impressions to the biblical authors but allowed those authors to communicate those concepts in their own words.
- T F 4. The Domino Theory of Inspiration says that God dictated the exact words to the human authors.
- T F 5. In the Bible, God is shown to present himself through repeated, consistent, and anticipatory ways.
- T F 6. The accuracy of events reported in the New Testament has been debated by Christians since the time of Christ.
- T F 7. T. C. Hammond says that the inspiration of the Bible can be compared to the incarnation of Christ.
- T F 8. Luke explicitly claims that God brought to his mind the stories he was to write in his books.
- T F 9. The Illumination Theory says that the Spirit of God impressed himself upon the biblical writers in the same way that God speaks to all humanity.
- T F 10. The divine-human dimension of the Bible concerns its authorship, not its very nature. (That is, the Bible itself is not “divine” and should not be worshipped.)

Short Answer Questions

1. During the last 50 years, a vocabulary has evolved to summarize various claims about the Bible's _____.
2. Inerrancy applies only to the original _____.
3. Inerrancy allows for _____, that is the description of events as they are observed and experienced.
4. Four ways of dealing with difficult text are _____, _____, _____, _____.
5. Inerrancy does not mean that the Bible provides _____ information on every topic.

6. The _____ Theory of Inspiration holds that there is dual authorship to the scriptures.
7. The “_____ Theory” holds that the biblical writers wrote with natural insight—similar to any great philosophical and religious thinkers.
8. The _____ Theory of Inspiration holds that God gave definite specific impressions or concepts to the biblical authors but allowed the writers to communicate those concepts in their own words.
9. The Dictation Theory of Inspiration holds that God _____.
10. The human-divine dimension of Biblical authorship concerns its _____, not its _____.

Essay Questions

1. Discuss the implications of dual authorship of the Bible.
2. Describe the five theories of biblical inspiration discussed in your textbook.
3. Discuss the qualifications of inerrancy.

Section 3 (Ch. 5-6)

Multiple Choice: Circle the letter that provides the most appropriate answer.

1. The process of comparing and studying biblical manuscripts to reconstruct the wording of the originals is called _____.
 - a. Redaction Criticism
 - b. Textual Criticism
 - c. Hermeneutics
 - d. Bibliology
2. The _____ is the closed list of books that Christians view as uniquely authoritative and inspired.
 - a. Literary Group
 - b. Septuagint
 - c. Canon
 - d. Doctrine and Covenants

3. In 1947, an important collection of Jewish documents was discovered that contained many Old Testament books. These books are called _____.
 - a. The Dead Sea Scrolls
 - b. The Peshitta
 - c. The Pseudepigrapha
 - d. The Lost Letters
4. The first person to use the Greek word *kanōn* to refer to Christianity's restricted list of inspired books was _____.
 - a. Anselm
 - b. Augustine
 - c. Aquinas
 - d. Athanasius
5. When a scribe mistakenly writes a single vowel rather than a diphthong while listening to dictation, an Error of _____ has occurred.
 - a. Sight
 - b. Judgment
 - c. Hearing
 - d. Writing
6. _____ mentions three categories of books in his day -- the universally confessed, the debated, and the spurious.
 - a. Eusebius
 - b. Erasmus
 - c. Virgil
 - d. Luther
7. One of the most significant, extant Hebrew manuscripts is _____.
 - a. The Aleppo Codex
 - b. John Ryland Fragment
 - c. The Targum
 - d. II Maccabees
8. The thirty-nine books of the Old Testament were written between _____.
 - a. A.D. 354 and 430

- b. 1400 and 430 B.C.
 - c. 2000 and 1200 B.C.
 - d. A.D. 35 and 90
9. The Bible was originally written in _____.
- a. Hebrew
 - b. Aramaic
 - c. Greek
 - d. A, B, and C
10. The New Testament writers _____ cite the Apocrypha as Scripture.
- a. always
 - b. sometimes
 - c. twice
 - d. never

True or False: Write “true” or “false” beside each statement.

- T F 1. Though we have thousands of ancient copies, only 15 autographs of the biblical books remain.
- T F 2. The first church council to use the Greek word *kanōn* to refer to Christianity’s restricted list of inspired books was the Synod of Laodicea (A.D. 363).
- T F 3. There are many text variants in the New Testament that are highly debated because they could radically alter important Christian doctrines.
- T F 4. Orthodox Jews, Samaritans, and Sadducees completely agreed on which books should be in the Hebrew Scriptures.
- T F 5. Jewish rabbis and early Christian scribes usually exercised great precision in the copying of biblical texts.
- T F 6. The threefold Jewish canon is referred to as the Law, Prophets, and Writings.
- T F 7. The Dead Sea Scrolls have confirmed that the Hebrew books of the Bible were meticulously and faithfully copied.
- T F 8. It is impossible that church liturgy influenced some textual additions or wording changes in the biblical manuscripts.
- T F 9. There are currently about 25,000 known New Testament manuscripts.

T F 10. If a previously undiscovered letter of Paul's was discovered it should be added to the Protestant canon.

Short Answer: In the space provided, answer each question with the most appropriate information.

1. The original copies of ancient documents are called _____.
2. According to Walter Kaiser, "There was a _____ recognition of certain books [of the Old Testament] by readers and listeners who were contemporaries with the writers."
3. Significant variants are often listed in what section of most modern Bible translations?
4. List the three characteristics of New Testament documents the early church insisted on before the documents were accepted as canonical.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
5. List three biblical text families. (*Note: There are four listed in the book.*)
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
6. The Apocryphal books are also referred to (by Catholics) as the _____.
7. The abbreviation "DSS" (in the footnotes of Bibles) stands for:
8. The abbreviation "MT" (in the footnotes of Bibles) stands for:
9. The abbreviation "LXX" (in the footnotes of Bibles) stands for:
10. List two categories of unintentional, scribal errors. (*Note: There are four listed in the book.*)
 - a.
 - b.

Essay Questions

1. Discuss the key points of Old and New Testament textual criticism as if you were explaining it to a non-seminary educated church member.
2. Discuss the key points related to the formation of the Protestant canon (including the exclusion of the Apocrypha).

Section 4 (Ch. 7-9)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. The Bible was originally written in which three languages?
 - a. Hebrew, Chaldean, Latin
 - b. Aramaic, Middle English, Greek
 - c. Coptic, Hebrew, Greek
 - d. Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek
2. For hundreds of years, the official language of the church was
 - a. English
 - b. Latin
 - c. Sudanese
 - d. French
3. _____ was the first to translate the entire Bible into English.
 - a. William Tyndale
 - b. Martin Luther
 - c. John Calvin
 - d. John Wycliffe
4. Which approach to translation is more concerned with word for word equivalency?
 - a. Dynamic Equivalency
 - b. Formal Equivalency
 - c. Word Equivalency
 - d. Grammatical Equivalency
5. Which translation approach is more concerned with accurately conveying the meaning (as opposed to a “word-for-word” approach)?
 - a. Grammatical Equivalency
 - b. Formal Equivalency
 - c. Dynamic Equivalency
 - d. Word Equivalency
6. Following the Apostolic Age, the dominant method of interpretation was _____
 - a. Allegory
 - b. Satire
 - c. Prose

- d. Typology
- 7. The Reformers battle cry was _____.
 - a. “to the foxes”
 - b. “to the sources”
 - c. “to the fathers”
 - d. “to Grandmother’s house we go”
- 8. The _____ Period gave birth to antsupernatural bias and skepticism.
 - a. Renaissance
 - b. Romantic
 - c. Neo-Classical
 - d. Enlightenment
- 9. “_____ is the best interpreter of Scripture”—meaning the context of the whole Bible is important to understand any individual part.
 - a. Dr. Plummer
 - b. Scripture
 - c. Hermeneutics
 - d. Holy Spirit
- 10. _____ is the most fundamental form of interpretation.
 - a. Translation
 - b. Scripture
 - c. ESV
 - d. Formal Equivalency

TRUE AND FALSE

- T F 1. The Bible was originally written in 2 different languages.
- T F 2. The NT authors were influenced by the Jewish Midrash and injected it into their writings.
- T F 3. Allegory is used extensively throughout the Bible.
- T F 4. The ESV is a Dynamically Equivalent Translation.
- T F 5. The NASB is a Formally Equivalent Translation.
- T F 6. The Bible indicates there is not a wrong way to interpret Scripture.
- T F 7. John Wycliffe died because he was burned at the stake.

- T F 8. Antisupernaturalists believe in the miracles of the Bible.
- T F 9. Martin Luther prayed, "O Lord open the eyes of the King of England."
- T F 10. The New Living Translation is a paraphrase.

SHORT ANSWER

1. Describe the life and work of John Wycliffe
2. Describe the life and work of William Tyndale.
3. Describe the differences between Dynamic Equivalent Translations and Formal Equivalent Translations.
4. What four observations does Plummer make about the NT authors' citation of the OT?
5. List three reasons why allegory became popular in the church.
6. List Augustine's fourfold approach to scripture.
7. What is the name of the professional society of evangelical scholars that has helped promote sound interpretation?
8. What was the Reformers battle cry and how did it affect interpretation?
9. Name the languages that the Bible was quickly translated into after the rise of Christianity.
10. What are the differences between a paraphrase Bible and Dynamic Equivalency?

ESSAY QUESTIONS

1. Based on the study, what is the best English Translation? (If someone in your church asked you this question what would you tell them?)
2. Give in detail Philo's allegorical interpretation of Gen 9 and Noah's Drunkenness. Then give pros and cons of this interpretation.

Section 5 (Ch. 10-11)

True or False

- T F 1. Every passage of scripture must be read as a chapter in a completed book.
- T F 2. Sin effects our emotions, wills, and rational faculties.
- T F 3. The Holy Spirit is not always a necessary part of interpreting scripture.
- T F 4. One dimension of letting scripture interpret scripture is listening to the full panoply of texts that touch on the subject.
- T F 5. Proverbs are best understood as “fail-proof promises.”
- T F 6. In attempts to provide their congregations with something fresh, too many pastors are readily taken in by farfetched interpretations.
- T F 7. The power of a sermon or Bible lesson lies in the faithfulness to the inspired text.
- T F 8. We should approach the Bible as sympathetic readers, respecting the various genres and authorial assumptions that accompany such genres.
- T F 9. It is sinful to rely on outside sources to help you gain contextual understanding of scripture.
- T F 10. The study of ancient culture, although fascinating, is not the purpose of Bible study.

Multiple Choice

- 1. What does Christocentric mean?
 - a. an eccentric Christian
 - b. Christ likeness
 - c. Christ-centered
 - d. None of the above
- 2. The basic human response to God’s natural revelation is to suppress it in
 - a. Personal reflection
 - b. Idolatry
 - c. The mind
 - d. None of the above
- 3. Many Christians have found it best to start their prayers with quiet and sustained reflection on
 - a. Hymns
 - b. Scripture

- c. Their sin
 - d. None of the above
4. _____ and _____ are necessary to believe and obey God's word.
- a. Power, Intelligence
 - b. Confidence, Outside help
 - c. Regeneration, Divine Empowerment
 - d. None of the above
5. The person who reads God's word and does not obey it is
- a. Blasphemous
 - b. Logical
 - c. Self-deceived
 - d. None of the above
6. Charlie said, "I just ate a ton of food!" Charlie was using
- a. Hyperbole
 - b. Understanding
 - c. Merism
 - d. Personification
7. Be aware of historical and _____ background issues.
- a. Ancient
 - b. Ethnological
 - c. Cultural
 - d. None of the above
8. Where can a pastor who is young and in need of experience get the feedback he needs?
- a. Commentaries
 - b. His congregation
 - c. Both a and b
 - d. None of the above
9. Reading scripture in a group setting is important for study because:
- a. It saves money on gas
 - b. It guards against erroneous interpretation
 - c. It's more fun.
 - d. None of the above

10. It is often said, "A text without context is a _____".
- Post-text
 - Pretext
 - Illegitimate
 - None of the above

Short Answer

1. What are three main principles for interpreting the Bible discussed in Chapter 10? (four were discussed in the chapter)
2. Who was the great reformer who recognized Psalm 119 as helpful instruction for studying the Bible?
3. What are the three main dimensions of the human person that are effected by sin?
4. One of God's chosen means to mature people is to call them to respond in faith and obedience through what?
5. What does it mean to let scripture interpret scripture?
6. What is the study and application of interpretive guidelines for various genres sometimes called?
7. Name one of the two important caveats Plummer mentions when discussing Bible backgrounds.
8. What does reading the Bible with other believers help us to gain?
9. According to Plummer, many preachers will continue to preach dull and errant sermons for decades because:
10. What does the phrase, "a text without context is a pretext" mean?

Essay Questions

1. Why is it important to approach the Bible in prayer?
2. What steps can you take to become a more faithful interpreter?

Section 6 (Ch. 12-13)

Multiple Choice Questions

1. The single most important thing you can do to improve as an interpreter of the Bible is:
 - a. Study before lunch
 - b. Read the Apocrypha
 - c. Read the Bible
 - d. Listen to classical music while studying
2. These church leaders asserted that belief (faith) precedes understanding:
 - a. Anselm
 - b. Augustine
 - c. Both
 - d. Neither
3. In seeking wisdom in interpretation, you should first consult:
 - a. God
 - b. The local newspaper
 - c. Your favorite musician
 - d. Nature
4. The essential prerequisites for biblical study that pleases God include: (circle all that apply)
 - a. A Master in Divinity
 - b. Faith in the Lord Jesus
 - c. A King James Version Bible
 - d. Love for others
5. All of the following are dangers of unfaithful interpretation except:
 - a. Spiritual codependency
 - b. A confused congregation
 - c. Increased conformity to the image of Christ
 - d. A starving congregation
6. A good study Bible does all the following EXCEPT
 - a. Provides some historical background for each book of the Bible

- b. Encourages the reader to solely read the provided applicable study notes instead of the actual text if pressed for time
 - c. Supplies discussion of difficult and/or debated texts
 - d. Offers cross-references
7. Common dangers regarding word studies include (circle all that apply):
- a. Etymological Fallacy
 - b. Too thorough of a definition for some words
 - c. Illegitimate Totality Transfer
 - d. Mythological Interpretation
8. The following websites are beneficial for biblical and theological research (circle all that apply):
- a. www.biblegateway.com
 - b. www.theopedia.com
 - c. www.ntgateway.com
 - d. www.desiringgod.org
9. A concordance can be helpful by:
- a. Finding every instance of a word in an English translation
 - b. Providing quotes from the Church Fathers
 - c. Explaining the text of Scripture, usually verse-by-verse
 - d. Providing extensive notes on the text of Scripture
10. The beginning theologian must beware of all of the following dangers except:
- a. Plagiarism
 - b. Becoming too acquainted with the Scriptures
 - c. Superficial reading
 - d. Repeating the mistakes and misunderstandings of others

True-False Questions

- T F 1. It is important to attend a church that regularly and consistently is faithful to the text in preaching.
- T F 2. It is foolish to read about how the church fathers interpreted Scripture because they lived in a time that didn't have the tools we do today.

- T F 3. Simply affirming sound interpretive principles is sufficient to become a better interpreter of Scripture.
- T F 4. The Proverbs encourage one NOT to seek feedback because it could hurt one's self-esteem.
- T F 5. Typically, it is much harder work to prepare a faithful Bible study or sermon than to talk spontaneously about what one thinks people need to hear.
- T F 6. Sharing what you are learning in Scripture is not important to your growth as an interpreter of God's Word.
- T F 7. Typically, it is better to get a set of commentaries that cover the entire Bible by one author than to get individual commentaries by different authors.
- T F 8. At the most fundamental level, a commentary guards a teacher from idiosyncratic interpretations.
- T F 9. What is important in understanding the meaning of a word in the Bible is the modern reader's first impression. The author's conscious intent is only of secondary importance.
- T F 10. A study Bible can result in a person prioritizing theological preferences over the text of Scripture.

Short Answer Questions

1. About how many chapters of Scripture must you read every day to read through the entire Bible in a year?
2. List two preachers who are faithful to interpreting the context.
3. How must you approach God according to the Scriptures?
4. List three ways in which you can solicit feedback.
5. To whom can you "overflow" onto with what you learn from personal study of the Bible? (Name three)
6. What is meant by the phrase "preeminence of Scripture"?
7. List two, quality study Bibles that you would recommend.
8. What is the purpose of word studies?
9. What are two pieces of advice when considering commentaries?
10. What two ways are software programs helpful for Bible study?

Essay Questions

1. What are five ways in which you could improve as an interpreter of Scripture? Explain how and the benefit of seeking improvement.
2. What are five tools that could help in studying the Bible? Explain their function.

Section 7 (Ch. 14-16)

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What are the three potential “determiners of meaning” in the act of communication (circle three):
 - a. Text
 - b. Character
 - c. Author
 - d. Reader
2. In modern American culture, which of these elements of communication is favored as the determiner of meaning?
 - a. Text
 - b. Character
 - c. Author
 - d. Reader
3. Which of the following is NOT one of the objections to the author as determiner of meaning?
 - a. The author often tries to hide his or her meaning, so readers should not be expected to be able to determine it.
 - b. To seek the author’s intended meaning makes the document irrelevant for modern readers.
 - c. To delimit the meaning to the conscious intent of the human author is to deny the divine authorship of Scripture.
 - d. We can never access the author’s thoughts, so the authorial meaning of the text is inaccessible to us.
4. The definition for ‘implication’ is:
 - a. How the reader responds to the willed meaning of the author

- b. Those sub-meanings of a text that legitimately fall within the paradigm or principle willed by the author, whether he or she was aware of them or not
 - c. The paradigm or principle that the author consciously willed to convey by the shareable symbols he or she used.
 - d. The content or 'stuff' talked about in the text.
5. The definition for 'significance' is:
- a. How the reader responds to the willed meaning of the author
 - b. Those sub-meanings of a text that legitimately fall within the paradigm or principle willed by the author, whether he or she was aware of them or not
 - c. The paradigm or principle that the author consciously willed to convey by the shareable symbols he or she used.
 - d. The content or 'stuff' talked about in the text.
6. In the textbook, Plummer uses this biblical text to illustrate a point: "The LORD abhors dishonest scales, but accurate weights are his delight." From where is Plummer quoting?
- a. Isaiah 7:14
 - b. Matthew 1:23
 - c. Proverbs 11:1
 - d. 2 Timothy 3:16
7. Plummer illustrates typology with the image of:
- a. A tree
 - b. An equation
 - c. A spider
 - d. A staircase
8. Which of the following is NOT an attribute of the Holy Spirit
- a. He is sent only by the Son into the world.
 - b. He is the third person of the triune God.
 - c. He indwells in all true followers of Jesus.
 - d. He empowers God's people with spiritual gifts so that they can build up the church.
9. Plummer discusses evangelical scholars who deny or redefine the illuminating work of the Spirit (e.g., Fuller). Such persons claim:
- a. The Spirit is not part of the Trinity
 - b. The Spirit whispers secret meanings which are inaccessible to others

- c. The Spirit does not aid in helping a believer better understand a passage, but only gives the believer the desire to obey.
 - d. The Spirit does not affect the will, thus the Spirit does not bring conviction
10. The fact that nonbelievers can understand portions of the Bible does NOT:
- a. Point to God's common grace in giving all humans rational minds
 - b. Deny the illuminating work of the Spirit

True/False Questions

- T F 1. We should read the Bible as if the modern reader is the final arbiter of meaning. (That is, we should adopt a reader-response approach.)
- T F 2. All acts of communication have three elements—writer/speaker, text, and reader/listener.
- T F 3. The text as the determiner of meaning was most popular in literary circles between the 1930s and the 1960s.
- T F 4. One of the main arguments for the author-determined approach to meaning is that this method is the commonsense approach to all communication.
- T F 5. The definition of 'meaning' is: "The content or 'stuff' talked about in the text."
- T F 6. 'Implication' is how the reader responds to the willed meaning of the author.
- T F 7. A typological approach to Scripture is helpful in understanding the way some NT authors quote the OT.
- T F 8. For the Biblical authors, understanding and obedience of Scripture should not be separated. They are "two sides of the same coin."
- T F 9. When we reject the truth, God sometimes sends greater blindness and the removal of his gracious restraint as punishment.
- T F 10. The fact that sincere, godly, Jesus-loving, Bible-believing scholars continue to disagree about the interpretation of some texts denies the illuminating work of the Spirit.

Short Answer Questions

1. Briefly describe this interpretive approach: the reader as determiner of meaning.
2. Briefly describe this interpretive approach: the author as determiner of meaning.
3. Give a significant criticism of this interpretive approach: the text as determiner of meaning.

4. Give one objection to the author as determiner of meaning.
5. Briefly explain the difference between 'meaning' and 'implication'.
6. Briefly explain the difference between 'implication' and 'significance'.
7. Briefly explain what 'typology' is.
8. List three facts about the Holy Spirit mentioned in the book.
9. Briefly describe what 'illumination' of the Holy Spirit is.
10. If Plummer's view of the illumination of the Holy Spirit is correct, what are a few practical implications for studying the Bible?

Essay Questions

1. Choose a passage of Scripture from the Bible and interpret it from the perspective of the reader as determiner of meaning, the text as determiner of meaning, and the author as determiner of meaning. Compare and contrast these answers and explain the pros and cons of each.
2. Choose two linked passages of Scripture (a passage from the Old Testament quoted in the New) and explain how to interpret them *typologically*. (Hint: The first few chapters of Matthew are a great place to find a citation of an Old Testament text.)

Section 8 (Ch. 17-18)

Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following "organizing categories" for the whole Bible is best applied to the New Testament rather than the Old?
 - a. Promise
 - b. Law
 - c. Kingdom Consummated
 - d. Old Covenant
2. When considering the moral demands in Scripture, people commonly make the following mistake:
 - a. Failing to put the moral command in its proper dispensation
 - b. Failing to understand how Christ fulfilled the moral demand

- c. Failing to understand that one can attain complete sanctification in this life and thus accomplish the moral demand
 - d. Failing to passionately understand how the law is an example of the New Covenant
3. Covenantal theology...
- a. Is a common Reformed approach to the Scriptures
 - b. Attempts to view all post-fall relationship between God and his people under the canopy of a covenant of grace
 - c. All of the above
4. Plummer asserts that Jesus is the “subject of Revelation” in the New Testament. An example of this is:
- a. The four gospels
 - b. Covenantal theology
 - c. Sending of the Holy Spirit
 - d. Apocalyptic literature
5. Which of the following is NOT an example of a proper understanding/application of the term “Salvation History” or *Heilsgeschichte*?
- a. A summary of all of biblical revelation culminating in the central saving event of Christ’s life, death, and resurrection
 - b. The Bible is the story of God intervening in history to save a people for himself
 - c. Asking, “Where does this passage fit into God’s saving plan – is it anticipatory, climactic, or looking backward to God’s culminating intervention in Christ?”
 - d. An approach to the Bible that is characterized by a sharp distinction between God’s plans for ethnic Israel and God’s plan for the church.
6. Plummer offers the following warning about using “kingdom” as an overarching organizing category to understand the Bible
- a. Kingdoms fail to account for “Queendoms.”
 - b. The word “kingdom” is never found in the Bible
 - c. There can be a danger of losing the Christ-centered nature of Scripture by focusing on the kingdom.
 - d. “The kingdom” is not the same thing as “the kingdom of heaven.”

7. What is NOT an organizing approach that scholars have commonly suggested to help understand the Bible's big picture?
 - a. Kingdom Anticipated, Inaugurated, Consummated
 - b. Old & New Covenant
 - c. Pneumatology
 - d. Dispensationalism
8. Much of God's interventions and revelations prior to Jesus can be followed with the words "how much more so in Jesus..." This is an example of...
 - a. Law & Gospel
 - b. Eschatology
 - c. Typology
 - d. Prophecy
9. What organizing category of understanding Scripture often teaches of a "secret rapture"?
 - a. Law & Gospel
 - b. Dispensationalism
 - c. Promise & Fulfillment
 - d. Salvation History
10. The ultimate focus of God's revelation is ...
 - a. Law & Gospel
 - b. Typology
 - c. Covenantal theology
 - d. Jesus Christ

True OR False

- T F 1. Most Christians assume that any messianic Old Testament citation in the New Testament is in the category of "Jesus as Propositionally Promised Messiah".
- T F 2. Within Dispensationalism, the "dispensation of innocence" is from the beginning of creation to the fall.
- T F 3. The Christ-centered nature of Scripture is more explicit in the Old Testament than the New Testament.
- T F 4. One of the most outspoken advocates of the law-gospel distinction was J.N. Darby.

- T F 5. When confronted with God's ultimate standard of holiness, whether in the Old or New Testament, we should always remind ourselves of our inherent unworthiness and look to the sufficiency of Christ.
- T F 6. All biblical Christians would agree that at least one of the functions of the Old Testament laws was to point out human moral bankruptcy and lead the sinner to Christ.
- T F 7. Three examples of *explicit* covenants in Scripture are: Abrahamic, Davidic, and a covenant of grace.
- T F 8. The New Testament is so named because it is a witness to the fulfillment of God's promise of a new covenant, instituted and centered on the person of Jesus.
- T F 9. All true biblical Christians should practice all of the laws and institutions in both the Old and New Testament.
- T F 10. The Old Testament points to Jesus as the propositionally promised Messiah, the typologically anticipated Savior, and the Solution to humanity's sin problem.

Short Answer

1. Fill in the blank: The _____ says, "Do this, and you will live". The gospel says, "It is done. Now, live."
2. In which Testament is the Christ-centered nature of Scripture more readily apparent?
3. Fill in the blank: "Recognizing weakness in traditional dispensationalism, a new and influential movement called _____ dispensationalism has emerged within evangelicalism."
4. What is the climax of the Bible (or at least of God's revelation of Himself)?
5. In what way are most dispensationalists bent towards reading Scripture? Especially when it comes to prophecy.
6. Which book of the New Testament reports the initial fulfillment of Jesus' promise to send The Holy Spirit to believers?
7. "Where does this passage fit into God's saving plan – is it anticipatory, climactic, or looking backward to God's culminating intervention in Christ?" This question is an example of applying what method to understand the overarching message of Scripture?
8. In what book of the Old Testament is the "New Covenant" spoken about most explicitly?
Hint: "I will replace their hearts of stone with hearts of flesh..."

9. What famous reformer was an outspoken advocate of the distinction of law-gospel?
10. Name one weakness of “the kingdom” method of organizing all of Scripture.

Essay Questions

1. Explain three ways of organizing the big picture of the Bible. List the strengths of each method and weaknesses (if any).
2. Explain the basic dispensationalist view of reading Scripture. List any strengths and weaknesses.

Section 9 (Ch. 19-20)

Multiple Choice Questions

1. According to the influential and helpful Reformed approach to the OT Law, which types of regulations are binding on Christians today?
 - a. Civil
 - b. Moral
 - c. Ceremonial
 - d. None apply to the Christian
2. What was one of the main functions of some of the unusual commands in the OT?
 - a. To keep God’s people as a separate, distinct group, untainted by the pagan cultures around them
 - b. To make God’s people more like the pagan cultures around them
 - c. To make the Israelites lives difficult
 - d. None of the above
3. Which key texts does Plummer cite as proof that Christians are not supposed to follow the OT Ceremonial and Civil Law?
 - a. Matthew 4 and Mark 2
 - b. Galatians 3 and Luke 19
 - c. John 5 and Romans 11
 - d. Mark 7 and Acts 15
4. What is a common accusation made against Christians that this chapter addresses?

- a. Christians pick and choose their morality from the bible
 - b. Christians “proof text” to make claims about Jesus the Bible does not intend to make
 - c. Christians follow all of the OT regulations too closely
 - d. Christians use circular reasoning to prove the Bible’s authority
5. What debated topic does Plummer use as an illustration in the section about genuine Christians disagreeing on what the Scripture means?
- a. Divorce
 - b. Women in the Pastorate
 - c. Spiritual Gifts
 - d. Church Polity
6. Which of these doctrines asserts that the Bible is clear and understandable to God’s people
- a. The doctrine of Inerrancy
 - b. The doctrine of Perspicuity
 - c. The doctrine of Justification by Faith
 - d. The doctrine of Works Righteousness
7. Who is to blame for us misunderstanding the Bible?
- a. Our sinful selves
 - b. God
 - c. The Biblical writers
 - d. Our teachers
8. According to David in Psalm 119 what makes a person truly wise in God’s eyes?
- a. One’s intelligence
 - b. One’s age
 - c. Theological training and a thorough knowledge of the Word of God
 - d. A thorough knowledge of and obedient response to the Word of God
9. God has made his word accessible to his people so that they might, by the power of His Spirit:
- a. Obey it
 - b. Teach it
 - c. Believe it
 - d. All of the above
10. Arguments and appeals about the meaning of a biblical text must be made:

- a. From one's personal experiences
- b. From one's personal opinions
- c. From quoting many outside authorities
- d. From the text itself

True/False Questions

- T F 1. Christians are still required to obey the OT Civil Law.
- T F 2. Sometimes pseudoscientific reasons are offered to people in order to encourage people to eat like the ancient Israelites.
- T F 3. Each page of the Bible gives equally timeless instruction.
- T F 4. It is not important to determine if a text is prescriptive or descriptive.
- T F 5. While many narrative texts describe baptism taking place after faith, nowhere in the NT do we find an explicit command about when to baptize believers.
- T F 6. Non-Christians can never have accurate insights into the Bible.
- T F 7. At a fundamental level, unbelieving minds remain veiled to the gospel and are unable to perceive or overcome their distorted judgments on spiritual matters.
- T F 8. God's revelation is intended to be exhaustive on all possible issues—spiritual matters, French cooking, or even subatomic physics.
- T F 9. It is sometimes advisable to reserve judgment on debated issues or texts.
- T F 10. If you are the only advocate of an interpretation, you are almost certainly wrong.

Short Answer Questions

1. What are the three types of categories of commands in the OT?
2. Why did God give Israel unusual laws making them a separate and distinct group of people?
3. OT commands that are _____ in the NT or not explicitly _____, and have abiding significance in the expression of God's Spirit-led people.
4. If we reflect on what biblical texts are applicable today, it is also important to consider whether a text is _____ or _____.
5. Plummer mentions two ways that women in the Southeastern United States show submission to their husbands. What are they?
6. What Bible verse does Plummer cite in this chapter as an example of a non-moral command that is not applicable outside of its original setting?

7. Many times the so-called Bible scholars who appear on television or are quoted in the media are actually _____ .
8. In Romans 14:5, what does Paul allow for disagreement on?
9. What biblical text says that Paul's writings sometimes included things that were hard to understand?
10. Who did Martin Luther rebuke for implying that the Scriptures were unclear?

Essay Questions

1. Write a brief essay explaining why the world loves the opinions of so-called "Bible scholars" who are actually unbelieving skeptics.
2. How should we handle disagreements on secondary scriptural issues?

Section 10 (Ch. 21-22)

Multiple Choice:

1. "A category of artistic, musical, or literary composition characterized by a particular style, form, or content" is the definition of:
 - a. Narrative
 - b. Genre
 - c. Hermeneutic
2. Interpreting the Judges 11:39 account of Jephthah and his daughter as prescriptive, exemplary instruction, instead of as a mere historical narrative report of events, is an example of:
 - a. Misunderstanding the genre of a work can result in skewed interpretation.
 - b. Mislabeled a biblical genre can be an underhanded way of denying the text's truthfulness.
 - c. Excusing oneself from the demands of Scripture.
3. Labeling Genesis a myth to avoid its implications for male leadership in the home is an example of:
 - a. Careful, biblical study.
 - b. Mislabeled a biblical genre as an underhanded way of denying the text's truthfulness.
 - c. Rigidly applying valid principles for interpreting genres.

4. Dismissing Matthew 5:42 as “exaggerated language” such that you don’t hear the radical call to let go of worldly goods is an example of:
 - a. The need for Greek and Hebrew language study.
 - b. Mislabeling a biblical genre can be an underhanded way of denying the text’s truthfulness.
 - c. Misusing a principle for interpreting a literary genre to excuse oneself from the demands of Scripture.
5. This biblical book would be identified as a Letter:
 - a. Matthew
 - b. Hosea
 - c. Ephesians
6. The author of a narrative intended the minor sections to be read in light of the whole work and vice versa. This principle refers to:
 - a. Thematic Statements
 - b. Context
 - c. Genre
7. Which of the following does Plummer **not** discuss when giving guidelines for interpreting historical narrative?
 - a. Editorial Comments
 - b. Repetition
 - c. Hyperbole
 - d. Trustworthy Characters
8. When Mark notes that Jesus’ comments about food and purity should be understood as declaring “all foods clean”, this is an example of:
 - a. Editorial Comments
 - b. Thematic Statements
 - c. Context
9. Acts 1:8: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” is an example of:
 - a. Repetition
 - b. Thematic Statements

c. Editorial Comments

10. The angel from God in Matthew 1:20-25 is an example of:

- a. Trustworthy Character
- b. Editorial Comments
- c. Thematic Statements

True-False:

- T F 1. The book of Colossians should be identified as Historical Narrative.
- T F 2. When you are reading poetry, everything should be taken literally.
- T F 3. Failure to identify the genre of a passage correctly can result in skewed theology or interpretation.
- T F 4. Historical narratives in the Bible are sometimes not concerned with some of the details that modern readers might wish were addressed (for example, chronology).
- T F 5. Biblical historical narratives, while accurate, never claim to be objective.
- T F 6. One of the most helpful ways to learn how to interpret historical narrative is to listen to or read numerous examples of judicious interpretation.
- T F 7. Historical narrative is always a pure genre, in that it is never mixed with other genres.
- T F 8. It is important to understand that interpretation of narratives should not simply be a reiteration of the facts in the narrative.
- T F 9. Details in biblical stories are always presented as normative—that is, intended as moral lessons.
- T F 10. Often people in today's culture are more open to hearing a story that illustrates God's grace than an abstract discussion of propositions or terms.

Short Answer Questions:

- 1. List four examples of letters in the Bible:
- 2. Compose two sentences of a historical narrative. What clues do you give your reader to know that you are writing historical narrative?
- 3. In chapter 21, Plummer discusses three "interpretive missteps" that must be avoided. List two of them here:

4. The majority of the Bible is historical narrative. Describe one of the three differences between biblical historical narratives and modern ones.
5. “Oh, Jesus didn’t really mean to gouge my eye out! That’s the genre of exaggeration,” said the lustful young man who went sinfully on his way. What interpretive misstep is this man committing?
6. List three of the five guidelines that aid in interpreting historical narrative.
7. Describe what Plummer mentions as one of the most helpful, simple ways to learn how to interpret historical narrative.
8. In your opinion, why did God reveal so much of his Word in the genre of historical narrative?
9. Read the story of the demoniac in Mark 5:1-20 and complete the following statement in a sentence or two: “I, *Mark*, have told you this story about the Gerasene demoniac because...”
10. Briefly describe what Plummer means by “Editorial Comments.”

Essay Questions

1. Suppose you are talking to someone who says that the Bible is full of lies because it says things like “The trees clap their hands”, etc. What would you say in a patient and thorough response to that person?
2. Read the story of Balaam and his donkey in Numbers 22:21-35. Discuss the Context and Trustworthy Characters (cf. pages 193-195) of the story.

Section 11 (Ch. 23-24)

Multiple Choice

1. According to Plummer, what best describes New Testament-era Prophecy?
 - a. New divinely-inspired revelation
 - b. Prediction of the return of Jesus
 - c. Preaching from a pulpit
 - d. Timely supernatural exhortation
2. Prophecy is best described as:
 - a. An emotive genre
 - b. A literal genre

- c. A narrative genre
 - d. Parables
3. How does one clarify if a prophecy is conditional or unconditional?
 - a. Use the New Testament
 - b. All prophecies are both conditional and unconditional.
 - c. Additional statements in the context
 - d. There are only unalterable (unconditional) prophecies
 4. The best guide to determining if an Old Testament eschatological prophecy is fulfilled or unfulfilled is:
 - a. The Left Behind Series
 - b. Seeking for new divine revelation
 - c. Using the New Testament
 - d. Thinking how you would expect them to be fulfilled
 5. All the following are guidelines for interpreting prophecy EXCEPT:
 - a. Investigating a book's background
 - b. Speaking in tongues
 - c. Expecting figurative language
 - d. Seeking to understand what the author is trying to convey to his original audience
 6. All below statements describe typology EXCEPT one.
 - a. History is recorded in a series of corresponding saving events
 - b. Old testament saving events are anticipatory types
 - c. The fulfillment is the antitype
 - d. All prophecy is an unrepeatable propositional prediction
 7. New Testament authors believed they were living in the days of:
 - a. Solomon
 - b. Eschatological fulfillment
 - c. The Old Covenant
 - d. The restoration of the Levitical priesthood
 8. The New Testament authors believed all the Old Testament Scriptures ultimately pointed to:
 - a. Church
 - b. Israel

- c. Christ
 - d. Missions
9. What is corporate solidarity?
- a. An individual representing himself
 - b. Reciprocal relation between an individual and the community
 - c. Mutual agreement between two nations
 - d. Community shared merchandise
10. All are assumptions of the New Testament authors EXCEPT:
- a. There is discontinuity in God's dealings with Israel
 - b. The Greek word "fulfill" has a broad range of meaning
 - c. Earlier events foreshadowed later events
 - d. An individual can represent a community and vice versa

True or False

- T F 1. New Testament-era prophecy can include prediction of coming events.
- T F 2. All prophetic predictions in the Bible have been fulfilled.
- T F 3. One must seek to determine modern day implications after understanding what the author is conveying to the original audience.
- T F 4. The prophetic use of the poetic meter is often an indication that one should be expecting figurative and symbolic language.
- T F 5. When a prophecy is pronounced in Scripture, it is always unalterable.
- T F 6. *Sensus Plenior* means that New Testament authors cite the Old Testament in rhetorical fashion.
- T F 7. At the most fundamental level, a "prophet" is someone who speaks for God.
- T F 8. The Bible never speaks of female prophets.
- T F 9. Plummer says that a prophecy can sometimes find its fulfillment in multiple events.
- T F 10. Biblical authors used the Greek and Hebrew words translated "fulfill" in a broader way than the modern English word "fulfill."

Short Answers

- 1. What is the difference between Old Testament-era and New Testament-era prophecy?
- 2. What is typology?

3. Define corporate solidarity.
4. What does it mean that the New Testament authors believed that they were living in the days of eschatological fulfillment?
5. Drawing from the work of Henry Virkler, Plummer lists six different meanings for the biblical word “fulfill.” Give two of these meanings.
6. In your opinion, is typology a reproducible model? (That is, can we interpret OT texts typologically that are not so explicitly treated in the NT?) Explain.
7. What does *sensus plenior* mean?
8. If God already knows that the Ninevites will repent, why does he have Jonah announce their destruction? What is this an example of?
9. What is the apologetic value of prophecy?
10. How does using multiple translations help one pay attention to the context?

Essay Questions

1. Discuss all the guidelines for interpreting prophecy from Chapter 23 and their importance to hermeneutical faithfulness in the genre of prophecy.
2. Compare and contrast typology with *sensus plenior*. Which is a more convincing way to understand debated prophetic texts? Why?

Section 12 (Ch. 25-27)

Multiple Choice

1. Which one of these books is not classified as Apocalyptic Literature?
 - a. Daniel
 - b. Job
 - c. Revelation
 - d. Shepherd of Hermas
2. What interpretive approach to the book of Revelation interprets all events in the book as already having taken place, most in the first century or soon thereafter?
 - a. Futurist
 - b. Idealist
 - c. Preterist

- d. Historicist
3. What extrabiblical apocalyptic literature has five distinct portions: The Book of the Watchers, The Book of Similitude, The Book of Astronomical Writings, The Book of Dream Visions, and The Book of the Epistle of Enoch?
 - a. 1 Maccabees
 - b. Apocalypse of Abraham
 - c. Book of Enoch
 - d. Baruch
 4. What principle for recognizing exaggeration is immediately applicable to Matthew 19:24, "Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."?
 - a. The statement conflicts with what Jesus says elsewhere.
 - b. The statement is not always literally fulfilled in practice.
 - c. The statement's literal fulfillment would not achieve the desired goal.
 - d. The statement is literally impossible.
 5. What figure of speech is used in Amos 4:1, "Hear this word, you cows of Bashan on Mount Samaria, you women who oppress the poor and crush the needy and say to your husbands, 'Bring us some drinks!'"
 - a. Merism
 - b. Hendiadys
 - c. Metaphor
 - d. Simile
 6. In which figure of speech do two elements together stand for the totality of something?
 - a. Merism
 - b. Synecdoche
 - c. Simile
 - d. Personification
 7. What figure of speech is used in 2 Chronicles 16:9, "For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him?"
 - a. Anthropomorphism
 - b. Idioms
 - c. Simile

- d. Metonymy
8. What extra-biblical apocalyptic literature attempts to understand why the Romans were allowed to conquer Jerusalem in A.D. 70?
- a. Revelation
 - b. Apocalypse of Abraham
 - c. Daniel
 - d. Baruch
9. What does the Greek word *apokaluptō* mean?
- a. To believe
 - b. To reveal
 - c. To save
 - d. To see
10. What principle for recognizing exaggeration does Plummer apply to Colossians 1:23, “This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven.”?
- a. The statement uses all-inclusive or universal language.
 - b. The statement uses a particular literary form prone to exaggeration.
 - c. The statement is not always literally fulfilled in practice.
 - d. The statement conflicts with the broader teaching of Scripture.

True or False

- T F 1. Idealists approach Revelation as a blueprint of the entire span of church history.
- T F 2. The futurist view sees the majority of Revelation as applying to future end-time events that occur directly prior to Christ’s return.
- T F 3. Revelation’s visions in chapters 7-12 describe great shifts of international power in the coming centuries, with special emphasis on battles in the second century B.C. between the Seleucids and Ptolemies.
- T F 4. Revelation is intended to be read chronologically.
- T F 5. Plummer argues that Jesus’ words in Matthew 23:9 should be interpreted literally. We should never call anyone “Father” – not even our male parent.

- T F 6. Simile is used in Psalm 1:3, “He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.”
- T F 7. Metonymy is an expression in which one word or phrase stands in for another with which it is closely associated.
- T F 8. Merism is literary expression in which the part represents the whole or the whole stands for the part.
- T F 9. A common characteristic of Apocalyptic Literature is visionary experiences of final, divine judgment.
- T F 10. The Shepherd of Hermas is part of “the Apostolic Father”—the earliest post-New Testament Christian writings.

Short Answer

1. The first few chapters of Revelation begin with seven _____ to seven churches.
2. What are three pieces of extra-biblical Apocalyptic Literature discussed in Chapter 25?
3. What is a figure of speech?
4. What explicit “comparison words” are used in similes?
5. What is an example of anthropomorphism?
6. What did David mean when he said, “[Saul and Jonathan] were swifter than eagles, and they were stronger than lions” (2 Samuel 1:23)?
7. How should we interpret teachings from Christ, where he tells people to gouge out their eye or cut off their hand to prevent temptation from sin?
8. What are three characteristics of Apocalyptic Literature?
9. What is an example of simile in the Bible?
10. What is an example of a metonymy in the English language?

Essay Questions

1. Why is it important that we do not interpret Jesus’ hyperbolic teaching in a literalistic way?
2. What are some helpful guidelines when interpreting the book of Revelation?

Section 13 (Ch. 28-29)

Multiple Choice Questions:

1. What characteristic is shared by biblical and non-biblical proverbs?
 - a. Divine authorship
 - b. Implied exceptions
 - c. Always related to finance
2. Biblical proverbs never:
 - a. Contradict each other “on face value”
 - b. Should be interpreted with respect to cultural context
 - c. Tell lies about God’s nature
3. Which books in the Bible contain “wisdom literature”?
 - a. Ecclesiastes and Proverbs
 - b. Job
 - c. Song of Solomon
 - d. All of the above
 - e. Only A+B
4. Which of the following is not a biblical proverb?
 - a. Do not answer a fool according to his folly
 - b. It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than in a house shared with a contentious woman.
 - c. God helps those who help themselves
5. Plummer states in his book that Song of Solomon should be interpreted mostly as:
 - a. Wisdom literature applied to the physical love between a man and woman
 - b. An allegory of the church and Jesus
 - c. A romance between God and Israel
6. Which of the following is not a form of biblical poetry described in the book:
 - a. X, X+1
 - b. Synonymous Parallelism
 - c. Repetition of Sounds
 - d. Haiku
7. Chiasms in poetry relate to:
 - a. Order of rhyme

- b. The original writer organizing the letters into shapes
 - c. Two or more words or phrases followed by parallel elements in reverse order.
 - d. Biblical writings about the deep truths of Hell
8. What is a hyperbole?
- a. An exaggerated statement not meant to be taken literally
 - b. A parable that Jesus spoke to the demon possessed pigs
 - c. An statement of exaggeration meant to be taken literally
 - d. A statement of comparison using like and as.
9. The following verse is an example of which poetic form: "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end." Lamentations 3:25
- a. Synonymous parallelism
 - b. Antithetical parallelism
 - c. Synthetic parallelism
10. Repetition of sounds in biblical poetry does not include which of the following?
- a. Alliteration
 - b. Assonance
 - c. Tropes

True/ False Questions

- T F 1. Proverbs are always fail-proof promises.
- T F 2. The genre of proverb is never found outside the Bible.
- T F 3. Plummer classifies Ecclesiastes and Song of Songs as wisdom literature.
- T F 4. The book of Job proves that proverbs can be applied without exception to all situations.
- T F 5. For the authors of Scripture, all true wisdom must begin with "the fear of the Lord."
- T F 6. Biblical poetry only exists in the Hebrew language, never in the Greek.
- T F 7. Jesus did not use poetry when he taught because he never used exaggeration.
- T F 8. Poetry is often used in biblical books of prophecy.
- T F 9. Plummer says that some proverbs, in so far as they describe the unchanging nature of God, have no exceptions.
- T F 10. Antithetical parallelism involves a truth in the first line matched with a lie in the second line.

Short Answer Questions

1. Proverbs are a subset of which greater biblical genre? Answer: _____ literature
2. The book of Proverbs can be divided naturally into how many sections? Where are these divisions?
3. Why do Proverbs not include statements about the possible exceptions regarding their truthfulness?
4. How does Plummer use the book of Job to illustrate the nature of proverbs?
5. Explain how the Song of Solomon can be classified as “wisdom literature”?
6. What poetic element that is common in English is not found in the Bible’s poetry? (hint: “Hickory dickory dock, the mouse ran up the clock”)
7. What are the main reasons that writers in the Bible used poetry?
8. Give an example of an “X, X+1” poetic form from the Bible.
9. Give an example of an acrostic from the Bible.
10. How does the second line in synthetic parallelism emphasize the first line?

Essay Questions

1. Elaborate on how Job and Ecclesiastes serve as a canonical balance to Proverbs—helping us not misunderstand or misapply the genre of proverbs.
2. Explain how one of the seven poetic forms Plummer discusses can help the reader remember the biblical truth more effectively.

Section 14 (Ch. 30-31)

Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following is not a subgenre of psalms listed in chapter 30?
 - a. Praise
 - b. Celebration
 - c. Anticipation
 - d. Lament
2. Which of the following is not typical of praise psalms?
 - a. God is praised as Creator

- b. God is called on to curse his enemies
 - c. God is identified as the Savior of Israel
 - d. God declared to be sovereign over history
3. What is an “imprecation”?
- a. A blessing
 - b. An exhortation
 - c. A prayer
 - d. A curse
4. Which of the following prayers might begins a penitential psalm?
- a. “O God, you are my Rock...”
 - b. “Forgive me, Lord, for I have sinned...”
 - c. “Lift up your heads for the King comes...”
 - d. “How long, O Lord, will you afflict me...?”
5. What are the two subsets of celebration psalms?
- a. Royal and songs of Zion
 - b. Praise and thanksgiving
 - c. Covenant and festive
 - d. Invocational and benedictory
6. Which of the following is identified in the chapter as “the best-known penitential psalm”?
- a. Psalm 10
 - b. Psalm 19
 - c. Psalm 23
 - d. Psalm 51
7. Which of these is the longest psalm in the Psalter?
- a. Ps. 108
 - b. Ps. 109
 - c. Ps. 118
 - d. Ps. 119
8. The Book of Psalms is divided internally into how many separate books?
- a. 4
 - b. 5

- c. 7
 - d. 12
9. Of the following persons, which has greatest number of Psalms attributed him/them?
- a. The sons of Korah
 - b. Moses
 - c. Solomon
 - d. Heman the Ezrahite
10. Plummer quotes _____ as arguing that all the Psalms are ultimately messianic.
- a. Kaiser
 - b. Bonhoeffer
 - c. Augustine
 - d. Calvin

True or False

- T F 1. Lament is a relatively uncommon type of psalm.
- T F 2. Lament psalms typically end with a declaration of confidence in God.
- T F 3. Plummer says that biblical Christianity is incompatible with the language of imprecatory psalms.
- T F 4. Penitential psalms are always individual, never corporate, prayers.
- T F 5. Psalms can contain characteristics of multiple classes or subgenres.
- T F 6. All commentaries agree that there are seven distinct types of psalms.
- T F 7. One possible explanation for the grouping of the Psalms into smaller books is that it facilitated a regular reading schedule in the synagogue.
- T F 8. Modern studies on the Psalms will likely endure long after the Psalms themselves are forgotten.
- T F 9. More psalms are attributed to David than are anonymous.
- T F 10. The segmentation of psalms into lines and stanzas is not relevant to proper interpretation.

Short Answer

1. What are the seven subgenres of psalms identified in this chapter?
2. Summarize the characteristics of lament psalms.
3. What, in your opinion, can we learn about prayer from lament psalms?
4. Describe the events in the life of David that led to the writing of Psalm 51.
5. What does the psalmist mean when, in the midst of an imprecatory psalm, he declares himself to be innocent/righteous? (That is, does he mean he is completely sinless?)
6. What are two or three reasons for classifying psalms according to subgenre?
7. Name five of the seven authors of psalms given in the Scriptures.
8. What kinds of information are provided in superscriptions to the psalms?
9. Briefly describe how the Psalter is being used in worship at your home church?
10. List five of the ten principles for interpreting the Psalms as listed in the text.

Essay Questions

1. Discuss the theological implications of imprecatory psalms. Be sure to include in your answer references to other Old Testament and New Testament passages.
2. The Psalter has been called the original hymnbook of the church. Yet many churches seldom read from the psalms, let alone sing them. Present your view on how churches should more intentionally read, preach, pray, sing and memorize the psalms. Include in your discussion a sample worship order of service that you feel appropriately employs the Psalter.

Section 15 (Ch. 32-33)

Multiple Choice

1. About how much of Jesus' teachings were in parables?
 - a. 1/2
 - b. all
 - c. 1/3
 - d. 2/3
2. The most fundamental component of a parable is_____

- a. That there is a helpful story
 - b. That every character has a main point
 - c. That the Church has interpreted it the same throughout the centuries
 - d. That there must be a comparison
3. After the Reformation broke the allegorical stranglehold on interpreting the Bible the majority of Christian writers_____.
- a. Began to change their writings and follow a more historical grammatical approach
 - b. Began to deeply seek out the authors intended meaning of the parables
 - c. still continued to interpret the parables allegorically
 - d. completely avoided parables
4. What Reformational expositor was most consistent in keeping to the authorial intent of parables?
- a. John Calvin
 - b. Martin Luther
 - c. John Knox
 - d. George Whitefield
5. Gospel authors gave their readers editorial clues to the proper meaning of parables by
- a. writing footnotes to all their parables
 - b. grouping similar parables together
 - c. spreading out the parables in each gospel
 - d. leaving hidden codes found within the words and symbols of the parable
6. The main topic of Jesus' parables is:
- a. Pneumatology
 - b. Israel
 - c. Life
 - d. The kingdom of heaven
7. What is one of the questions that Stein suggests we ask in order to rightly determine the main point of a parable?
- a. How would you have told the parable?
 - b. What terms are repeated in the parable?
 - c. What is the main contrast found in the parable?
 - d. Who or what gets the most space?

8. What statement best reflects Plummer's discussion of details in a parable?
 - a. All details have some type of significance
 - b. Many details simply make the story interesting
 - c. Most details should be ignored
 - d. Details are there to be decoded
9. In regards to "stock imagery" found in the Bible, a vine or vineyard typically refer to
 - a. Israel
 - b. Believers
 - c. Judgment
 - d. Jesus
10. Why did Jesus tell the parable of the widow and the unjust judge (Luke 18:1-8)?
 - a. So that the disciples would help widows
 - b. To teach that God hates injustice
 - c. To teach the disciples that they should always pray and not give up
 - d. To teach the disciples that prayer is the most important part of the Christian life

True or False

- T F 1. One definition of a parable is: an earthly story with a heavenly meaning.
- T F 2. The Greek word *parabolē* can refer to proverbs, similes, figurative sayings, or stories.
- T F 3. Soon after completion of the New Testament the church began to interpret the Bible allegorically.
- T F 4. C. H. Dodd and Joachim Jeremias were scholars who drew attention to the final editorial contributions of the Gospel authors.
- T F 5. Interpreting parables using reader response or aesthetic methods opens the door for parables meaning whatever the reader wants them to.
- T F 6. Martin Luther praised Origen for his ingenious allegorical exegesis.
- T F 7. When seeking to interpret a parable you should always be looking for any stock imagery that the original audience would have been aware of.
- T F 8. Many of the details that Jesus included in his stories, though not understandable to his original disciples, are there to be decoded by us.

- T F 9. Adolf Jülicher published an influential work on parables, arguing that parables should not be interpreted allegorically.
- T F 10. In the parables of the treasure in the field and the pearl of great price (Matt 13:44-46) Jesus is calling people to respond by valuing him and his messianic kingdom above anything else.

Short Answer

1. In what two ways is reviewing the interpretation of parables throughout history helpful?
2. Pick a parable of your choice and determine who or what gets the most space. What emphasis is Jesus making?
3. Why did early Christians interpret parables allegorically?
4. What are some of the results of simply accepting the interpretations of parables that the church has had throughout the centuries without critically questioning them?
5. What are the four questions that Stein recommends each interpreter to ask when trying to determine the main point of a parable? Do you think that there are any other important questions that he overlooks?
6. What is some common stock imagery found in Jesus' parables? Give examples.
7. In the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, what is Jesus trying to teach us? What are some potential misinterpretations of this parable?
8. What are some striking or unexpected details in the parable of the tenants (Mark 12:1-12)?
9. Jesus often used parables to reveal truth but he also used them to conceal truth. Why? Cite at least one specific Scripture where Jesus addresses this topic.
10. In what way(s) did mid-twentieth century redaction critics help provide insight for the interpreting of parables?

Essay Questions

1. What are the five historical periods covered in the history of interpretation? Give a brief summary of each.

2. Explain the difference between an allegory and a parable. How does this affect the interpretation of parables?

Section 16 (Ch. 34-35)

Multiple Choice

1. The New Testament letters offer authoritative instruction to the church _____.
 - a. primarily during the time they were written
 - b. as seen fit by the Pope
 - c. in every age
 - d. to the degree that each church wishes
2. The Apostles sent letters to the churches in order to _____.
 - a. Increase their apostolic fame
 - b. Support the ancient Roman postal system
 - c. encourage and instruct
 - d. None of the above
3. How many of the New Testament books are letters?
 - a. All but the gospels
 - b. 21
 - c. 22
 - d. 20
4. According to the textbook, New Testament letters usually begin by _____.
 - a. Offering greetings and salutations
 - b. Prayer
 - c. identifying the sender and receiver
 - d. stating the purpose for writing the letter
5. The central section of most New Testament letters can be divided broadly into _____ and _____ instruction.
 - a. Theological and ethical
 - b. Theoretical and practical
 - c. Systematic and informal
 - d. None of the above
6. To familiarize oneself with the setting of any book in the Bible requires _____.

- a. A special gifting
 - b. An advanced degree
 - c. Study
 - d. A computer software program
7. Within a letter, a section of unified thought is known as _____.
- a. A discourse unit
 - b. A bite
 - c. Mirror reading
 - d. Reflective discourse
8. According to Paul, consideration for _____ takes priority over personal freedom.
- a. All matters
 - b. The building up of others
 - c. chronology
 - d. None of the above
9. According to Plummer's exposition of 1 Corinthians 8-10, a Christian's motivation should not be limited only to what is right and wrong but also express a concern for _____.
- a. the situation and circumstances
 - b. the spiritual health of Christians
 - c. individuals' feelings and childhood experiences
 - d. the conversion of sinners.
 - e. Both b & d
10. It is sometimes challenging to determine whether instructions in a letter are _____.
- a. Culturally bound
 - b. Case-specific
 - c. Apply directly without change
 - d. Embody an underlying principle
 - e. All of the above

True/ False Questions

T F 1. The New Testament letters are only partially inspired by the Holy Spirit.

- T F 2. Plummer argues that several letters in the New Testament are pseudonymous.
- T F 3. Paul insisted that his letters be copied and read by churches to which they were not originally addressed.
- T F 4. Most of the New Testament letters were written to individuals while only some were written to congregations.
- T F 5. Pseudonymous writings were rejected and condemned by the early church.
- T F 6. Because of recent archeological discoveries, we have independent historical knowledge of congregations' letters to the New Testament authors.
- T F 7. A reader's "big picture" understanding of the whole letter helps interpret individual sections within the letter.
- T F 8. Breaking a text up into manageable units provides little benefit for one studying or preaching through a letter.
- T F 9. Comparing several English translations can be helpful for one trying to grasp the meaning of a particular word.
- T F 10. Translation committees of almost every modern Bible translation seek to divide the text into paragraphs and larger discourse units.

Short Answer Questions

1. Why are the Epistles equally authoritative as the "red letter" words of Jesus recorded in the Gospels?
2. What is a diatribe?
3. What is a "general" or "catholic" epistle?
4. What resources are available to assist the reader in identifying an outline of the various letters?
5. How should the reader respond when a NT author deviates from the standard letter writing structure?
6. Briefly explain "mirror reading."
7. What are some of the ways to help reconstruct the historical situation behind a particular letter?
8. When seeking to sub-divide a text what are some literary or structural clues to look for?
9. What is the aim of doing a historical and exegetical study?
10. Give an argument against the view that some NT letters are pseudonymous.

Essay Questions

1. How can Paul's letters to the Corinthians be regarded as authoritative for those whom it was not originally addressed?
2. Describe three timeless principles from 1 Corinthians 8-10 that might apply to issues of our day.

Section 17 (Ch. 36-40)

Multiple Choice

1. The viewpoint that God has an ongoing distinct plan for ethnic Jews is especially characteristic of _____ theology.
 - a. Covenantal
 - b. Bilingual
 - c. Dispensational
 - d. Intertestamental
2. One who believes that Jesus will return and then have a literal 1,000 year reign on the earth has which eschatological viewpoint?
 - a. Premillennial
 - b. Amillennial
 - c. Postmillennial
 - d. Submillennial
3. The study of ancient texts to determine what the original manuscripts said is:
 - a. Text criticism
 - b. Literary criticism
 - c. Biblical criticism
 - d. Origin criticism
4. The study of a text's narrative features without dealing with issues of historicity or authorship is an example of what?
 - a. Text criticism
 - b. Literary criticism
 - c. Biblical criticism

- d. Origin criticism
5. Plummer compares speech act theory with what form of biblical criticism?
 - a. Linguistic criticism
 - b. Semantics
 - c. Rhetorical criticism
 - d. Subject-verb agreement
 6. A _____ act is a statement with respect to the action performed in its utterance.
 - a. Locutionary
 - b. Illocutionary
 - c. Perlocutionary
 - d. Postlocutionary
 7. TIS advocates claim that their movement is a return to what era of interpretation?
 - a. Reformed
 - b. Allegorical
 - c. Post-Enlightenment
 - d. Pre-Enlightenment
 8. Which commentary series is an example of the TIS movement?
 - a. Brazos Theological Commentary on the Bible
 - b. Matthew Henry Commentary
 - c. New International Greek Testament Commentary
 - d. Broadman & Holman Commentary on the Bible
 9. _____ is a study of the way one biblical text is alluded to or used by another biblical author.
 - a. Metonymy
 - b. Biblical Compatibility
 - c. Intertextuality
 - d. Dual authorship
 10. A study of the ways that texts have been understood throughout history is called:
 - a. Reflective History
 - b. Reception History
 - c. Effective History
 - d. Historical History

True or False

- T F 1. Persons with a premillennial eschatology believe that the 1,000 year reign of Revelation 20 is purely symbolic.
- T F 2. All Evangelicals would agree that Jesus' second return will be within the next 1,000 years.
- T F 3. Tradition criticism is the study of the history of a text before it reaches its final form.
- T F 4. A name associated with speech act theory is John L. Austin.
- T F 5. Speech act theory shows that all language is rooted in the subjective bias of the interpreter
- T F 6. A perlocutionary act is a statement with respect to the action performed in its utterance.
- T F 7. Scholars agree that the TIS movement is a return to Post-Enlightenment interpretation.
- T F 8. A redemptive-movement hermeneutic approaches the Bible with the supposition that the Scriptures provide a certain ethical trajectory that points to conclusions beyond (and possibly in contradiction to) those issues explicitly addressed in the text.
- T F 9. Canonical Criticism is a scholarly approach to the study of the Bible that traces its origins to the writings of Rudolf Bultmann.
- T F 10. Biblical theology refers to an approach to the study of the Bible that seeks to hear the nuances of the diverse biblical texts.

Short Answer

1. The technical term for the study of end times is called what?
2. This is the term for the end-times event when all believers will be caught up in the air with the Lord.
3. The study of how texts circulated orally before being written down is called:
4. The detection of beautiful and effective patterns of speech in the text is what?
5. This theory explains that all language is action based.
6. The statement with respect to the normal sense of vocabulary and grammar (hint: speech act theory technical term).

7. The TIS movement's main audience is who? (For whom are TIS books written?)
8. Name 3 characteristics of the TIS movement.
9. This criticism embraces the completed canon in the context of confessional Christianity.
10. This hermeneutical approach asserts that Scripture provides a certain trajectory that points to conclusions beyond (and possibly in contradiction to) those issues explicitly addressed in the text.

Essay Questions

1. Compare and contrast the two viewpoints regarding the nation of Israel in the end times. Share which viewpoint you find the most convincing and why.
2. Describe the history of the TIS movement and 3 characteristics. Discuss whether you find this movement to be either helpful or harmful to the evangelical world.

Answer Key to Question Bank

Section 1 (Ch. 1-2)

Multiple Choice:

1. c
2. a
3. c
4. b
5. d
6. c
7. d
8. d
9. b
10. a

True-False:

1. T
2. F
3. F
4. T
5. F
6. T
7. T
8. T
9. F
10. F

Short Answer:

1. That "All Scripture is God-breathed."
2. The "Old" and "New" covenants.
3. Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.
4. The Old Testament was written in Hebrew, with portions in Aramaic.

5. The Old Testament was written from 1400 BC to 430 BC (970 years)
6. It is a Hebrew acrostic for “Law”, “Prophets”, and “Writings”.
7. Hebrew Scriptures are arranged in three main divisions, the “Law”, Prophets”, and, “Writings”.
8. Adding verse divisions to the Old Testament.
9. Adding verse divisions to the New Testament.
10. Perhaps they are arranged in decreasing order or prominence of the authors.

Essay Questions:

1. The purpose of the Bible itself is to reveal the triune God who made the heaven, earth, sea, and everything in them. It reveals him as a communicator who delights to reveal himself to us as wayward humans. It also points to the culmination of its revelation in Jesus Christ as the one who can by faith save us, and shows us how to have relationship with him. (looking for 3 things in this answer: 1) To reveal God, 2) to communicate God’s truth, 3) The culmination of this truth in Christ, 4) to make us understand our condition and how we can receive forgiveness and possess eternal life in relationship with God through Christ.
2. The Hebrew Scriptures are arranged according to three main divisions: the Law, the Prophets, and the Writings—which gives them a different order than today’s modern English Old Testament. The order of the modern English Old Testament derives from when the Hebrew Scriptures were originally translated from Hebrew into Greek and Latin. At this time a more topical arrangement was given which carries through to today’s English Old Testament arrangement.

Section 2 (Ch. 3-4)

Multiple Choice

1. c
2. b
3. b, d
4. a (since the 1600’s)
5. a
6. e

7. d, e
8. b, e
9. a
10. b

Answers True-False Questions

1. F
2. T
3. T
4. F
5. T
6. F
7. T
8. F
9. T
10. F

Short Answer Questions

1. truthfulness.
2. autographs.
3. phenomenological language
4. Four ways of dealing with difficult text are: (any four)
 - a. Be sure you are interacting with real texts.
 - b. Approach the text in trust, not as a skeptic.
 - c. Pray about a difficult text.
 - d. Keep in mind the “qualifications of inerrancy” when dealing with difficult texts.
 - e. Seek counsel when dealing with difficult texts.
 - f. Be willing to set aside a text for further consideration rather than force harmonization.
5. definitive or exhaustive
6. Verbal Plenary
7. Inspiration

8. Dynamic
9. dictated the exact words to the human author.
10. authorship, not its nature.

Essay Questions

Note: *Answers below are sample answers only given for general direction. Acceptable answers will vary widely but need to provide the essential meaning covered below.*

1. Discuss the implications of dual authorship of the Bible.

The implications of dual authorship of the Bible include the purpose of the human author, God as revealer, and God's providential control of history. Biblical human authors usually seem acutely aware of conveying timely messages to their current audiences, even in the rare cases where the human author admits ignorance of the revelation given to him. God, as the Lord of history and revelation, included patterns or foreshadowing of which the human authors were not fully aware. Under God's sovereign hand, his prior historical interventions were in themselves prophetic pointing forward toward Christ. One should be careful not to find symbolic or prophetic details in the Old Testament when no New Testament author has provided authoritative interpretation of the text. The biblical authors were conscious of being used by God to convey his word and believed that their revelation was part of a grand scheme of history. The Old Testament authors knew they were somewhere along the stair steps of revelation, but few, if any, knew how close they were to the top of the stairs, that is to Christ. Though they could not know all the future events, the prophets certainly would not deny God's providential control of history, which exceeded their conscious reflection.

2. Describe the main view of five theories of biblical inspiration.

The five theories of biblical inspiration include the intuition theory, the illumination theory, the dynamic theory, the dictation theory, and the verbal plenary theory. The intuition theory holds that the writers of the Bible exhibit a natural religious intuition that is also found in other great philosophical or religious thinkers, such as Confucius or Plato. Holders of the intuition theory deny the absolute truth claims of scripture. The illumination theory holds that the Spirit of God in

some way did objectively impress himself upon the consciousness of the biblical writers, but not in a way that is essentially different from the way the Spirit communicates with all of humanity. Only in degree is the Spirit's influence different, not in kind. The dynamic theory of biblical inspiration holds that God gave definite, specific impressions or concepts to the biblical authors but God allowed the writers to communicate those concepts in their own words. According to the dynamic theory, the exact phrasing of scripture is due to human choice after God determined the main tenor of the content. The verbal plenary theory of biblical inspiration holds that there is a dual authorship of Scripture. While the authors of the Bible wrote as thinking, feeling human beings, God superintended the process that every word written was also the exact word he wanted to be written, free from all error.

3. Discuss the qualifications of inerrancy.

The qualifications of inerrancy include eight concepts. First, inerrancy applies only to the original autographs (copy of Scripture) as evidence shows us copying errors in every Hebrew and Greek manuscript currently known. With the large number of known manuscripts and their careful transmission, linguists are able to reconstruct the original wording of both the Old and New Testaments with extreme accuracy. Secondly, inerrancy respects the authorial intent of the passage and the literary conventions under which the author wrote. If the passage assertion is literal, we should understand it literally. If the passage is figurative, we should understand it figuratively. We must respect the level of precision intended as well as the writing conventions of the day. Thirdly, is the order of events in the synoptic Gospels. It is clear that the Gospel authors are not intending to give a strict chronological account of Jesus' ministry. The material is frequently arranged topically. Thus we find different orders of events between the Gospels. Part of faithful interpretation is respecting the individual emphases and purposes of the different author and faithfully allowing those original emphases to come through in our teaching and preaching today. Fourthly, inerrancy allows for partial reporting, paraphrasing, and summarizing. The words of the speaker may be summarized or paraphrased rather than given verbatim, just like we do in writing today. As long as the meaning of the speaker is accurately conveyed, this reporting is completely truthful. Just as modern writers choose to leave out certain details or emphasize other points, biblical writers did the same as they reported on the same events from different eyewitness viewpoints. Fifthly, inerrancy allows for phenomenological language, that is,

the description of events, or phenomena, as they saw them. We often report events as we see them, not as they actually occur. We say that the sun rises in the east and sets in the west, for example, while knowing full well that our solar system does not revolve around planet earth. The Biblical authors reported events the same way we do today. Sixthly, inerrancy allows the reporting of speech without the endorsement of the truthfulness of that speech. When the Bible authors report speech, they are not endorsing the truthfulness of everything reported any more than news reporters do today. Seventh, inerrancy does not mean that the Bible provides definitive or exhaustive information on every topic. We must not try to make the Bible say things that are not covered, but study and teach from what is written. Lastly, inerrancy is not invalidated by colloquial or nonstandard grammar or spelling. Biblical spelling and grammar vary within various linguistic, cultural, geographical, and economic groups without impinging on the truthfulness of the actual communication. We experience this today with regional accents, spelling, and cultural customs. In parts of the nation, we ask for a carbonated beverage by varying names such as pop, soda, soda pop, and coke. The biblical authors wrote and spoke in the same way we do today.

Section 3 (Ch. 5-6)

Multiple Choice

1. b
2. c
3. a
4. d
5. c
6. a
7. a
8. b
9. d
10. d

True or False

1. F
2. T
3. F

4. F
5. T
6. T
7. T
8. F
9. F
10. F

Short Answer

1. Autographs
2. Progressive
3. Footnotes
4. Apostolic, catholic, Orthodox
5. Western, Alexandrian, Byzantine, Caesarean
6. Deuterocanonicals
7. Dead Sea Scrolls
8. Masoretic Text
9. Septuagint
10. Sight, Hearing, Writing, Judgment (and two of these)

Essay

1. Students should include substantive discussion of the following key terms and concepts: Original languages, autographs, precision of Jewish and Christian scribes, Dead Sea Scrolls, NT text families, number of NT manuscripts, and types of scribal errors. (see textbook for detail)
2. Students should include substantive discussion of the following key terms and concepts: *kanōn*, the Protestant conception of authoritative writings, progressive recognition, Apostolic, Catholic, Orthodox, NT references to Scripture, Athanasius, Eusebius, the Apocrypha, and some explanation of why Protestants reject the Apocrypha.

Section 4 (Ch. 7-9)

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. d
2. b
3. d
4. b
5. c
6. a
7. b
8. d
9. b
10. a

TRUE/FALSE

1. F
2. F
3. F
4. F
5. T
6. F
7. F
8. F
9. F
10. F

SHORT ANSWER

1. John Wycliffe was the first person to translate the entire Bible into English. He translated from the Latin Vulgate, which was the official Church Translation. His translation eventually helped spark a reformation in the church of England, thus prompting the officials to banish the translation and anyone who was caught reading it or translating it was punishable by death. Wycliffe died of natural causes, never seeing the full effects of his seminal work.
2. William Tyndale published the first printed English New Testament, which was translated from the Greek. His assistant Miles Coverdale would finish the OT and help smuggle the

Bible into England, because it was still illegal to own. Tyndale was eventually caught, and murdered, but as he died, he prayed "O Lord, open the eyes of the King of England." A year later, an English Bible translation was officially licensed by the king.

3. The dynamic equivalency approach is more concerned with conveying the accurate meaning from the original into English or another language, while the formal equivalency approach is more concerned with word for word accuracy and preserving the original grammatical structures.
4. (a) OT citations were seen as reliable accounts of God's revelation to his people and the world, (b) NT authors respected the context in which the citations originally appeared, (c) The OT was employed in a typological and messianic way, (d) The NT authors did not use the OT in allegorical ways
5. (a) Allegory has a limited presence in the Bible, (b) Human nature is often enamored with secretive meanings and hidden agendas, (c) Greco-Roman world used allegory to help with difficult religious texts,
6. Literal, Moral, Spiritual, and Heavenly
7. Evangelical Theological Society
8. Their battle cry was "to the sources" and it brought awareness that the church had gone astray from a faithful interpretation of Scripture and were heavily depending on church fathers and tradition.
9. Latin, Coptic, Syrian, Ethiopian.
10. Again a Dynamic Equivalent translation is one in which the committee wants to convey accurately the meaning of the text and is not overly concerned about word-for-word equivalency. A paraphrase is usually a one-person project intending to put the Bible into the language of a certain subculture.

ESSAY QUESTIONS

1. There are two different approaches when it comes to translations. The best English translations are those that are translated by a committee. The first approach is called dynamic equivalency. This approach is more concerned about accurately conveying the meaning of the original text. It does not matter if words are added or left out, just as long as the meaning has been brought over into the new language and reflects the Greek or Hebrew meaning. The second approach to translations is called formal dynamic

equivalency. This approach is concerned with word for word accuracy, as well as trying to maintain and preserve the original grammatical structure.

2. The story of Noah's drunkenness is one that was very puzzling to the early church, because throughout the Bible, God warns his children not to become drunk. Yet, one of God's favored individuals planted his own vineyard and became drunk off of it.

Philo, who was a famous Jew living in Alexandria during the time of Christ often employed allegory in his approach to the Hebrew scripture. This is a hard passage because God does not condemn the behavior of Noah, but allows Noah to condemn his children for seeing his nakedness. Philo decided to focus on the action of Noah sobering up and explained as a lesson on how a sober and drunk man acted. The man who is sober in intellect is able to accurately able to discern things both present and in the future without any hindrance, but the one who cannot see both present and future is afflicted with accuracy. Also, the one who sees the present and not the future and is not cautious is like one who is drunk. On the other hand, the one who is able to look all around him and comprehend and discern, both future and present things is like one who is sober. What Philo says is true, and we know that a person that is sober minded is one who is able to think through things, just as one whose intellect is strengthened or one who is intelligent. Just like a drunk person is not able to think through things, just as an ignorant person. But, this story is not put in the canon for a morality lesson. There are several other passages, both in the Old and New Testaments that speak out against drunkenness. This particular story of Noah is put in the canon to show historical details in the life of God's people. God worked through flawed and sinful people to accomplish his saving purposes.

Section 5 (Ch. 10-11)

True False

1. T
2. T
3. F
4. T
5. F
6. T
7. T

8. T
9. F
10. T

Multiple Choice

1. c
2. b
3. b
4. c
5. c
6. a
7. c
8. c
9. b
10. b

Short Answer

1. Approach the Bible in prayer, let scripture interpret scripture, meditate on the Bible, and Approach the Bible in faith and obedience.
2. Martin Luther
3. Emotions, will, and rational faculties
4. Trials.
5. If we believe that the Bible is inspired by God, and thus noncontradictory, then passages that are less clear should be interpreted with reference to those that are more transparent in meaning.
6. Special Hermeneutics
7. (a) Do not use the Bible for a springboard for extra-biblical trivia, but (b) do not neglect background issues.
8. Insights we would otherwise miss and it helps us avoid mistaken interpretations.
9. They are too proud to accept constructive feedback.
10. A reader of Scripture is inclined to infuse a text with his own biases if he does not allow context to direct him to the authorial intent.

Essay Questions

1. Prayer is an essential start to Bible study for several reasons. The main one being that sin has such a powerful influence in our lives. Therefore it is extremely important to approach your time in study by imploring for the Holy Spirit to reveal things to you that you would not normally see without help. There are even verses in scripture that are prayers we can specifically pray. Psalm 119 has many of them. Prayer is important in all aspects of a believer's life, but especially before studying scripture.
2. One way you can begin the journey to become a more faithful interpreter is to start small. By choosing one book of the bible or maybe even one chapter and really studying over it for weeks or months teaches you the importance of careful Bible study. Also, to understand that it takes time. You can't just read a book and understand it all overnight. Learning takes time and it is important. Another step is to invest your time and energy into study. Sometimes that takes sacrifices, but it is very important.

Section 6 (Ch. 12-13)

Multiple Choice Answers

1. c
2. c
3. a
4. b, d
5. c
6. b
7. a, c
8. a, b, c, d
9. a
10. b

True-False Answers

1. T
2. F

3. F (You cannot simply affirm sound principles; you must apply them.)
4. F
5. T
6. F
7. F
8. T
9. F
10. T

Short Answer Answers

1. 3 chapters
2. John Piper, Alistair Begg [many other options]
3. With a humble attitude of dependence
4. Three ways in which you can solicit feedback:
 - a. E-mail your pastor
 - b. Ask your spouse
 - c. Give a feedback form to a friend [many other options]
5. Who can you “overflow” onto with what you learn from personal study of the Bible? (Name three)
 - a. Children
 - b. Spouse
 - c. Neighbor
 - d. Coworker
 - e. Friend
 - f. Relative
6. That Scripture is the most important book to read and study above all other works.
7. List two, quality study Bibles that you would recommend:
 - a. The Zondervan NIV Study Bible
 - b. The ESV Study Bible
8. To clarify nuances of important words.
9. What are two pieces of advice when considering commentaries? [any two]
 - a. To consider the reputation among respected scholars

- b. To consider individual works as opposed to complete sets
 - c. To be hesitant when considering an electronic commentary purchase
 - d. To build your library slowly and thoughtfully
 - e. Be creative and diligent in your purchasing
10. What two ways are software programs helpful for Bible study?
- a. Navigating the text of the Bible
 - b. Providing helpful secondary texts

Essay Answers

1. Ways to improve as an interpreter of the Bible:[choose any five]

- (1) Read the Bible – read the Bible in a year (3 chapters/day, everyday). The benefit is in exposing myself to the Word of God and becoming acquainted with the Sword of Truth.
- (2) Read and Listen to Faithful Preaching and Teaching – listen to one sermon by John Piper every week. The benefit is soaking in correct principles; “caught not taught.”
- (3) Understand the Relationship between Faith and Understanding – every time I am about to encounter the Word of God, check my heart and ask God for faith. The benefit is approaching His Word in faith, which will result in deeper understanding.
- (4) Apply Sound Principles – once a month apply these sound principles to a passage of Scripture. The benefit will be regular practice, which will result in new habits.
- (5) Welcome and Receive Feedback Graciously – weekly ask my wife if there was anything I had said throughout the week, especially in regards to Scripture that sounded off-base. The benefit will be confrontation with issues that I might not even know exist otherwise.
- (6) Acquire and Employ Bible Study Tools – purchase a study Bible. The benefit will be the use of the work that a committee of scholars have spent significant time and effort on.

2. Five tools to help in studying the Bible and their function: [choose 5]

- (1) Study Bible – provides extensive notes on the text of Scripture.
- (2) Concordance – an index for the Bible.
- (3) Word Study – clarify the nuances of important words
- (4) Commentary – explain the text of Scripture, usually verse-by-verse or paragraph-by-paragraph
- (5) Software Programs – navigate the text of the Bible and provide helpful secondary texts

(6) Web Sites – aid in biblical and theological research

Section 7 (Ch. 14-16)

Multiple Choice Questions

1. a, c, d
2. d
3. a
4. b
5. a
6. c
7. d
8. a
9. c
10. b

True/False Questions

1. F
2. T
3. T
4. T
5. F
6. F
7. T
8. T
9. T
10. F

Short Answer Questions

1. The reader is the ultimate determiner of meaning – not the author or text. Very subjective approach to interpretation. Results in many contradictory readings.
2. The reader is seeking to determine the conscious intent of the human author.

3. Meaning is a construction of thought. Texts can *convey* meaning, but they cannot *construct* meaning.
4. Several objections are given in the textbook. One objection – We can never access the human author’s thoughts, so how can we know his meaning?
5. Meaning is the conscious intent of the author. Implications are those “sub-meanings” which legitimately flow within the author’s channel of meaning, though the author may or may not have been aware of them.
6. Implications are those “sub-meanings” which legitimately flow from the author’s original consciously-intended meaning. Significance is the reader’s response to the implications – “yes” or “no.”
7. Typology is an approach to biblical history that sees God progressively intervening in repeated and climactic ways until the goal of his saving interventions arrives in Christ. Typological interpretation is where biblical authors point out these patterns.
8. Various answers possible, for example: (a) The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Triune God, (b) The Holy Spirit is sent by the Father and Son into the world and indwells all true believers, (c) The Holy Spirit inspired the authors of Scripture, (d) The Holy Spirit enables Christians to understand, believe, and obey the Scriptures.
9. Illumination is the Christian doctrine that God, through his Holy Spirit, enables his people to understand his Word.
10. One should approach the Bible in prayerful humility, seeking the Spirit’s assistance to understand the text. One should also be aware that one’s fallen, natural inclination will be to distort and misunderstand the Bible.

Essay Questions

1. Various texts could be chosen, but students should demonstrate an understanding of author, text, and reader is final determiner of meaning in their exposition.
2. For assistance in understanding Matthew’s use of the OT, students may see Craig Blomberg’s NAC commentary on Matthew or D. A. Carson’s EBC commentary on Matthew.

Section 8 (Ch. 17-18)

Multiple Choice

1. c

2. b
3. c
4. a
5. d
6. c
7. c
8. c
9. b
10. d

True OR False

1. T
2. T
3. F
4. F
5. T
6. T
7. F
8. T
9. F
10. T

Short Answer

1. Law
2. New Testament
3. Progressive
4. Could put all or any of the following answers: Life, death, resurrection of Messiah Jesus.
5. Literally
6. Acts
7. Salvation History
8. Jeremiah
9. Martin Luther

10. Can be any of the following answers (1) danger of losing the Christ-centered nature of Scripture (2) Some attempts to explain portions of Scripture with kingdom language, while quite clever, go beyond any explicit reference to kingdom in the actual biblical text (3) in an attempt to systematize the Bible under the themes of kingdom, some poignant details of the text can be overlooked.

Essay Questions

1. See three overarching themes listed in the textbook, chapter 17. Weaknesses for the Kingdom Grid are found on p. 153. Weaknesses for Salvation History are found on p. 157. And weaknesses for Dispensationalism are found on p. 158-9. The strengths listed should be unique to each particular grid.

2. This answer should be compared to p. 158-9 of the book. Listing the seven dispensations is not required..

Section 9 (Ch. 19-20)

Multiple Choice Questions

1. b
2. a
3. d
4. a
5. a
6. b
7. a
8. d
9. d
10. d

True/False Questions

1. F
2. T
3. F
4. F

5. T
6. F
7. T
8. F
9. T
10. T

Short Answer Questions

1. Civil, Ceremonial, and Moral
2. He wanted them to remain untainted by the pagan cultures around them.
3. repeated.... repealed
4. prescriptive . . . descriptive
5. The wearing of a wedding ring on her left ring finger and the taking of her husband's last name without hyphenation.
6. 2 Timothy 4:13
7. non-Christians antagonist toward Christian Orthodoxy
8. Whether certain days have significance for Christian worship
9. 2 Peter 3:15-16
10. Erasmus

Essay Questions

1. The answer to this question can be found on page 175 of the textbook.
2. The answer to this question can be found on pages 176 – 177 of the textbook.

Section 10 (Ch. 21-22)

Multiple Choice:

1. b
2. a
3. b
4. c

5. c
6. b
7. c
8. a
9. b
10. a

True-False:

1. F
2. F
3. T
4. T
5. T
6. T
7. F
8. T
9. F
10. T

Short Answer Questions:

1. Could be any of the following: Romans, 1-2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1-2 Thessalonians, 1-2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude.
2. Sentences should have clear clues like, "This is the account of....." or "In the year..." or "This is the record of..."
3. Students should list three of the interpretive missteps below:
 - 1) Misunderstanding the genre of a work can result in skewed interpretation, 2) Mislabeled a biblical genre can be an underhanded way of denying the text's truthfulness, 3) Principles for interpreting genres can be misused to excuse oneself from the demands of Scripture.
4. See page 186, 2nd paragraph for the three possible answers.

5. Principles for interpreting genres can be misused to excuse oneself from the demands of Scripture.
6. Students should note three of these five guidelines:
 Context, Editorial Comments, Thematic Statements, Repetition, Trustworthy Characters
7. Plummer writes, "One of the most helpful ways to learn how to interpret historical narrative is to listen to or read numerous examples of judicious interpretation. The beginning interpreter of narratives is also encouraged to find a wiser, more experienced reader who can offer critique and correction."
8. To provide us with factual accounts of events, so that the reader might ultimately submit to God, side with the God-honoring, truth-loving characters, become wise, and come to a saving knowledge of Christ. Stories can be powerful and effective in communicating.
9. ...because I want you to see Jesus' power over the demons, and authority over evil spiritual powers of this world as the Son of God.
10. Sometimes the author will give explicit comments as to the meaning or importance of an event.

Essay Questions:

1. First of all, do people call Shakespeare a liar because he used personification in his poems? No. When we read Shakespeare we understand that the genre he is writing is poetry. Poetry uses words in different ways to express things. Sometimes it personifies different objects or plants or animals as people for certain effects. This is not dishonest. It's artistic, and emotive. So you should never think that the psalmist who describes the trees as "clapping their hands" is actually convinced that trees have hands and can clap. Instead, he is creating an artistic image of the trees worshipping God, clapping for joy. This is to show that all creation brings glory and praise to God in some way, and psalmist decided to depict the trees as clapping out of joy to their maker. Sometimes it looks like this when you see trees with outstretched branches waving in the wind.
2. The surrounding context of this narrative shows us the occasion for Balaam's journey: Balak, the king of Moab, was afraid of the numerous Israelites in the land, so he sent for Balaam to curse them. Thus we know that Balaam was traveling because of this request,

and because of God's approval for him to go, on the condition that he only do what God told him to do. The context also confirms that it is historical narrative.

The story has two trustworthy characters: the donkey and the angel. We should believe the donkey because (by divine empowerment!) she earnestly tries to save her master from harm, which the angel confirms, and even says that she is not in the habit of treating him like a fool. The angel is to be trusted because he is said to be the angel of Yahweh.

Therefore, we can believe both of them.

Section 11 (Ch. 23-24)

Multiple Choice

1. d
2. a
3. c
4. c
5. b
6. d
7. b
8. c
9. b
10. a

True and False Questions

1. T
2. F (We still await Christ's return!)
3. T
4. T
5. F (Some prophecies are given with implied conditions.)
6. F
7. T
8. F
9. T
10. T

Short Answers

1. There were many prophecies in the Old Testament and probably many that were never written down. But the ones that were recorded in the Scripture are recognized as divinely inspired. The ongoing gift of prophecy in the New Testament-era is different than the inscripturated prophecies in the Bible. They must be carefully weighed and sifted by the church according to Scripture. (note: Plummer presents a view of NT prophecy that is not agreed upon by all interpreters.)
2. Typological interpretation is the understanding that biblical history is recorded in a series of corresponding saving events that are moving toward a divine climatic intervention in Christ. Divine earlier interventions serve as type to the final fulfillment of saving intervention of Jesus Christ, the antitype.
3. Corporate solidarity is the oscillation or reciprocal relation between the individual and the community. The individual represents the community and vice versa.
4. This simply means that the New Testament authors believed that the climax of all of God's earlier saving events has come. Jesus is the apex of salvation because in him the messiah has been revealed.
5. Any four of these six meanings are acceptable:
 - (a) Drawing out full implications of
 - (b) Completion of a fixed time
 - (c) Satisfying a request or a desire
 - (d) Carrying out what is promised
 - (e) Conforming to or obeying a requirement
 - (f) Corresponding phases between one historical event and another
6. Students may express a variety of opinions in answering this question.
7. The Holy Spirit has revealed a hidden meaning of which no human author was aware of until the Spirit revealed it. The prophet could not have had in mind what the New Testament writers call fulfillment of their prophecy.
8. God has designed that hearing of the doom that they have earned is the divinely appointed means to show them mercy and bring about their repentance. The announcement of coming destruction is what God uses to show his mercy to a people who repented. This is an example of a conditional prophecy.

9. The fulfillment of prophecy was used to demonstrate the divine approval of the Christian gospel. The miraculous fulfillment of prophecies points to the Bible's truthfulness.
10. Sometimes reading the Bible in a new translation will help one hear familiar texts in a fresh way—noting contextual clues that might otherwise be missed. The paragraph and section division of a modern Bible can help you. There are added headings and sub headings so that the reader can follow the author's message more easily.

Essay Questions

1. *-Investigate the book's background, date, and author.* The historical setting helps provide a more clear understanding into what the author was seeking to convey to his original audience. When we understand these realities, we are able to understand better implications for us today and better see the typology that may be contained in the passage.
 - Pay attention to the context.* Without attempting to understand the particular biblical passage without reference to its literary context then the interpretation will result in distortion of that text. Once we understand the meaning in its context, we are able to faithfully apply the text to our current situations. Without being faithful to the context, the preacher is more apt to inject his own bias in the interpretation.
 - Expect figurative language.* It is important that we want to understand the authors language as he intended it to be understood. If the author intended a passage to be understood poetically or symbolically, then we should seek to interpret it that way. If someone takes a symbolic or figurative passage literally it can lead to all kinds of distortions of the text.
 - Distinguish between unconditional and conditional prophecy.* It is important to understand the difference because conditional prophecy is usually given as conditional promises of blessing and curses. These prophecies are alterable by God if the person or people respond the way God desires or dislikes. Unconditional prophecies can be given as unalterable purposes of God. If we mix these up then we can misunderstand and twist what God's purposes are and alter the text itself.
 - Seek to understand what the inspired author is trying to convey to his original audience before seeking to determine the implications for us today.* It is important to distinguish prophecy of specific, unrepeatable events from underlying patterns of God's dealing

with humankind. Without understand the authors original intent we cannot see clearly what his patterns are for dealing with his people.

Determine whether the prophetic predictions are fulfilled or unfulfilled. All Scripture points to Christ and therefore many prophecies find there eschatological fulfillment in the messiah. Many prophecies were fulfilled in unexpected ways. Some are explicitly about the judgment day. This is important to distinguish because it will help a person understand its proper typological fulfillment in the messiah, the church or at the judgment.

-Note the apologetic value of prophecy. All of the apostles appealed to the fulfillment of prophecy as the divine stamp of approval of the Christian gospel. This helps us be firm in the truthfulness of the message we preach.

-Understand the difference between Old Testament-era and New Testament-era prophecy. The New Testament-era prophets and prophecies are not inscripturated. They are not infallible and inspired by God. It is important to distinguish this lest we add our own words and understandings of them to God's revelation.

2. Compare and contrast typology with *sensus plenior*. Which is a more convincing way to understand prophecy and why?

Sensus plenior is the understanding that the Holy Spirit has revealed a hidden meaning of which no human author was aware of until the Spirit it. The prophet didn't think that his revelation would be used again in the future in any way.

Typology- This is the understanding that biblical history is recorded in a series of corresponding saving events that are moving toward a divine climatic intervention in Christ. Divine earlier interventions serve as type to the final fulfillment of saving intervention of Jesus Christ, the antitype.

Typology is more convincing. The New Testament author understood themselves as living in the days of eschatological fulfillment. They believed that Jesus was the apex of salvation. Therefore it only makes sense to look back over Old Testament prophecies and see how this climax in the messiah was anticipated. It is clear that the New Testament authors believed that the entire Bible is about Jesus and that these revelations anticipate in some way the coming of the Christ. Old Testament authors understood that they were part of the successive saving events leading towards a

climax, and just as they used prior revelation to explain their current revelation, so the New Testament authors, who are at the climax, do the same.

Section 12 (Ch. 25-27)

Multiple Choice

1. b
2. c
3. c
4. d
5. c
6. a
7. a
8. d
9. b
10. a

True and False

1. F
2. T
3. F
4. F
5. F
6. T
7. T
8. F
9. T
10. T

Short Answer

1. letters
2. (three of the following) Book of Enoch, Shepherd of Hermas, and Apocalypse of Abraham, Baruch, Apocalypse of Zephaniah

3. An expression that is to be understood non-literally.
4. “Like” and “as”
5. Using physical, human characteristics to speak about God – for example, “The eyes of the Lord...”
6. David is writing a poem to lament the death of King Saul and Jonathan. He is using exaggerated language to describe Saul and Jonathan.
7. We should understand these expressions as hyperbolic language—not literal, but expressing great intensity and importance.
8. See pages 213-14 of textbook. Any three of these characteristics are acceptable.
9. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.
10. “The White House announced....”

Essay Questions

1. We want to understand Jesus’ teaching in the way that he and his inspired interpreters (the authors of the Gospels) intended it. To understand his statements literalistically when he did not so intend them is actually to misunderstand and distort his teaching. Thus, for example, someone could avoid calling all people “Father” with great zeal and diligence, but actually miss the point of Jesus’ teaching.
2. See page 216 of the textbook for Plummer’s helpful guidelines for interpreting the book of Revelation

Section 13 (Ch. 28-29)

Multiple Choice Questions:

1. b
2. c
3. d
4. c
5. a
6. d
7. c
8. a

9. a

10. c

True/ False Questions

1. F

2. F

3. T

4. F

5. T

6. F

7. F

8. T

9. T

10. F

Short Answer Questions

1. Wisdom

2. chapters 1-9 and 10-31

3. They would be much longer and not be as easy to retain by memory

4. Job's "comforters" illegitimately apply proverbs to Job's life and conclude that God is displeased with him. Proverbs are general truths that have exceptions.

5. The Song of Solomon is an example of God's wisdom "applied to the nitty-gritty of life"—in other words, what does a wise (God-fearing) approach to the love of a husband and wife look like?

6. Rhyme

7. To help the readers remember truths and stir strong emotions

8. "There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him..." (Prov 6:16 NIV)

9. (one of these texts) Pss. 9; 10; 25; 34; 37; 111; 112; 119; 145; Prov. 31:10-31; Lam. 1-4; Nah. 1:2-10

10. It extends upon or gives further specifics regarding the first line.

Essay Questions

1. Plummer writes, “Longman argues that Ecclesiastes and Job are helpful canonical correctives to potential misunderstandings of biblical proverbs. They show us that proverbs are not promises, for there are many puzzling injustices and vagaries in this life. Ultimately, we all face situations in which we must submit to God’s mysterious sovereignty.”
2. The student should correctly identify one of the poetic forms discussed in chapter 29, as well as noting the potential mnemonic (memory-assisting) benefit.

Section 14 (Ch. 30-31)

Multiple Choice

1. c
2. b
3. d
4. b
5. a
6. d
7. d
8. b
9. a
10. b

True or False

1. F
2. T
3. F
4. F
5. T
6. F
7. T
8. F
9. T
10. F

Short Answer

1. Lament, Praise, Thanksgiving, Celebration, Wisdom, Penitential, Imprecatory
2. In a lament an individual or group cries out to God in the midst of distress. Often the psalmist will conclude with a statement of confidence in God.
3. Answers will vary, however, they should include something about our need and ability to cry out to God in genuine, heart-felt terms when we face difficult circumstances.
4. David committed adultery with Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite. To cover his sin he arranged to have Uriah murdered. God revealed David's sin to the prophet, Nathan. When Nathan confronted David, he repented of his sin. (2 Sam. 11-12)
5. This is not a declaration of perfect sinlessness (ontological innocence), rather the psalmist is making a claim similar to one who has been wrongly accused of a crime: "I didn't do anything wrong! I swear!"
6. Answers will vary, but something should be said about gaining a greater knowledge and understanding of the overall genre and its implications for modern worship. Also, mention should be made of understanding the usage of passages from the Psalms in other Scripture passages.
7. Any five of the following: David, Asaph, the Sons of Korah, Heman the Ezrahite, Ethan the Ezrahite, Moses
8. Information may include authorial attribution, occasion of writing, liturgical usage, musical instruction.
9. Answers will vary.
10. The ten principles include 1) note the organization of the psalter; 2) read the psalms; 3) label subgenres; 4) note psalm headings; 5) note the segmentation of the psalms; 6) note poetic language; 7) explore any messianic significance; 8) pray the psalms; 9) memorize the psalms; 10) sing the psalms.

Essay Questions

1. Answers will vary. See textbook pages 251-53.
2. Answers will vary based on the student's church.

Section 15 (Ch. 32-33)

Multiple Choice

1. c
2. d
3. c
4. a
5. b
6. d
7. d
8. b
9. a
10. c

True or False

1. T
2. T
3. T
4. F
5. T
6. F
7. T
8. F
9. T
10. T

Short Answer

1. In what two ways is reviewing the interpretation of parables throughout history helpful?
Being aware of the common interpretive missteps throughout history, the reader should be forewarned not to repeat them. Also, it is helpful to see how scholarly insights resulted in significant shifts in the understanding of parables.

2. (Example of one response): Parable of the lost sheep, Luke 15. Both the shepherd and the sheep seem to get equal space. The emphasis of this parable is on sinners being saved and the joy that brings to God.
3. (a) Because Jesus himself explains some of the details found in his parables allegorically, (b) They were highly influenced by the surrounding Greco-Roman culture which typically interpreted religious texts allegorically, (c) They believed this gave them access to “secret meanings” in the text, which is a common desire all men have to gain some secret knowledge that others do not have.
4. There has been an increasing tendency within the church today to let the interpretations of parables by respected saints of the past stand on their own merit. However, they do not have the same authority as the biblical authors. Therefore although it is important that we understand how the church has interpreted parables throughout history, these interpretations do not stand on their own merit but are critically examined in light of scripture itself. If we do not question these interpretations then we will misinterpret Scripture
5. Who are the main characters, what occurs at the end, what occurs in direct discourse, who/what gets the most space?
6. Sample answer: In Luke 15 (the parable of the prodigal son) the imagery of a Father is often seen as God and the imagery of a son is often seen as Israel. In Matthew 18:1-8, the imagery of a Shepherd is often seen as God. In Matthew 18:23-35, the imagery of the king is understood as God. In Matt 21:33-41 the imagery of a vineyard is understood to be Israel
7. In the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, Jesus is trying to teach his followers to always “be ready for his arrival (by living in faithful obedience), though his coming may be delayed.” Some common misinterpretations of this parable are the fact that five virgins were wise and five were foolish means that half the world will be saved and half will not. Or because the wise virgins did not share their oil that means that we are not supposed to share things with unbelievers
8. (a) The tenants beat the servants that the man sent, (b) The tenants killed the man’s son so that they could have the land.
9. Jesus would conceal truth from those who were hard of heart and were unwilling to listen to him. This in turn increased the culpability of his enemies and brought greater

condemnation upon them. This can be found in places such as Mark 4:10-12, 33-34; 2

Thess 2:11-12

10. They drew attention to the final editorial contributions of the Gospel authors. This helped interpreters focus on the editorial clues the gospel authors gave to the readers so that they could properly interpret the parables. Things they were looking for were grouping of similar parables, literary devices , and contextual information.

Essay Questions

1. Five periods:

Jesus' original setting and the writing of the Gospels

Jesus provides explanations for the parables and the Gospel writers also give contextual clues for interpretation. Obviously they knew what the parables meant and their interpretation should be the standard.

The Early Church to the Reformation

Shortly after the completion of the New Testament the church began to interpret the bible allegorically because they were highly influenced by the surrounding Greco-Roman culture.

The Reformation

Realizing that the allegorical interpretations of the Bible were false, men such as Martin Luther and John Calvin confronted and rejected these ideas.

The Reformation to the late Nineteenth Century

Although there was a concerted effort to stop allegorical interpretations of the bible during the reformation, many Christian writers still continued to write and interpret in allegory.

The late Nineteenth to the early Twenty-First Century

Lately there have been many advances in interpreting parables. Men like C.H. Dodd and Joachim Jeremias have called Christians back to interpreting parables in the same way that Jesus' original audience would have. Furthermore there have been scholars known as redaction critics which called Christians to note the editorial contributions that the Gospel authors gave to help interpret parables.

2. The dictionary definition of a parable is "a short simple story intended to illustrate a moral or religious lesson."

The dictionary definition of an allegory is “a work in which the characters and events are to be understood as representing other things and symbolically expressing a deeper, often spiritual, moral, or political meaning.”

The difference is that parables are purposely figurative, yet not every aspect is to be interpreted as having some type of hidden meaning. However, an allegory tends to incorporate every aspect of the story as something to be interpreted. Therefore, although a parable may have symbolic expressions similar to that of an allegory, not all aspects of the parable are intended to be interpreted as having some type of hidden meaning.

Section 16 (Ch. 35-36)

Multiple Choice Questions

1. c
2. c
3. b
4. c
5. a
6. c
7. a
8. b
9. e
10. e

True/False

1. F
2. F
3. T
4. F
5. T
6. F
7. T
8. F
9. T

Short Answer Questions

1. God's Word in its entirety is God-breathed (inspired by the Holy Spirit) and authoritative.
2. The use of a fictitious person to present an opposing idea in a rhetorical fashion (for example, James 2:18).
3. Letters written more generally to the church, not to a specific congregation. This term is actually a bit of a misnomer, because the authors of the so-called "general epistles" of the NT seem to have specific situations in mind. The general epistles are: James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, and Jude. Sometimes Hebrews is included in this list.
4. Study Bibles, commentaries, etc.
5. The reader should ask questions to determine whether there is a reason for such deviation from the norm.
6. Mirror reading is the process by which one attempts to figure out what is going on by looking at little pieces within the letter.
7. Carefully read the letter multiple times; consult introductory comments in a study Bible; research any cultural and historical information that is available; read an overview of the letter in a New Testament survey text.
8. Does the author change topics? Does he change from third to second person? Do conjunctions or exclamations signal the movement to a new subject?
9. To determine the inspired authors original message so that we might faithfully apply that message in similar situations today.
10. Any 1 of the following 3 arguments from Carson and Moo are acceptable: 1) Statements within the New Testament imply that pseudonymity was not acceptable (2 Thess. 2:2; 3:17). 2) If pseudonymity were accepted and expected, why do a number of New Testament letters fail to name an author (Hebrews, 1 John, 2 John)? That is, why did early Christians not feel compelled to add the name of an illustrious author to these formally "anonymous" works? 3) When recognized in the early church, pseudonymous writings were consistently condemned and rejected. There is no record of the early church knowingly accepting any pseudonymous work.

Essay Questions

1. Paul's letters to the Corinthian believers dealt with specific challenges and issues facing the church in Corinth. Though many of the issues were specific to the Corinthians the timeless truths and instructions presented carry weight beyond those specifically addressed. Paul addresses believers outside of Corinth at the very outset of his letter (1 Cor. 1:2). Paul also wrote with God's authority and presented doctrinal and ethical positions that were not limited to the first century.
2. (a) If a person thinks an objectively moral behavior is wrong—though it does not go against scripture—and yet he acts upon that behavior, he sins. (b) Ethical reflection must be rooted in theological truth. (c) Christians should show sacrificial love by protecting other believers from sin and temptation. In addition to these three any listed on pages 288-289 of the text are correct.

Section 17 (Ch. 37-40)

Multiple Choice

1. c
2. a
3. a
4. b
5. c
6. b
7. d
8. a
9. c
10. b

True or False

1. F
2. F
3. T
4. T
5. F

6. F
7. F
8. T
9. F
10. T

Short Answer

1. Eschatology
2. The rapture
3. Form criticism
4. Rhetorical criticism
5. Speech act theory
6. Locutionary
7. The confessing church
8. Any of these seven answers is acceptable
 - a. Interpretation bound and informed by the early creeds
 - b. Disillusion with the historical-critical method
 - c. Emphasizes confessing Christians for its audience
 - d. Emphasizes narrative story lines
 - e. Celebration of how texts have been interpreted traditionally throughout Church history
 - f. Interest in how text has had a cultural impact
9. Canonical criticism
10. Redemptive movement hermeneutic

Essay Question

1. Covenantal and dispensational both agree that
 1. Jesus will come again in visible, bodily form to consummate his eternal kingdom.
 2. The return of Jesus will reveal true believers.
 3. Before Jesus' return there will be a time of political, spiritual and environmental turmoil.

4. After Jesus' return all persons will be resurrected and judged and will enter into an eternal, unchangeable state of glory or damnation.

Covenantal theology emphasizes a unity of God's purposes for Jews and Gentiles together as the people of God. Promises to Israel in the OT find their fulfillment largely (if not completely) in the church. (Acts 15). Dispensational theology believes certain promises in the Bible apply only to ethnic Jews and they expect the OT promises of land and material blessing to the Jews to be fulfilled literally.

2. History of TIS

A. The term can be traced back at least to Steven Fowl in 1997 but the movement did not take more definite shape until 2005.

B. Advocates of TIS claim it is a return to Pre-Enlightenment interpretation.

Characteristic of TIS:

- a. Interpretation bound and informed by the early creeds
- b. Disillusion with the historical-critical method
- c. Emphasizes confessing Christians for its audience
- d. Emphasizes narrative story lines
- e. Celebration of how texts have been interpreted traditionally throughout Church history
- f. Interest in how text has had a cultural impact