

How to Study the Bible

Putting it all together.

Context

Principle 1:

Interpretations must be done
in the context of the passage.

From Bible.Org Principles of Biblical Interpretation

Principle 2:

1) Move from broad to specific.

- Forest
- Trees
- Branches
- Leaves

Principle 3:

Keep the author's point of view in the forefront of your mind.

Three Techniques of DBS



OBSERVATION



INTERPRETATION



APPLICATION

Observation Questions



Who?



What?



When?



Where?



Why?



How?

Investigative Question 1: Who?

The who question asks about the people in or behind the text.

Who are the persons behind the scene today?

Gnostics

- The Gnostics were concerned with the basic questions of existence or “being-in-the-world” (Dasein)—that is: who we are (as human beings), where we have come from, and where we are heading, historically and spiritually (cf. Hans Jonas, *The Gnostic Religion* 1958, p. 334). (John 13:3; John 14:1- 9)
- Gnostics were dualists and worshipped two (or more) gods; Christians were monists and worshipped one God.
- Gnostics focused on eradication of ignorance; Christian concern was the eradication of sin. (John 3)

Investigative Question 2: What?

The what question asks about the identification or definition of some matter in the text.



Believe

- “...but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.
- *-John 20:31*

Five Phase of a Story

Situation

Stress

Search

Solution

(New)
Situation

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

1 Now as Jesus passed by,
He saw a man who was blind from birth.

2 And His disciples asked Him, saying,
“Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

3 Jesus answered,
“Neither this man nor his parents sinned,
but that the works of God should be revealed in him.

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

4 I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day;
the night is coming when no one can work.

5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

6 When He had said these things,
He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva;
and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.

7 And He said to him,
“Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which is translated, Sent).
So he went and washed and came back seeing.

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

6 When He had said these things,
He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva;
and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.

7 And He said to him,
“Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which is translated, Sent).
So he went and washed and came back seeing.