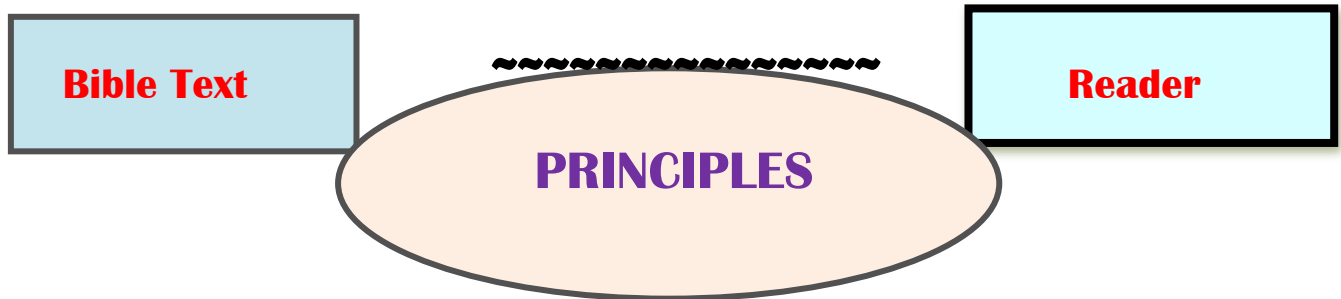


# THE BIBLE PROJECT 2.0

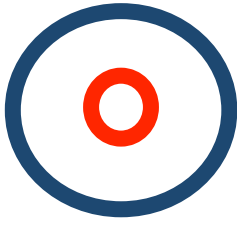
## “Getting IT” (What the Bible Means) (Interpretation/”Hermeneutics”)

### THE KEY:

*You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me! -- Jesus [NLT, John 5: 39 ]*



1. **Think Hebrew instead of Greek:** doing v. thinking; concrete v. abstract; historical v ideological, function v form... Pictures, drama and video is Hebrew-think: descriptions, philosophy and equations are Greek-think. It's the statement in one of the last presidential debates: "We need more welders than philosophers." When God speaks, it's not thoughts; God's word becomes reality. And God said, "Let there be... and there was..." Not the philosophers: I think, therefore I am. (*Cogito ergo sum.*) Man defines love; God exhibits it.



2. **Limitation Principle**: the Bible is not meant to tell us everything about everything. It is true in what it intends to teach.



*Sarcophagus of Alexander the Great, Istanbul Archeological Museum*

3. **Historical Principle**: God works in history—actual events. He is not contained by contemplation or theory. Therefore, history is itself revelatory and when God wants to be revealed, he does NOT send more words, but a person. And the final revelation is the WORD incarnate, not in writing or in a vision or in a message.



4. **Geographical Principle**: Where an event takes place expresses a whole lot of its meaning. Again God's revelation is in time and ***SPACE***.

5. **Literary Principle**: The interpretation of a passage depends on its literary form. Is it prose? Is it imperative? Is it narrative? Is it poetry? Is it story? Illustration? Parable? Metaphor? Meaning comes from form as well as content.

6. **Scriptura Principle**: Scripture interprets scripture.



7. **Faith Principle**: Jesus says to the Pharisees, *you see not because you believe not*—Jn. 9. Understanding is enhanced, even enabled, by belief. Doubt obscures, trust enlightens. So the believer approaches Scripture trusting that it is true and seeking to be shown.



8. **Number Principle**: Numbers in the Bible rarely are meant to be arithmetical or accounting tools. They carry meaning.



9. **Progressive Principle**—Lobster (Mark 7: 18-19)

God does not reveal everything in the OT. Further revelation comes as history progresses so that what Jesus teaches supersedes and corrects what we thought we knew from the OT.

**10. Repetition Principle** – The Bible is the same story over and over again. Not all learn quickly or in the same manner so it's important for information to be repeated in many different ways. Of course, auditory and visual presentations of the same material immediately come to mind. Repetition, repetition, repetition.

**12. Music Principle** - A great deal of Scripture is remembered in song/psalm. Much of the scripture that we can remember and quote often comes from having sung it in a song or hymn. Music offers an easy way to fill hearts and minds with God's word. For some reason it's not as easy to retain just words.....but put them to music and we are "hooked".

**13. Shelf Principle:** Be willing to put what you don't understand on the shelf until you get further along.

## 14. THINK HEBREW

## PREPARATION

Each week you will receive suggestions for preparation that will help you get a better grasp of what is being presented in The Bible Project classes. Your preparation is entirely at your discretion. The more you prepare, the more you will get out of class.

Next Week is Creation

Read Genesis 1 carefully. Look for what you may have never noticed before?

Make a list of the “days” of creation. List what God creates on each day. What is the way the days are organized?

How does “evening” and “morning” occur without the sun on days 1-3?

Take this opportunity if possible to search out some of the ways the Psalmist mentions creation and God’s magnificent work in it.