

Breaking Down Scripture to Raise our Understanding

(Andrea Holton, 2019)

Homiletics and Hermeneutics Breaking Down Scripture to Increase Understanding

Andrea Holton

- Homiletics – Preaching the Word of God
- Hermeneutics – Interpreting the Word of God

There is no right homiletics apart from right hermeneutics.

What & Why

- Careful Clean Analysis
- See scripture in a new light
- Take away bias – conscious or subconscious

First Steps

1. Pray and ask the Lord to give you His insight into His Word
2. Look and see where it is in the Book
3. Read the entire section at least twice

This is from Andrea Holton's video "Breaking Down Scripture to Raise our Understanding" at:
<http://www.Helpmewithbiblestudy.org/25StudyGod'sWord/zAndreaHolton.aspx>

Content

- Who / What / Where / When / Why – 5 Ws
- Contextual Setting
 - Who is in the passage?
 - What is happening?
 - Where is it happening? – cultural / historical context
 - When is it happening? – historical – timing (time of day, holiday, etc)
 - Why is this event happening – timeline context (event did not occur in a vacuum)

Content

Make a List according to the verses:

- People
- Place
- Events
- Topics
- Repeated Phrases or Words

Content - Example

Mark 6:45-52 – Jesus Walks on the Water

- Who – Jesus and the Disciples
- What – Long Day, Disciples alone in the boat, storm, fear, Jesus appears, encourages the disciples and calms the storm
- Where – Left Bethsaida, Jesus on the Mountain, Disciples in the Boat on the Sea of Galilee
- When – Fourth Watch of the Night, After the feeding of the 5000
- Why – People experiencing a natural event in nature

Content

Divisions

- I. Jesus commands disciples to leave while he stays behind to pray. 45-46
- II. Jesus sees disciples straining in the storm and goes to them. 47-48
- III. Jesus calms the disciples fear and the storm. 49-52

Content

Summary Sentence

Jesus calms the storm rescuing fearful disciples.

Jesus walks on the water, rescues disciples, and calms the storm.

Sovereign Jesus walks on the water, rescues disciples, and calms the storm.

Main Lesson / Principle

Why is this included in scripture? What are we to learn?

What is the principle here that we need to live by?

- Jesus sees us and comes to us in our storms.
- Jesus is sovereign over all creation, including our personal storms.
- Obedience does not guarantee a storm free life, but Jesus is with us in the storm.

Applications

Application for each Division

Division I: Where is Jesus leading you to step out in obedience to go forward in your spiritual journey?

Division II: Where in your family or work life are you straining and relying on your self more than looking for Jesus?

Division III: Do you feel alone in your storm? Where is Jesus calling out to you to “Take Courage!” and rest in the knowledge that He is sovereign over all your storms?

Content

Romans 11:1-32

- Who – Writer-Paul, God, Israel, Gentiles,
- What – Did God reject Israel and replace with the Gentiles? Remnant, Grace, Salvation, Fullness, Branches, Grafted, Root, Kindness
- Where – Letter to the early divided church in Rome
- When – After Christ’s death and resurrection, time of Christian persecution
- Why – Gentiles boasting, question of rejection of Israel

Content

Divisions

- I. Israel’s rejection of Christ did not include every Jew 1-10
- II. Israel’s rejection of Christ means salvation for Gentiles 11-24
- III. Israel’s promised and certain salvation is the result of God’s mercy 25-32

Content

Summary Sentence

Israel is not rejected, Gentiles are included and all salvation is a result of God's mercy.

Israel's partial, temporary rejection of Christ means salvation for Gentiles..

Main Lesson / Principle

Why is this included in scripture? What are we to learn?

What is the principle here that we need to live by?

- God is at work accomplishing His plan for all people.
- There is no room for boasting for God's mercy brings salvation for all people.

Applications

Application for each Division

Division I: How does reflecting on God's past actions comfort you in confusing or fearful circumstances?

Division II: How does grace change your thinking about those you marginalize?

Division III: How does God's mercy on your behalf move you to demonstrate mercy to others?

Homiletics

- Opening – Short story that matches the aim (main truth) of the passage
- More Scripture – Majority of your words need to focus on scripture and only a small percentage on non-biblical illustrations. Power in God's Word.
- Make sure everything comes back to the aim
- Good solid applications – take away questions that drive home the aim and that the listener can ponder and listen to God speak to them.

Thank you and God bless you!