

Bible Study Methods
Ministers' Class, Thursday, April, 27 2023

Introduction: In this study, we will examine some Bible study methods.

- I. Observation (Psalm 119:18)**
 - A. Who?**
 - B. What?**
 - C. Where?**
 - D. When?**
 - E. Why?**
 - F. Wherefore?**
 - G. Look for characteristics, meanings, methods, motives, definitions, descriptions, demonstrations, requirements, reasons, results, etc.**

- II. Interpretation (Psalm 119:27, 34, 73, 125, 144, 169; cf. Luke 24:32, 44, 45)**
 - A. Context – what goes before and what follows after.**
 - 1. Study the context of Matthew 24:13, “But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.”**
 - a. “Saved” translates the Greek verb σωζω (*sōzō*) which means “to deliver.”**
 - b. The context of “saved” [*sōzō*] has to be studied to determine that from which one is delivered or saved:**
 - 1) “Saved” means deliverance from danger in Matthew 8:25.**
 - 2) “Saved” means deliverance from drowning in Matthew 14:30.**
 - 3) “Saved” means deliverance from disease in Luke 7:50.**
 - 4) “Saved” means deliverance from blindness in Luke 18:42.**
 - 5) “Saved” means deliverance from sin in Matthew 1:21.**
 - 6) “Saved” means deliverance from hell in Acts 4:12.**
 - c. “End” is the end of the Great Tribulation.**
 - d. In Matthew 24:13, “saved” means deliverance from the Great Tribulation.**
 - 2. Study the immediate context of Exodus 15:26, and you will see in Exodus 15:25 that God used means to heal the bitter waters at Marah.**
 - B. Comparison – study parallel verses.**
 - 1. Study Cross-references.**
 - 2. Consult Concordance.**

C. Commentaries – The best commentary on the Bible is the Bible:

1. Acts 2:22-36 is a commentary on Psalm 16:8-11.
2. Acts 4:25-26 is a commentary on Psalm 2:1-2.
3. Acts 13:33 is a commentary on Psalm 2:7.
4. John 12:41 is a commentary on Isaiah 6:1.
5. John 3:14-15 is a commentary on Numbers 21:5-9.
6. References to the general tribulation which Christians will go through (John 16:33; Acts 14:22; 1 Peter 4:12).
7. References to the Great Tribulation which the Church will not go through
“Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble; but he shall be saved out of it” (Jeremiah 30:7).

“And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book” (Daniel 12:1).

“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be” (Matthew 24:21).

8. References to the wrath to come (Romans 5:9; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 5:9; Revelation 6:17).

III. Application (Joshua 1:8; John 13:17; James 1:22)

A. One of the purposes of meditation is application (Joshua 1:8).

B. Make a distinction between principles and methods.

C. Make a distinction between what is descriptive and what is prescriptive:

1. The Book of Acts contains a lot that is descriptive.
2. “Judas hanged himself” (Matthew 27:5). Is this descriptive or prescriptive?

D. Is this a command or a principle to be practice?

E. What are the lessons?

IV. Illustrations

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