

What Is Hermeneutics?

by Josh Cain, *Elder of Youth & Bible Hour*

Jesus said, "But as for these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slaughter them before me."—Luke 19:27. Did Jesus command us to kill His enemies? Join us as we figure this out together at the Adult Bible Hour, every other Sunday upstairs in the CE Building at 9am.

Hermeneutics (/ˌhɜrməˈnɒdɪks/) means "to interpret" or "to translate." It's systematically approaching the interpretation of texts with a set of principles and methods to derive an accurate understanding of the author's intended meaning.

Here's what we are studying:

1. **Context is Key:** Always consider the passage's immediate and broader context you are studying. Understand the historical, cultural, and literary context to grasp the original meaning of the text.
2. **Author's Intent:** Seek to understand the author's original intent. What did the author intend to communicate to the original audience? This helps prevent personal biases or preconceived notions from influencing your interpretation.
3. **Literal Interpretation:** Start with a literal interpretation before moving to allegorical or typological interpretations. The Bible often contains both literal and symbolic elements, but a literal understanding provides a foundation for allegorical or typological insights.
4. **Consistency with the Rest of Scripture:** Ensure that any typological interpretation is consistent with the Bible's broader teachings. Scripture does not contradict itself, so interpretations that lead to apparent contradictions should be approached with caution. Holy Scripture is inerrant.
5. **Check Traditional Interpretations:** Consider how the passage has been traditionally interpreted by reputable scholars and theologians through history. This can provide insights and help prevent idiosyncratic or novel interpretations.
7. **Be Humble and Open-Minded:** Recognize the limits of human understanding. Approach the text with humility, acknowledging that there may be mysteries and aspects of God's plan that we may not fully comprehend.
8. **Prayerful Approach:** Seek guidance from the Holy Spirit through prayer. The Bible is God's word, and a prayerful approach must be taken to discern the intended meaning and avoid personal biases.
9. **Study Resources:** Use reputable commentaries, study Bibles, and theological resources to gain insights from scholars who have expertise in biblical languages and cultural contexts.
10. **Community and Accountability:** Discuss your interpretations with a community of believers or mentors. Engaging in fellow believers provide valuable perspectives and help prevent individual biases.

By incorporating these principles into studying the bible, you can approach the Scripture with a balanced and responsible perspective, avoiding over-interpretation or allegorical abuse, to truly understand and obey His Word.

Welcome to **Journey** EVANGELICAL CHURCH



Youth Broomballing! Pc: Darryl



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Order of Service

March 3rd, 2024

Welcome & Call To Worship	Elder Phil
Worship in Music	Congregation
Worship at the Lord's Table	Believers
Worship in Public Reading.....	Youth
Worship in Word.....	Cultivating A Productive LifePastor Ewin
Worship in Response	Congregation
Benediction.....	Pastor Ted

Sermon Outline

Pastor Ewin

19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; **20** for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. **21** Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.—James 1:19-21

God Wants Us To Produce His Righteousness By Tending Our Heart's Garden

1. Be an eager and focused _____
2. Be a concise and measured _____
3. Keep a patient and self-controlled _____
4. Don't let the weeds choke out the _____

For reflection and application:

- a. How can you "produce the righteousness of God" in your life?
- b. How would you rate your listening skills (on a 1 to 10 scale)?
- c. Instead of really hearing someone, have you ever caught yourself simply formulating a clever reply as they're speaking? How can you change this?
- d. When someone asks your advice or opinion, do you think, consider their dilemma carefully, and pray for wisdom and brevity before speaking?
- e. Would you say you're a person with a "short fuse"? Have you compared Galatians 5's Fruit of the Flesh (vv. 19-21) vs. Fruit of the Spirit (vv. 22-23) on fits of rage vs. self-control?
- f. What weeds of "filthiness and rampant wickedness" (or of worry, riches, pleasure) may be choking out the implanted Word in your heart's garden?

Ways to connect:

Today: Baptism & Membership Class (CE upstairs, 12:15-2:00): Simple lunch provided. Please send announcements and ministry photos to roger@journeyec.org and amy@journeyec.org by Tues. 10pm to print the following Sunday. Thank you!

3/10: Bible Hour (CE upstairs, 9-10am): learn how to truthfully interpret the Bible.

3/10: Mentors Orientation (Sanctuary, 12:00-12:30): if you are interested in the different levels of mentoring the next generation, please attend.

3/29: Good Friday (7:30pm): we have a special reading plus the Lord's Supper.

3/31: Resurrection Sunday! Invite friends & family to this celebration.

SERVE Ministry is suspending collection of all donated items. We have an inspection coming up and we need to clear out the storage room. Thank you!

To participate in Journey's ministries, please **tithe** (General Fund), or give **offerings** (funds: Mission, Benevolence, Building, New Ministries, Church Projects).

- Offering box (rear sanctuary wall) or mail to the church
- Vanco App (search: Journey Evangelical Church)
- JourneyEC.org/donate



Irvine HUG Group (in La Palma, sans 2 spouses), pc: Amanda

Elders <name@journeyec.org>

Cliff Char—Young Adults, Worship Music
Hiro Kono—Women, Growth
Joshua Cain—Christian Education, Youth
Peter Leung—Children, Church Secretary,
Phil Jen Kin—Personnel, Facilities & Property,
Rick Chou—Nominations, Pastoral Staff Search
Ron Jue—Deacons, GO Team, Legacy
Victor Wong—CFO, CIC, Vietnamese, SERVE,

Staff <name@journeyec.org>

Ted Kau—Sr. Pastor, ted@journeyec.org
Paul Eng—Chinese, pastor paul@
Ewin Grace—Connections, ewin@
Phil Yoder—Youth, philyoder@journeyec.org

Ron Jue—Deacons, GO Team, Legacy
Victor Wong—CFO, CIC, Vietnamese, SERVE, Hospitality

Deacons <name@journeyec.org>

Pat Leung—lead deacon
Agnes Liu, Alan Hung, Allie Poblete, Darryl Mu
Jeff Way, Paulah Wong, Shirley Chun, Teresa Jue,
Valerie Yee, Wesley Lin

Peter Leung—Children's Dir., peter@journeyec.org
Roger Yee—Administrator, roger@journeyec.org
Amy Mu—Office Assistant, amy@journeyec.org