

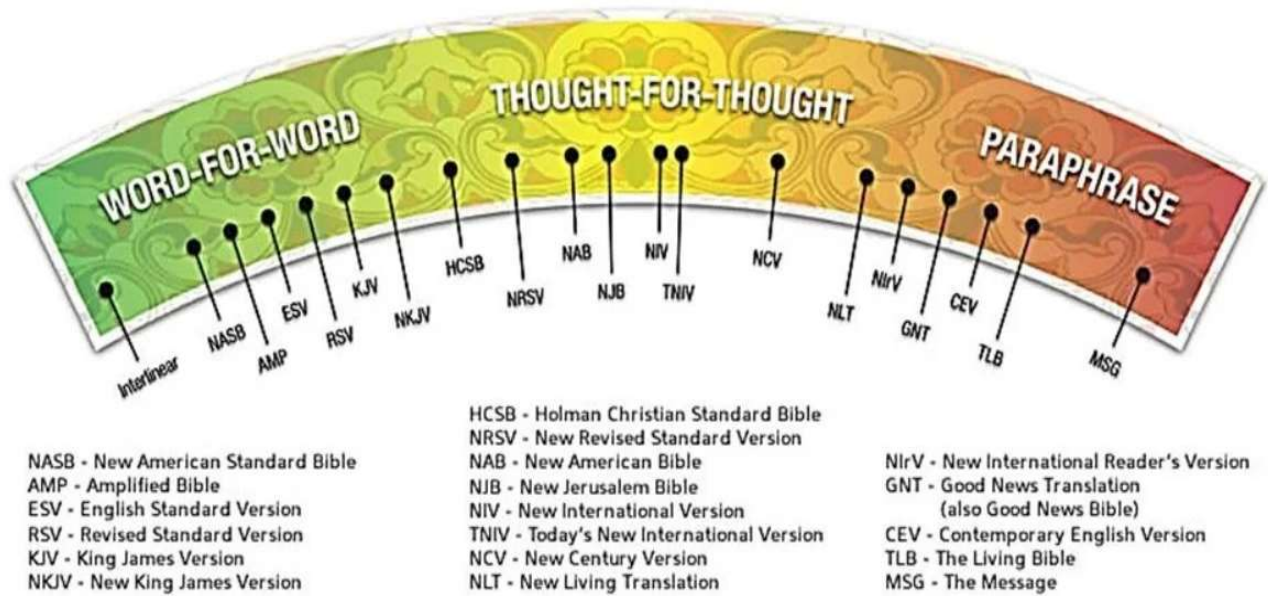
## ***Bible Study Techniques: Four Basic Principles for Bible Study***

*There must be a real and genuine desire to know what God is saying. Then you must be willing to make some changes. You have to want to dig your own wells and not be a water carrier.*

**General Rule of Bible reading:** *Every time you open your Bible, you are walking into the middle of a conversation. You must always read before and after the passage to understand the theme.*

**Examine different versions of the Bible:**

## **Types of Bible Translations**



***Culture dictates the meaning!***

### ***Step One: Observation***

***What exactly does the passage say?***

- Careful (*exact details, thorough, precise*)
- Systematic (*orderly such as: tree, limb, branch, twig, leaves*)
- Persistent (*extended time, determined continuing*)

## Step Two: Interpretation



### ***What does the passage mean literally?***

*The language gap (original languages) You must first understand the book!*

*What's happening in the letter? What is the theme of the book?*

*Example: (A Spiritual Litmus Test)*

***Galatians 1:1-7) (KJV) 1) Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)***

***2) And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia:***

***3) Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ,***

***4) Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:***

***5) To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.***

***6) I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:***

***7) Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.***

*V1: The measuring rod of spirituality is how you deal with a brother who has been overtaken in a fault.*

*V2: How you deal with a brother's burden. "Burdens" are the necessities of life. The interpretation is to get under (**bear**) their burden(s) and help them up.*

*V5: How you deal with your own responsibility.*

*V6: How you deal with your pastor/teacher. Note: His job is teaching, yours is sharing.*

*V7: Don't be deceived (mislead).*

## **Structural Diagram Connectives:**

(Reveals the relationship between the ideas it links together)

(adapted from: [The 12 Essential Skills for Great Preaching - Wayne McDill](#))

**Comparison Connectives** (shows ideas to be alike, or similar): Like, As, Also, Too, And

**Contrast Connectives** (items are unlike or opposites): But, Nevertheless, Even Though, Much More, Yet, Although, More Than

**Conditional Statements** (a particular condition that leads to a predictable result): If, Then

**Correlative Structure** (shows items related to each other reciprocally): “Both. And,” “As... So Also,” “So... As,” “For... As”

**Connectives of Reason** (shows one item is the reason behind another): Because, Therefore, For This Reason, For, Since

**Purpose Statements** (indicates result): That, So That, In Order That

**Sequence or Time Connectives** (notes the order of events): And, Now, Until, When, After, Before, Since, While, Then

Geographical Connector (indicates location): “Where”

***The Chicago Method of Bible Study* by Dr. George Waddles**

(There must be multiple (12) readings of the text first)

- **Context**
- **History and Geography**
- **Intent of the Author**
- **Culture**
- **Analysis of Words**
- **Grammar**
- **Other considerations**

## CONTEXT

*This does not refer to any interpretative framework from our time or any time that followed the era of the biblical writers. Only when we interpret the Bible in light of the context of its original writers and readers can we tap into the originally intended messaging.*  
– Dr. Michael Heiser

### Example #2:

#### *Hebrews 4:12-13 (KJV)*

*12) For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

*13) Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.*

#### *Hebrews 4:12-13 (NET 2nd ed.)*

*12) For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any double-edged sword, piercing even to the point of dividing soul from spirit, and joints from marrow; it is able to judge the desires and thoughts of the heart.*

*13) And no creature is hidden from God, but everything is naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must render an account.*

*[For]*

*the word of God is quick,  
and powerful,  
and sharper than any twoedged sword,  
piercing even to the dividing asunder  
of soul and spirit,  
and of the joints  
and marrow,  
and is a discerner of the thoughts  
and intents of the heart.*

## A Time for All Events in Life

*Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (KJV 1900) — 1) To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: 2) A time to be born, and a time to die; A time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; 3) A time to kill, and a time to heal; A time to break down, and a time to build up; 4) A time to weep, and a time to laugh; A time to mourn, and a time to dance; 5) A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; 6) A time to get, and a time to lose; A time to keep, and a time to cast away; 7) A time to rend, and a time to sew; A time to keep silence, and a time to speak; 8) A time to love, and a time to hate; A time of war, and a time of peace.*

*Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NET 2nd ed.) — 1) For everything there is an appointed time, and an appropriate time for every activity on earth: 2) A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot what was planted; 3) a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; 4) a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to*

*mourn, and a time to dance. 5) A time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; 6) a time to search, and a time to give something up as lost; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; 7) a time to rip, and a time to sew; a time to keep silent, and a time to speak. 8) A time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.*

### **Bible Study Points to Remember**

\*If you ask the right question, you can get the right answer, that is, if you ask the right person.

\*Asking the right question of the wrong person will make the right question wrong because the answer will be wrong.

- Salvation is about believing.
- Sanctification is about behaving.
- Salvation is about deliverance.
- Sanctification is about development.
- Grace is for sin.
- Mercy is for situations.
- Discipleship is about following.
- Lordship is about directing.
- Sovereignty is about authority.
- Humility is about meekness.
- Fellowship is about commonality (in or of hospitality).

#### **Observation:**

- We do an observation of the text is to get questions from the text, so the text can give us the answers to the questions it gives us to ask.
- The goal of the answered questions is to understand what it (the text) is doing.

#### **Interpretation:**

- We interpret a text for clarification and explanation of the answers given by the text, that leads to gaining an understanding of that same text.
- The interpretation of the text is determined by the original intent of the author in writing to the original person/persons who were the hearers.

#### **Application:**

- What do I do as a result of examining the text, and receiving the answers from the text, that I may do what the text is requiring of me or asking me to do?
- The action in the text drives the reaction from the text.