

INTRODUCTION:

1) TODAY WE WILL CONCLUDE EXAMINING THE CIRCLES OF LITERARY CONTEXT

THINGS WE WILL LOOK AT IN THIS LESSON:

- 1) REVIEW
- 2) INTERPRET A TEXT IN THE CIRCLE OF ITS BOOK CONTEXT
- 3) INTERPRET A TEXT IN THE CIRCLE OF ITS WHOLE BIBLE CONTEXT
- 4) THE IMPORTANCE OF SEEING THE BIG PICTURE

PART 1 – REVIEW:

READ THE PARAGRAPH THAT CONTAINS PHILIPPIANS 4:13 TO UNDERSTAND THE LOCAL CONTEXT OF THE VERSE...THEN ANSWER THE QUESTION TO INTERPRET THE VERSE:

WHAT DID PAUL MEAN WHEN HE SAID THAT HE COULD DO EVERYTHING THROUGH CHRIST?...PAUL FINDS IN CHRIST THE ENABLING POWER TO OVERCOME ALL PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

READ HEBREWS 11:32-34...THEN ANSWER THE QUESTION TO INTERPRET THE VERSE:
WHAT WAS THE MESSAGE OR THEME OF HEBREWS 11:32-34?...FAITH DEFINED AND ILLUSTRATED.

COMPLETE THE RIGHT COLUMN IN THE DIAGRAM:

Text	Subdivision Verses
Isaiah 53:6	Isaiah 52:11–53:12
1 Corinthians 10:32	1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1
Matthew 7:1	Matthew 7:1-7:6
Matthew 11:6	Matthew 11:1-19

Q 2) WHAT IS THE THEME OF GALATIANS?

A)

Q 3) WHAT BLESSINGS DOES GALATIANS TALK ABOUT?

A)

Q 4) WHAT IS THE THEME OF ROMANS

A)

Q 5) WHAT DOES ROMANS 6 DESCRIBE?

A)

Q 6) WHAT DOES ROMANS 7:1-6 EXPLAIN?

1 Do you not know, brothers and sisters—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law has authority over someone only as long as that person lives? 2 For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law that binds her to him. 3 So then, if she has sexual relations with another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress if she marries another man. 4 So, my brothers and sisters, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God. 5 For when we were in the realm of the flesh, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in us, so that we bore fruit for death. 6 But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

A)

Q 7) WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE PUT THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE WHILE STUDYING THE BIBLE?

A)

PART 3 – INTERPRET A TEXT IN THE CIRCLE OF ITS WHOLE BIBLE CONTEXT:

Q 8) WHAT DOES THE THIRD CIRCLE OF CONTEXT INCLUDE?

A)

EXAMPLE 1) SAME AUTHOR-DIFFERENT BOOK...

I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. —Luke 10:19

55 But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." 57 At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, 58 dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. —Acts 7:55-58

At first, the messages of Luke in Luke 10:19 and Acts 7:55–58 seem to contradict. In Luke 10:19, Jesus gave the seventy authority over demons, our spiritual enemies. The seventy returned rejoicing after their brief mission. Even today, we still have authority over Satan and demons through prayer, fasting, the name of Jesus, and the power of the Holy Spirit. In contrast, Jesus often warned His disciples about persecution from fellow humans.

Luke 12:4 Says — "I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more."

Most of the apostles were martyred. Likewise, Stephen was full of faith and the Holy Spirit and had a face that glowed like an angel, but this did not prevent people from slaying him (Acts 7:55–58).

Q 9) WHAT DO WE BALANCE SCRIPTURE WITH?

A)

EXAMPLE 2) SAME TESTAMENT-DIFFERENT AUTHOR...

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. —John 1:1–3

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. —Colossians 1:15

John 1:1–3 and Colossians 1:15 can be harmonized. Jesus is the Creator; He was not created. He is not called the firstborn because He was born before the rest of creation. Jesus is called the firstborn because He is given the privileges and priorities of the firstborn son. But He was not born before the angels were created. Jesus, the Son, is as eternal as God the Father is eternal. They were together in the beginning. Jesus is referred to as the firstborn, a lion, a lamb, a vine, a door, etc., to illustrate certain truths.

EXAMPLE 3) DIFFERENT AUTHOR-DIFFERENT TESTAMENT...

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:
23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). —Matthew 1:22-23

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. —Isaiah 7:14

To understand Matthew 1:22–23 fully, it is necessary to review all of Isaiah 7. Doing this gives the reader a better understanding of Isaiah, Matthew, and Jesus Christ. Matthew and other writers of the New Testament often refer to prophecies about Christ in the Old Testament. So, to interpret writers of the New Testament, we must compare parallel passages in the Old Testament.

PART 4 – WRAPPING UP – THE IMPORTANCE OF SEEING THE BIG PICTURE:

- 1. IT IS GOOD AND WISE TO SEARCH ALL THE SCRIPTURES ON A CERTAIN TOPIC**
- 2. IT IS HELPFUL TO KNOW WHAT THE WHOLE BIBLE TEACHES ON SPECIFIC SUBJECT**
- 3. TO KNOW THE MIND OF GOD ON ANY TOPIC, IT IS WISE TO SEARCH ALL OF SCRIPTURE**

