

# HERMENEUTICS







**THE SCIENCE AND  
ART OF  
INTERPRETATION**

# GENERAL HERMENEUTICS

## A. Description





# **BIBLE HERMENEUTICS**

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**HERMENEUTICS**

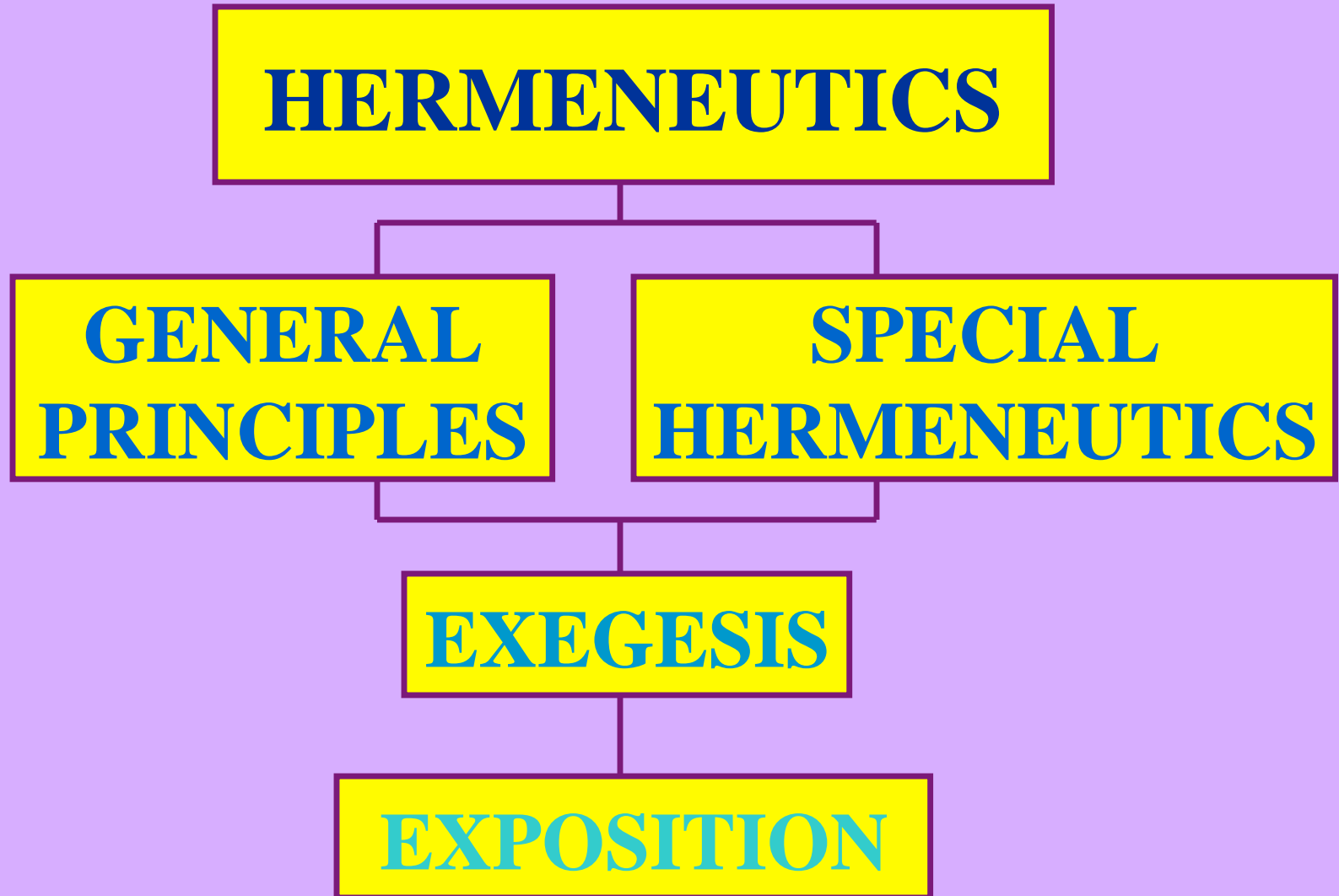
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graph TD; A[HERMENEUTICS] --> B[GENERAL PRINCIPLES]; A --> C[SPECIAL HERMENEUTICS]
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**GENERAL  
PRINCIPLES**

**SPECIAL  
HERMENEUTICS**

# **BIBLE HERMENEUTICS**

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# TERMS

έρμηνεία - interpretation



# **BACKGROUND**

- **Greek Mythology**
- **Main god - Zeus**
- **Interpreter - Hermes**
- **Act 14:11-14**



# TERMS

ἐρμηνεία - interpretation

ἐρμηνεύω - to translate

εξηγεομαι - to explain



**“... to find out the meaning of a statement for the **author** and for the **1st hearers or readers**, and thereupon to transmit that meaning to modern readers.”**

**Mickelsen**



# The Author's Willed Meaning

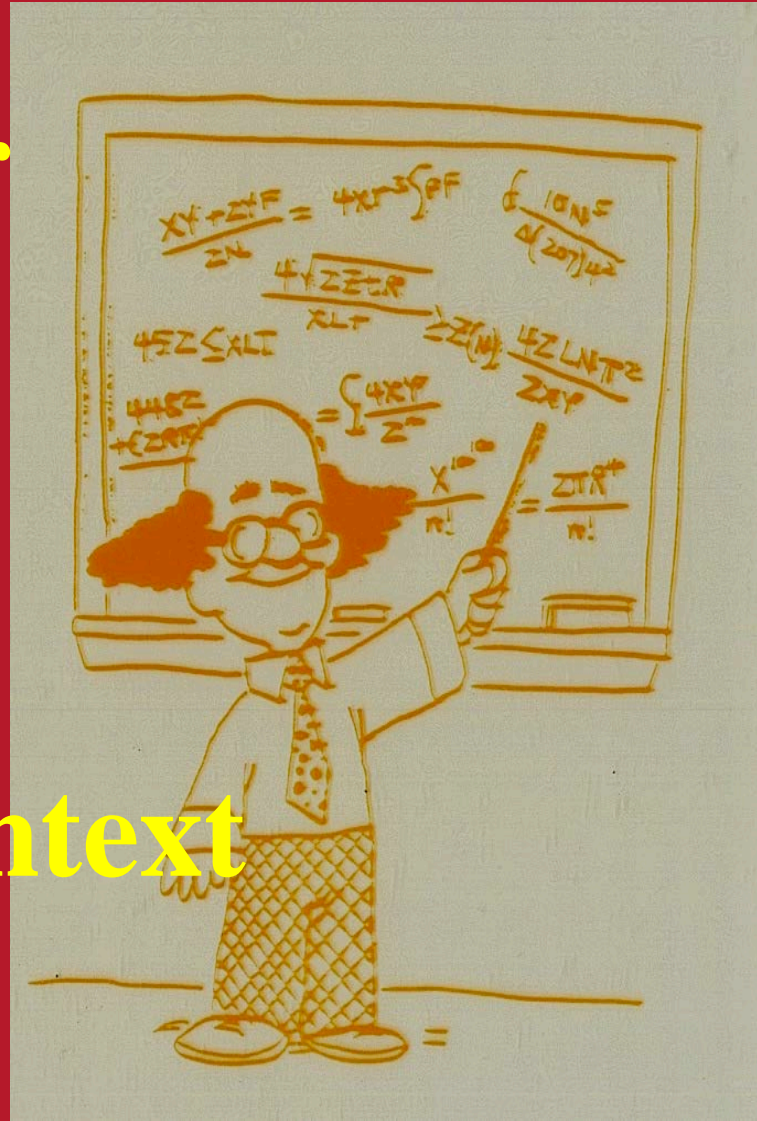


# DETERMINE MEANING:

➤ Laws of Grammar

➤ Facts of History

➤ Framework of Context



# GENERAL HERMENEUTICS

**A. Description**

**B. Need**





# **NEED**

➤ **To Understand Accurately**

# COMMUNICATION

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Message



Communicator

Receptor

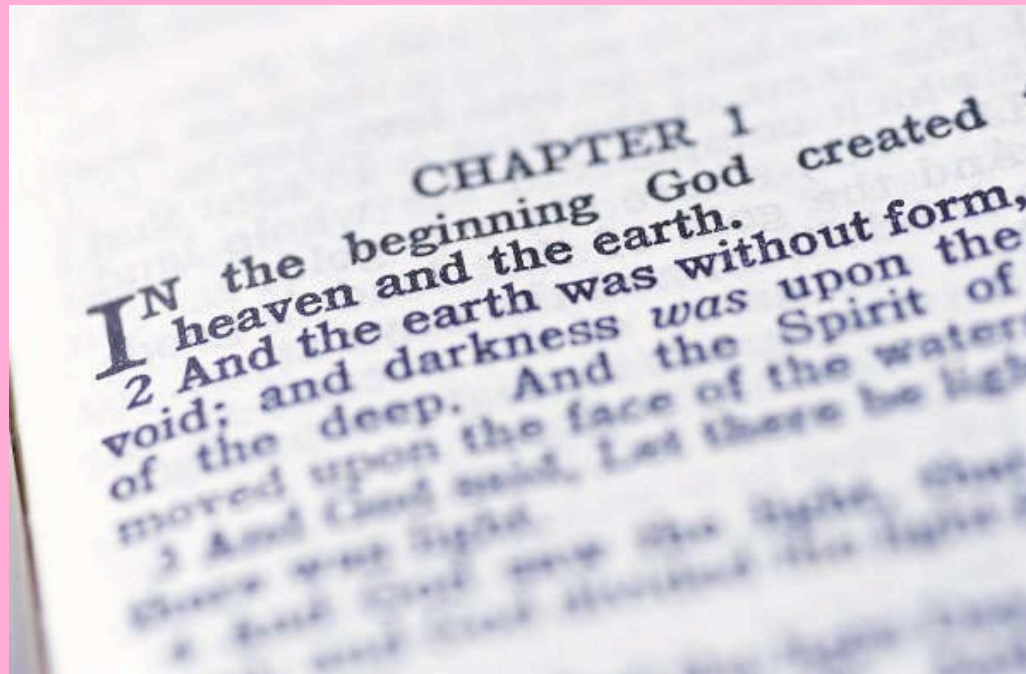


# INTERPRETATION

**Biblical  
Author**

**Text**

**Ancient  
Audience**



# **NEED**

- **To Understand Accurately**
- **To Bridge the Gaps**



# GAPS

✓ Language

✓ History

✓ Culture

✓ Literary

✓ Chronological

✓ Geographical

✓ Supernatural

✓ Philosophical

# Interpreting the Constitution



# **NEED**

- **To Understand Accurately**
- **To Bridge the Gaps**
- **To Overcome Subjectivity**
- **To Apply Properly**



# GENERAL HERMENEUTICS

**A. Description**

**B. Need**

**C. History**



# HISTORY

- ✧ **Jewish - 460 BC-550 AD**
- ✧ **Patristic - 95-590**
- ✧ **Middle Ages - 590-1500**
- ✧ **Reformation - 16<sup>th</sup>**
- ✧ **Post-Reformation - 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>**
- ✧ **Modern - 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>**

# GENERAL HERMENEUTICS

**A. Description**

**B. Need**

**C. History**

**D. Approaches**





# ALLEGORICAL

“Behind the obvious and normal (literal) meaning is the real meaning of a passage”

Ramm



# EISEGESIS

**“An interpretation, esp. of Scripture that expresses the interpreter’s own ideas, bias, or the like, rather than the meaning of the text.”**

**Random House**

~~**EIS EGESIS**~~

~~€IS = in, into~~

**EX EGESIS**

€K = out, out of





# LIBERAL or RATIONALISTIC

**Reason Overshadows  
Revelation**

# GENERAL HERMENEUTICS

**A. Description**

**B. Need**

**C. History**

**D. Approaches**

**E. Essential Principles**





**GRAMMATICAL-  
HISTORICAL-  
CONTEXTUAL  
METHOD**

**or**

**“Literal Method”**



# **LITERAL**

**“Based on the actual words in their ordinary meaning, not fig. or symbolical”**

**Webster**

**“The basic, customary, socially designated meaning, normal according to the received laws of language.”**

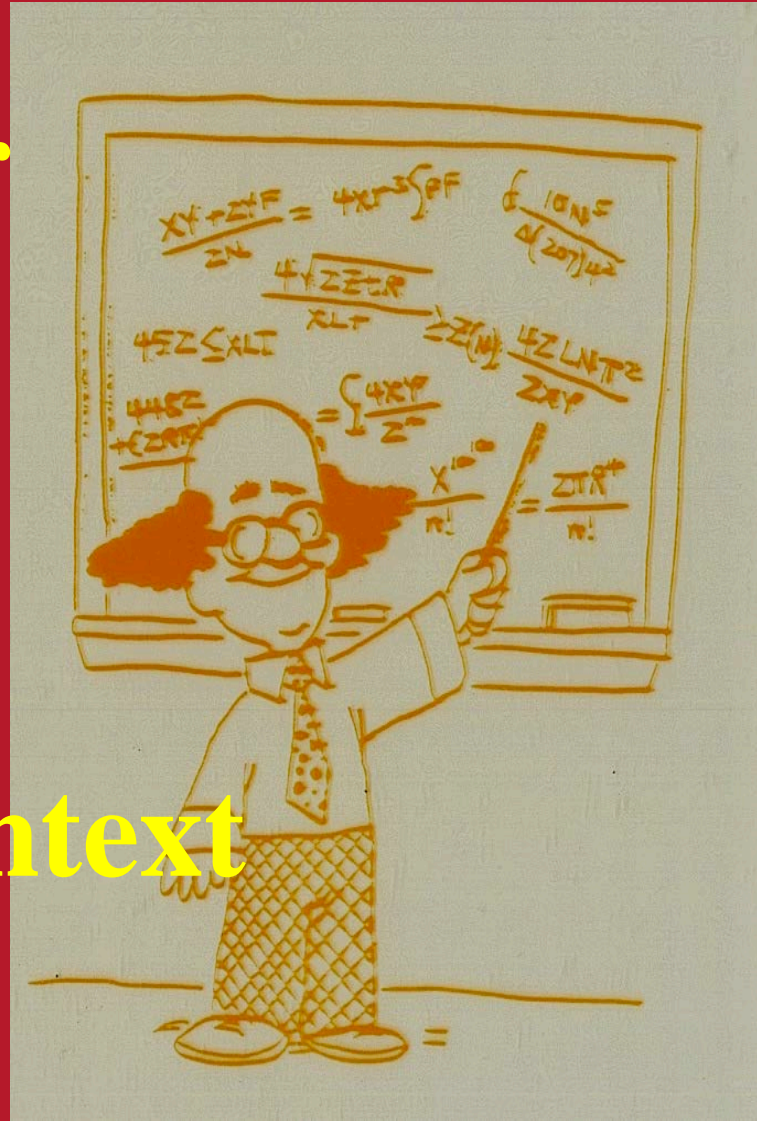
**Ramm**

# DETERMINE MEANING:

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# **DEFENSE**

- 1. NT Practice - Jesus/apostles**
- 2. Usual Practice**
- 3. Validation**
- 4. Basis for metaphorical**



# ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES

## 1. Linguistic

