

Two-Step Bible Study

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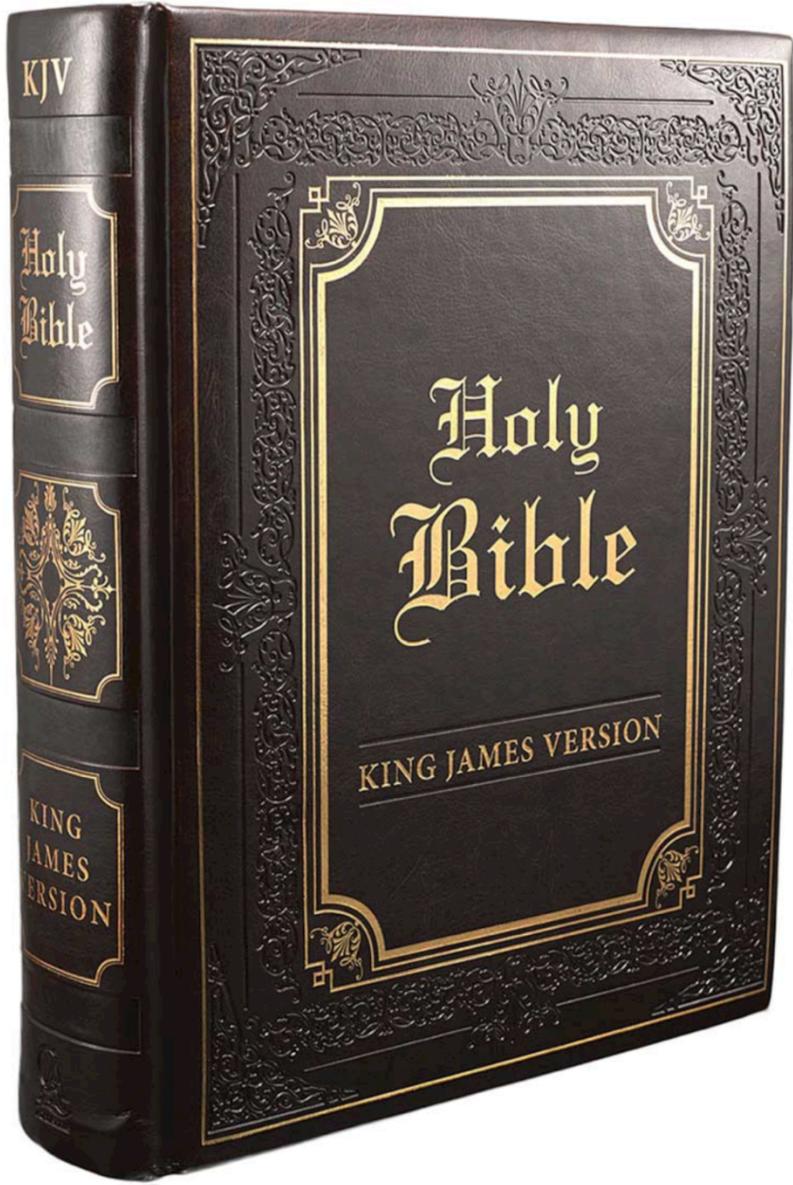
The First Rule of Hermeneutics

Two-Step Bible Study

The Bible Has No Contradictions

Two-Step Bible Study

Starting with the Large Context



KJV

Holy
Bible



KING
JAMES
VERSION

Holy
Bible

KING JAMES VERSION



**We are
Bible Christians!**

19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day stars arise in your hearts:

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

II Peter 1:19-21

The B-I-B-L-E

The B ... I ... B ... L ... E,
Yes, that's the book for me,
I stand alone on the word of God,
The B ... I ... B ... L ... E.

Inspiration



Canonicity



Preservation



Interpretation

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

II Timothy 3:16-17

15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

II Peter 3:15-16

6 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

7 Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.

Psalm 12:6-7

**Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a
workman that needeth not to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the word of truth.**

II Timothy 2:15

We Are Bible Christians ... Four Ways!

We believe what it claims about its inspiration!

We believe 66 books of the KJV by canonicity!

We believe word-level truth by preservation.

We give the sense by its rules of interpretation.

**Our confidence in all
four facts of faith are
by the power of God!**

17 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

Romans 4:17-18

19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Romans 4:19-21

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Starting with the Large Context

**We first prove what a
verse cannot mean!**

***Then and only then do
we try to find its true
and proper sense.***

**We used this rule of
Bible study at least
twice on Sunday.**

19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day stars arise in your hearts:

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II Peter 1:19-21

A large yellow equilateral triangle is centered on a solid black background. The triangle has a thick red border. Inside the triangle, the text "This is our first rule of Bible study." is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font, centered horizontally and vertically.

**This is our first
rule of Bible
study.**

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

II Peter 1:19-21

No Contradictions – II Peter 1:20

- We accept this as the first rule, for God gave it to us.
- Private. Separate, alone, individual, peculiar, special.
- No part of scripture can contradict the whole Bible.
- There are no contradictions. We reconcile all parts.
- Why? Because its 40 writers wrote for One Author!
- We assume at all times that every part fits perfectly.

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

II Peter 1:19-21

God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.

Romans 3:4

No Contradictions – Romans 3:4

- We start interpretation trusting God's truthfulness.
- Any contradiction is man's ignorance or confusion.
- We accept the premise the Bible is totally perfect.
- Interpretation finds solutions exalting Bible integrity.
- Any contradictions remaining are our fault, not His.
- We reject any thoughts that the text is the problem.

7 For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

8 All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.

9 They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge.

Proverbs 8:7-9

No Contradictions – Proverbs 8:7-9

- There is nothing untrue, froward, or perverse in it.
- Knowledge and understanding make all plain / right.
- Confusion or problems are always our ignorance.

34 Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?

35 If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken;

John 10:34-35

No Contradictions – John 10:34-35

- Jesus said that scripture cannot be broken. Glory!
- Every word may be confidently trusted without error.
- We use this verse to show arguing individual words.
- No matter what we find, we trust it to be fully true.
- Anything that looks like a contradiction is our fault.
- We love false Bibles, since they are so easy to break!

I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

I John 2:21

No Contradictions – I John 2:21

- The trust is just that ... the truth! It cannot have a lie.
- God's word is truth ... and it does not have any lies.
- What appears to be a lie is just that – an apparition.
- It is our job to always reconcile any apparent lies.
- We cannot help the NIV with Goliath or Mark 1:2!

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**Why is this our first
rule of Bible study?**

Why Is This Our First Rule?

- Because we were told it is by God in II Peter 1:20!
- Each verse must be limited to only possible solutions.
- If we do not start here, then possibilities are infinite.
- The single greatest restraint on heresy is this rule.
- This rule limits possible senses for the other rules.
- With all obvious errors rejected, verses get plainer.



**What can happen if
we ignore this rule?**

I am distressed for thee, my brother
Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been unto
me: thy love to me was wonderful, passing
the love of women.

II Samuel 1:26

**II Samuel 1:26 could
be used to prove
David and Jonathan
were sodomites!**

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

John 8:44

**John 8:44 could be
used to teach Satan
had sex with Eve for
British-Israelism!**

**Look not thou upon the wine when it is red,
when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it
moveth itself aright.**

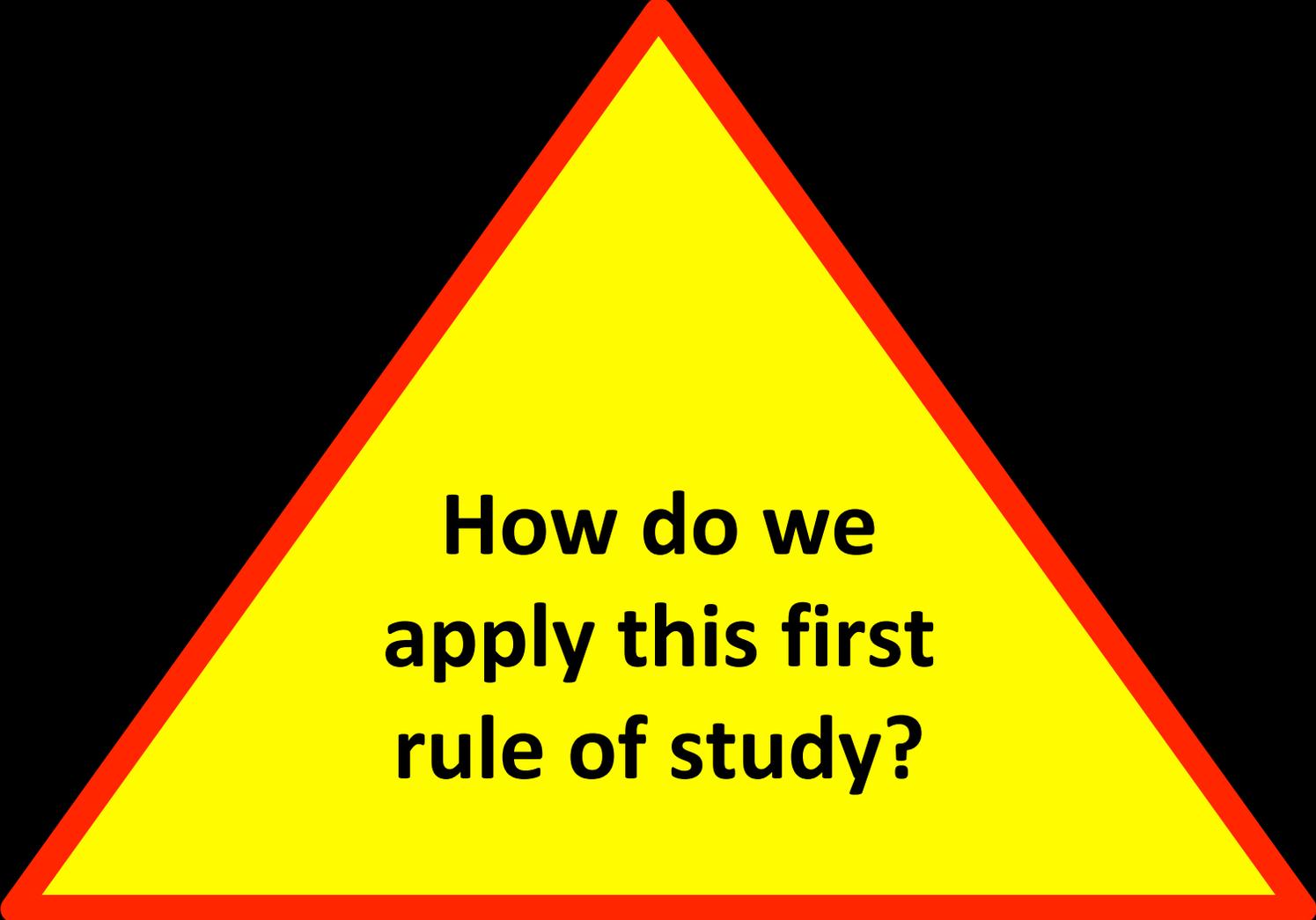
Proverbs 23:31

**Proverbs 23:31 could
revive a Temperance
Movement against
all alcohol!**

So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.

John 8:7

**John 8:7 could end all
judgment, since no
one is without sin!**



**How do we
apply this first
rule of study?**

All verses for any subject must be reconciled.

We do not value some verses over others, like Martin Luther rejecting the book of James.

Our two-step method first rules out what a verse cannot mean by the rest of the Bible.

Then and only then do we apply the rest of the rules of hermeneutics to find its positive sense.



**Did you catch
our two-step
method?**

Our two-step method first rules out what a verse cannot mean by the rest of the Bible.

Then and only then do we apply the rest of the rules of hermeneutics to find its positive sense.

We must always reject the dishonest tendency to choose only scriptures agreeing with us.

Arminians do this with John 3:16 and Rev 3:20.

This is the road to heresy on any subject.

It is the total message of scripture that is truth.



**Heresies due to
ignoring this
rule are Legion.**

And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

Genesis 17:8

**Genesis 17:8 cannot
teach God owes
land to Israel!**

And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

Acts 22:16

**Acts 22:16 cannot
teach baptismal
salvation of Saul!**

**And when they saw him, they were amazed:
and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast
thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father
and I have sought thee sorrowing.**

Luke 2:48

**Luke 2:48 cannot
teach Joseph was
Jesus' father!**

Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead?

I Corinthians 15:29

**1 Corinthians 15:29
cannot teach baptism
for dead relatives!**

**Christ is become of no effect unto you,
whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye
are fallen from grace.**

Galatians 5:4

**Galatians 5:4 cannot
teach you can lose
eternal life!**

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

I John 2:27

**I John 2:27 cannot
teach that teachers
are unnecessary!**



**This rule is
ignored and
abused even
worse.**

Baptismal regenerationists assume the heresy by their private interpretation of Acts 22:16.

Then they change filth of the flesh in I Peter 3:21 to dirt of the body to force agreement!

Some believe baptismal membership by their private interpretation of Acts 2:41.

Then they force the poor Ethiopian eunuch into the Jerusalem Church he knows nothing of!

Those obsessed with God's love for all men do so by their private interpretation of John 3:16.

Then they force Romans 9:13 to mean that God just loved Esau a little less than Jacob!



**Do you see
how neglecting
this rule leads
to heresy?**

They find a sound bite in the Bible and put a meaning on it against the rest of the Bible.

Then they read every verse on that subject in the “light” of their one corrupted verse!



**We do the very
opposite of
them!**

***We study all Bible verses for any subject and
limit every Bible verse to that overall doctrine!***

Are there Difficulties with this Rule?

- We study the whole Bible for right presuppositions!
- All verses on a given topic must be honestly studied.
- God inspired sufficient obstacles to save from heresy.
- After all, He put this rule first. He will bless its use.
- God's providence will provide an Elihu or Philip.
- Consider how God saved us from foot washing.



**We have only
learned what a
verse cannot
mean!**

Only what a Verse Cannot Mean?

- That is true! You grasp the purpose of the first rule!
- But it limits study to just a few possible solutions.
- With possibilities limited, the other rules work well.
- Do not forget this first rule of interpreting verses.
- We find the context and doctrine of the whole Bible.
- Then and only then do we move to the small context.

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So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.

John 8:7



**This cannot
mean sin in
general or
sexual sins!**



**Or no man
should judge
in any of the
five spheres!**

**For lots more on the
first rule of Bible
study, go here:**

**[http://www.letgodbetrue.com/bible/
scripture/knowning-the-scriptures.php](http://www.letgodbetrue.com/bible/scripture/knowning-the-scriptures.php)**

We Are Bible Christians ... Four Ways!

We believe what it claims about its inspiration!

We believe 66 books of the KJV by canonicity!

We believe word-level truth by preservation.

We give the sense by its rules of interpretation.

Inspiration



Canonicity



Preservation



Interpretation

For Further Study

Knowing Scripture ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/bible/scripture/knowning-the-scriptures.php>.

Slaves to Context ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/slaves-to-context.pdf>.

Hermeneutics (#1 Slides) ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/hermeneutics-lesson-one.pdf>.

Hermeneutics (#2 Slides) ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/hermeneutics-lesson-two.pdf>.

Hebrews 4:12 (word of God) ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/questions/word-of-god.php>.

One Shall Be Taken ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/bible/prophecy/one-shall-be-taken.php>.

Genitive Case Phrases ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/genitive-case.pdf>.

Every Word of God ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/one-word-arguments-titus.pdf>.

Salvation Problem Texts ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/sermons/salvation/salvation-problem-texts/sermon.php>.

Grammar of Regeneration ... <http://www.letgodbetrue.com/pdf/grammar-of-regeneration.pdf>.

www.LetGodBeTrue.com