

# PRINCIPLES OF BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION

## FROM THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS

W. Scott Plavnick

### 1. GOD'S WORD IS THE ONLY SOURCE OF AUTHORITY.

"You nullify the word of God by your tradition..." Mk 7:13

### 2. FOLLOW THE LITERAL INTERPRETATION, UNLESS SCRIPTURE COMPELS OTHERWISE.

"I AM the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob" Matt 22:32

### 3. ACCEPT SCRIPTURE AS TRUE.

"The Scriptures must be fulfilled." Mark 14:49

"Not the smallest letter... will pass from the law..." Matt 4:18

### 4. ACCEPT SCRIPTURE AS INSPIRED, WRITTEN BY THOSE IT SAYS DID.

"David, speaking by the Spirit..." Matt 22:43

"Moses... wrote about Me." John 5:46-47

### 5. INTERPRET SCRIPTURE WITH SCRIPTURE.

"It is also written..." Matt 4:7

### 6. DON'T LET ONE PASSAGE NULLIFY ANOTHER.

"If then David calls him 'Lord', how can he be his son?" Mat 22:45

### 7. GO TO PASSAGES THAT WERE INTENDED TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION.

"Haven't you read...?" (the passage that relates?) Matt 19:4

### 8. KEEP IT IN CONTEXT.

"Moses permitted you..." Matt. 19:8

#### COROLLARIES:

a.) DETERMINE THE TYPE OF LITERATURE.

b.) FIND THE AUTHOR'S ORIGINAL INTENT.

c.) FIND WHAT THE PASSAGE MEANT TO THE ORIGINAL HEARERS.

d.) STUDY THE ORIGINAL MEANINGS OF WORDS.

e.) USE A PASSAGE FOR IT'S ORIGINAL PURPOSE.

f.) DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN WHAT GOD IS TELLING ME TO DO FROM WHAT THE PASSAGE SAYS.

### 9. LOOK FOR THE APPLICATION IN YOUR OWN LIFE.

"because YOUR hearts were hard..." Mt. 19:8