



## HIT OR MISS

Remember, healthy use of the Bible will:  
**REVEAL JESUS & CHANGE OUR LIVES**

### PROTECTION AGAINST MISSING THE POINT OF A PASSAGE

A blinding flash of the obvious:

A lot of people misinterpret the Bible.

Keep reminding them of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen.

<sup>15</sup> Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. <sup>16</sup> Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly. 2 Timothy 2:14-16

### Good Rules – Hermeneutics

**MISS** – "How do I understand or feel about the passage?"

**HIT** – "What was the author trying to say?"

### Understanding Literature – Genre

**MISS** – "The Bible is a book."

**HIT** – "The Bible is a tool to tell a story."

### Interpretation Within Community

#### Church, History, Peers, and Scholars

Then after an interval of fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along also. <sup>2</sup> It was because of a revelation that I went up; and I submitted to them the gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but I did so in private to those who were of reputation, for fear that I might be running, or had run, in vain. Galatians 2:1-2 NASB

**MISS** – "What does it say to me?"

**HIT** – "What has it always said to us?"

### Remember It's About Becoming Like Jesus

**MISS** – "I know what the Bible says."

**HIT** – "I live what The Bible says."

#### MEMORY VERSE

Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and *puts them into practice* is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Matthew 7:24

## PRINCIPLES OF DISCERNMENT

How to question Bible teachers

1. *Who published, endorsed, and wrote the forward?*

2. *What's the theological background of the author?*

a. *Bias & background*

b. *Agenda and motivation*

3. *What's the strength of argument?*

Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. <sup>12</sup> Many of them therefore believed, with not a few Greek women of high standing as well as men. Acts 17:11-12 ESV

a. *Do they make it fit?*

i. *Scripture, history of church, logical, is to real to life?*

ii. *Logic and reason – "That doesn't make sense."*

iii. *Is it in line with a high view of the scripture?*

b. *Do they use good rules of interpretation?*

c. *Do they make arguments or attack?*

4. *What are the best counter arguments?*

The first to present his case seems right, till another comes forward and questions him. Proverbs 18:17

5. *What's the testimony of the author's life?*

"The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. <sup>3</sup> So you must obey them and do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach." Matthew 23:2-3

6. *What's the testimony of the author's teaching?*

...shepherds who feed only themselves. They are clouds without rain, blown along by the wind; autumn trees, without fruit and uprooted — twice dead. Jude 1:12

7. *What's my own bias, background and spiritual condition?*

Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. <sup>14</sup> But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. <sup>15</sup> This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup> For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. <sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup> And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. James 3:13-18 ESV

## NEXT STEPS

Recommended reading:

The Unity of the Bible – Daniel P. Fuller

12 Bible Study Methods – Rick Warren

40 Days in the Word – Rick Warren

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