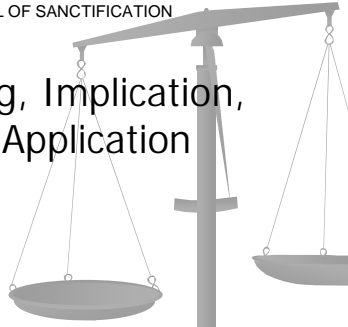


Week Two

A SKILL OF SANCTIFICATION

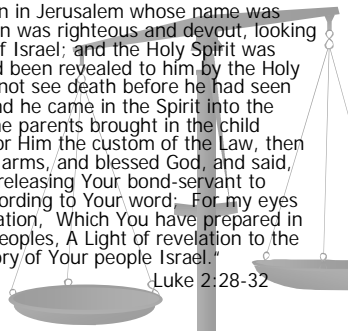
Meaning, Implication, and Application



The Meaning of Luke 2

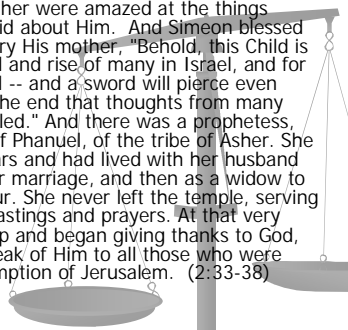
And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law, then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said, "Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word; For my eyes have seen Your salvation, Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, A Light of revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel."

Luke 2: 28-32



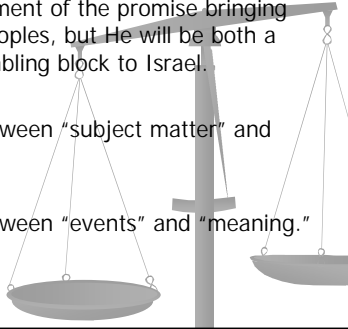
The Meaning of Luke 2

And His father and mother were amazed at the things which were being said about Him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed -- and a sword will pierce even your own soul -- to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed." And there was a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years and had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers. At that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. (2:33-38)



Interpreting the Meaning

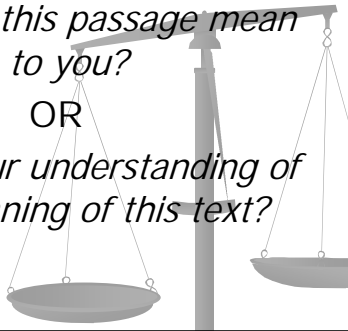
- Jesus is the fulfillment of the promise bringing salvation to all peoples, but He will be both a blessing and stumbling block to Israel.
- Distinguishing between "subject matter" and "meaning."
- Distinguishing between "events" and "meaning."



What does this passage mean to you?

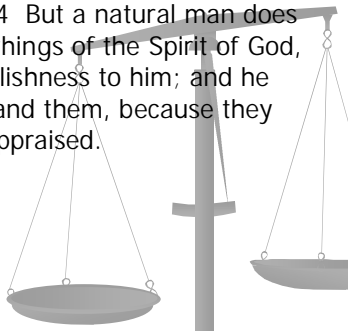
OR

What is your understanding of the meaning of this text?



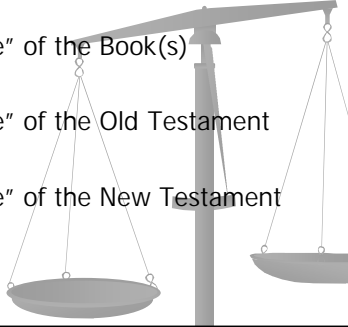
"Significance" 1 Corinthians 2:14

1 Corinthians 2:14 But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.



Think about the “Big Picture”

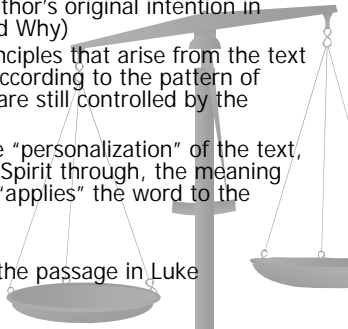
- The “Big Picture” of the Book(s)
- The “Big Picture” of the Old Testament
- The “Big Picture” of the New Testament



The Definitions

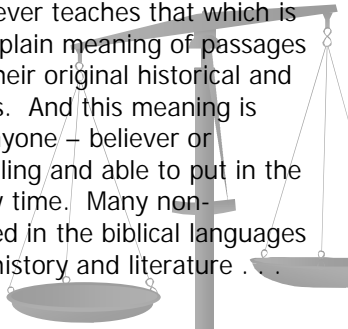
- Meaning – The author’s original intention in writing. (What and Why)
- Implications – Principles that arise from the text that are evident according to the pattern of meaning. (These are still controlled by the author)
- Applications – The “personalization” of the text, in which the Holy Spirit through, the meaning and implications, “applies” the word to the individual(s).

Back to the passage in Luke



Meaning and Significance

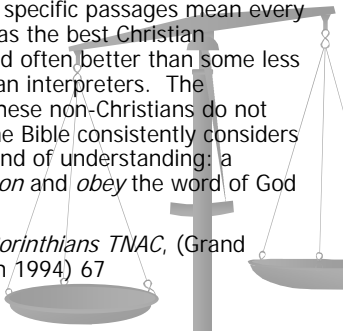
- But the Spirit never teaches that which is contrary to the plain meaning of passages interpreted in their original historical and literary contexts. And this meaning is accessible to anyone – believer or unbeliever – willing and able to put in the necessary study time. Many non-Christians, skilled in the biblical languages and in ancient history and literature . . .



Meaning and Significance

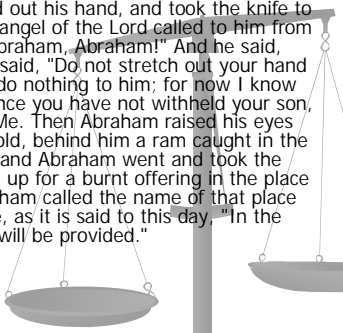
... can tell us what specific passages mean every bit as adequately as the best Christian commentators, and often better than some less competent Christian interpreters. The "understanding" these non-Christians do not possess is what the Bible consistently considers to be the fullest kind of understanding: a willingness to *act on* and *obey* the word of God

Craig Blomberg, *1 Corinthians TNAC*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan 1994) 67



Meaning + Implications

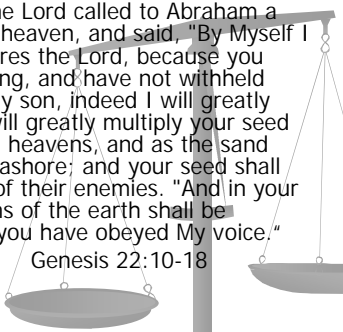
And Abraham stretched out his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." And he said, "Do not stretch out your hand against the lad, and do nothing to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me. Then Abraham raised his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son. And Abraham called the name of that place The Lord Will Provide, as it is said to this day. "In the mount of the Lord it will be provided."



Meaning + Implications

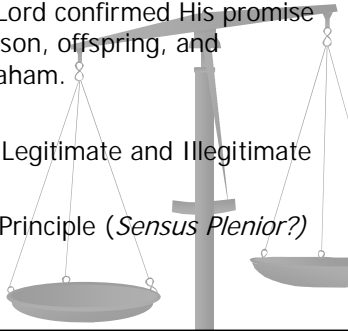
Then the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son, indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens, and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. "And in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

Genesis 22:10-18



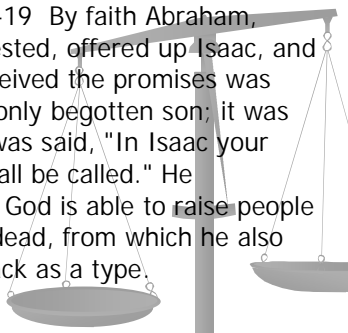
An Assessment of Genesis 22

- Meaning= The Lord confirmed His promise through the person, offspring, and example of Abraham.
- Implications? – Legitimate and Illegitimate
- The Pneumatic Principle (*Sensus Plenior?*)



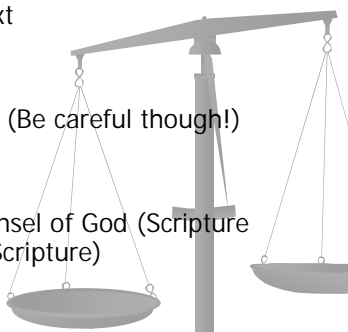
“Raising the Dead” in Genesis

- Hebrews 11:17-19 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son; it was he to whom it was said, "In Isaac your descendants shall be called." He considered that God is able to raise people even from the dead, from which he also received him back as a type.



How We Discover Implications

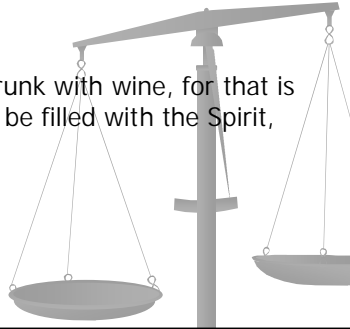
- Clues in the Text
- Common Sense (Be careful though!)
- The Whole Counsel of God (Scripture sheds light on Scripture)



Meaning, Implications, and Applications

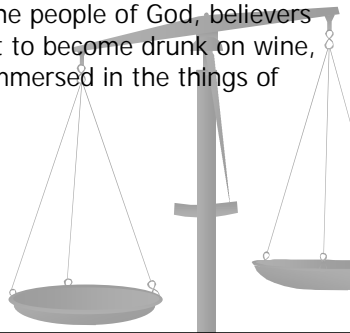
Ephesians 5:18

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,



The Three Levels

- Meaning – As the people of God, believers in Jesus are not to become drunk on wine, but rather be immersed in the things of the Spirit.
- Implications - ?
- Applications - ?



Next Week: Reading Narrative

- Read Matthew Chapter 1 and Luke 3:22-4:2

What are the general differences in the genealogy lists?

What is the reason Matthew uses his genealogy?

What is the reason Luke uses his?

