

Studying the Books of Doctrine

- Books of doctrine are where you get Christian living doctrine!
- One-hundred percent of valid Christian living doctrine comes from the epistles of Paul.
- If you find a “how to live the Christian life” book from any other section of Scripture, it is leading you on a wild goose chase.
- You simply cannot take Christian living doctrine from historical passages or from passages that give doctrine under the law.
- Because doctrine is precise, the need for precise study of doctrinal passages is paramount.

An Important Principle

*Don't work to comprehend the **entire focus** before you comprehend the **minute details**.*

Our Journey of Learning...

- Steps to studying the grammar
- Steps to studying the words
- Steps to studying the cross references
- Steps to application

Steps to Studying the Grammar

- When possible, study from the “Newberry Interlinear” -*The Interlinear Literal Translation of the Greek*.
- Carefully determine a sentence or complete clause.
 - The punctuation in the Greek was not in the original, so you must carefully discern period and comma placement.
 - Paul is notorious for long sentences, so you may have to break a sentence into “bite size” chunks.
- Determine the subject and verb of the sentence.
 - This is the “heart” of the sentence and cannot be ignored.
 - The “main point” of your exegesis cannot be at odds with the heart of the sentence.
 - In Greek, the subject is in the *nominative* tense and the verb simply a verb in the indicative, aorist, or future tense.
 - Check for any negative qualifiers on the verb. “don't run” vs “run”
 - There are times when the subject *or* the verb is implied.
- A few thoughts on Subjects:
 - In Greek, the subject is in the *nominative* tense.
 - Sometimes subjects come *after* the verb.
 - The subject can (and often is) a noun, pronoun, or adjective.
 - Jesus / He / “All things” / “Some”
 - The subject *might be* a verb, but the verb will always be in the nominative tense.
 - “Forgiving”

- A few thoughts on Verbs:
 - In Greek, there are different tenses for the manner of the action:
 - Passive verbs - done upon the subject.
 - Active verbs - done by the subject– Matthew 6:12
 - In Greek, there are different tenses for the *timing* of the action (but verbs do not tell the *time* of the action).
 - Aorist: happens at a point in time (past, present, or future).
 - Indicative: a statement of fact – this really happened in the past, present, or future.
 - Subjunctive: it is a potential activity.
 - Infinitive: sometimes an infinitive can be a direct object.
- Next determine the direct object of the verb, if any.
 - Action verbs *might* have a direct object.
 - The direct object answers *who* or *what* of the verb.
 - In Greek, direct objects are nouns or pronouns in the *accusative* case.
- Then determine the indirect object or prepositions of the verb, if any.
 - Look for the *to / for / in / on* phrases.
 - These phrases describe *how* the action is accomplished. – *Colossians 1:9*
 - These parts of speech are in the *dative* case.
- Now look for adverbs, adjectives, and clauses that modify the basic heart of the sentence.

Dr. White's Color Your Way To Health Plan

- Participial Verbs – single box
- Indicative Verbs – double box
- Infinitive Verbs – single box with red text
- Subjunctive Verbs – double box with green text
- Imperative Verbs – Triple underline
- Subjects – “on fire”
- Direct Objects – Blue box (not blue highlighter)
- Indirect Objects & Prepositions - >>pointers<<
- Adverbs – shadow text
- Feminine Nouns & Pronouns – pink highlighter
- Masculine Nouns & Pronouns – blue highlighter

Recommended Passages

- Colossians 2:4
 - Note introductory clause
 - Note negative modifier of the verb
 - Note direct and indirect object
- Colossians 1:3-5a (stop with “in heaven.”)
- Galatians 3:3
 - Note two clauses
 - Note the verb as a subject
 - Note the indirect objects of each verb