

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

The Next Big Task

- Now that we have those words in order, what do those words mean?
- Careful word studies are fundamental in passages that contain doctrine for Christian living.
 - You'll know exactly what Paul said.
 - You'll know if the translators *interpreted* or *translated*. (See Heb. 10:23)
- To do a careful word study, you'll need—
 - A reverse Strong's concordance (looking up Greek words rather than English words).
 - A Strong's lexicon
 - Supplemental: The Complete Word Study Dictionary –Zodhiates
 - Supplemental: access to www.etymonline.com

The Twofold Goal of Word Studies

- You want to know what each major word means.
- You want to find Biblical illustrations that will enhance your knowledge of the passage you are studying.

- Find out what Greek word was used.
 - This is the easy part – all you need is a Strong's number.
- Find out *where* the Greek word was used.
- Find out what Greek words *could have been used*.
 - A regular Strong's concordance will do this for you.
 - *Zodhiates* gives synonyms and antonyms.
- Find out what other English words are used to translate this word?
- Find out what each root of the Greek means.
 - Strong's will give the root word, but you may have to go back a few "generations" to get to the ultimate root.
 - Prefixes are often significant in the manner in which they affect the root (but it takes lots of experience to learn the patterns).
- Find out how each root carries over to the English language.
 - www.Etymonline.com is the best website for this.
 - This website works best with the root, transliterated to English.
- Compare various translations to look for accuracy and error.