

Monday Night Discipleship: Week 19

Overview:

1. Resources: What are some resources that will help me interpret the Bible? (Part 1)
2. Longman Chapter 20 discussion:
 - a. Content: What Is Isaiah About?
 - b. Authorship and Date: Who Wrote Isaiah and When?
 - c. Genre: What Style of Literature Is Isaiah?
 - d. Connections: How Does Isaiah Connect to the Gospel?

Resources: What are some resources that will help me interpret the Bible?

The point that Baxter is making is twofold:

- 1) Scripture is of _____ importance;
- 2) we must have _____ in what resources we consult.

Recommendations by their various categories:

1. Study Bibles-
 - a. What is a Study Bible? A study Bible is a resource that offers extensive _____ from one or more authors included in a particular Bible translation.
 - b. Discernment is key:
 - c. Positives: most helpful Study Bibles provide _____ summaries and explanations of difficult areas of Scripture
 - d. Negatives:
 - i. Study Bibles, if wrongly used, will become a _____ that hinders Christians from wrestling with and confronting the Bible for themselves.
 - ii. Another danger is that the reader will _____ the biases of the author as flawless and above Scripture.

- e. Best Recommendations: the [ESV Study Bible](#) from Crossway, [The Systematic Theology Study Bible](#) from Crossway, and the [Zondervan NIV Study Bible](#). These three Bibles present a broad consensus of faithful scholarship.

2. Concordances

- a. What is a Concordance? It is a Bible index tool that helps readers understand specific _____ in the Bible.
- b. General and Exhaustive:
- c. Positives: When used properly, readers will be able to find multiple places where particular _____ are used in the Bible, and it will also help them identify the basic Greek and Hebrew word.
- d. Negatives: More often than not, people who do not have a background in the original Biblical languages wrongly assume how these repeated words relate to each other.
- e. Recommendations: I am not a big advocate for concordances unless the student is enrolled or has taken an introduction to Greek and Hebrew. As stated above, if not used properly, there are frequent dangers in employing concordances in studying the Bible. But, if you wish to purchase one, and you are using an ESV translation I could recommend the [ESV Exhaustive Concordance](#). For the NASB translation, I could recommend Zondervan's [Strongest NASB Exhaustive Concordance](#).

3. Word Study Tools

- a. Not Necessary- "Never before in the history of Christianity has there been less need for word studies. With the multiplicity of many excellent modern English Bible translations, readers of the Bible have the fruit of scholars' painstaking research."¹ An uninformed interest in word studies can lead to great misunderstanding and poor interpretation.
- b. Two Common Dangers to Avoid:
 - i. Illegitimate Totality Transfer- This is when readers take _____ that a word can possibly mean and impose that reality on that word every time it occurs in Scripture.
 - 1. All words have a range of meaning.

¹ Plummer, Robert, Benjamin L. Merkle, *40 Questions About Interpreting the Bible* (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 2010), 119.

2. Example: Like, I can can a can of corn.

3. The dangers of The Amplified Bible–
 - ii. Etymological Fallacy- the Etymological Fallacy is to wrongly assume that an understanding of the history of the word allows readers a _____ insight in Biblical interpretation.

 - iii. Consider Plummer’s fun illustrations of how foolish Etymological Fallacies are:
 1. “When you hear the word *tuxedo*, undoubtedly, you think of the Algonquian Indian word for ‘wolf,’ from which the word *tuxedo* was derived. Unconsciously, you almost hear yourself saying ‘There goes that dapper wolf!’”

 2. “When your neighbor speaks of spraying herbicide on dandelions in his yard, you think about the underlying French words *dent de lion* (“tooth of the lion”). You might ask, ‘Those roaring weeds are sinking their sharp incisors into your lawn again, eh?’”

 3. “Your wife says that she is cooking lasagna for supper. You can’t help recalling that the word lasagna ultimately derives from the Greek word for ‘chamber potty’ (*lasonon*). ‘Going to dish us up another one from the toilet?’ you innocently ask.”²

- c. Recommendations: I am also not a big advocate for word studies unless 1) the reader is need of clarifying a _____ word that there is little to no other instances of it in the same time period; 2) the reader is trying to understand the etymology of proper _____ (both people and places) that were intended by the author to be previously understood by their first audience.
 - i. [Mounce’s Complete Expository Dictionary of the Old and New Testament Words](#)
 - ii. [The Evangelical Dictionary of Theology](#) from Baker

² Plummer, Robert, Benjamin L. Merkle, *40 Questions About Interpreting the Bible* (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 2010), 120.

- iii. [The New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis](#)
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Longman Chapter 20 discussion:

1. Content: What Is Isaiah About?
 - a. Introduction: Many Christians believe that Isaiah is the greatest Old Testament book of prophecy.
 - b. Critical Method and its Evaluation:
 - c. Outline:
 - i. Prophecies of Judgement and Hope (Isaiah 1-12)
 1. God's people are rebuked and given a promise (Isaiah 1-5)-
 2. God's People experience destruction and restoration (Isaiah 6-12)-
 - ii. Prophecies Against the Nations (Isaiah 13-23)-
 1. Babylon's Destruction and Judah's Restoration (Isaiah 13-14)
 2. Moab (Isaiah 15-16)
 3. Egypt and Ethiopia (Isaiah 17-20)
 4. The Destruction of Babylon, Edom, and Arabia (Isaiah 21)
 5. Jerusalem and Shebna (Isaiah 22)
 6. Tyre (Isaiah 23)
 - iii. God's Victory Over the Nations (Isaiah 24-27)
 1. The scope of God's Judgment (Isaiah 24)-
 2. Thanksgiving of God's Restoration (Isaiah 25-27)-

- iv. Trusting God Verses Trusting the Nations (Isaiah 28-35)
 - 1. Judah Warned (Isaiah 28-33)-
 - 2. The future for those who trust God (Isaiah 34-35)-
 - v. Historical Transition (Isaiah 36-39)
 - 1. Reflections on how God delivered Judah from Assyria (Isaiah 36-37)
 - 2. King Hezekiah's illness and the judgment: Babylon (Isaiah 38-39)-
 - vi. Prophecies of Comfort (Isaiah 40-66)
 - 1. God's promise of restoration (Isaiah 40-48)
 - 2. Deliverance through God's Servant (Isaiah 49-55)
 - 3. The Conqueror is Coming and spoils His victory (Isaiah 56-66)
2. Authorship and Date: Who Wrote Isaiah and When?
- a. Author:
 - i. Traditional view: Isaiah.
 - ii. "...the issue of the authorship of [Isaiah] is so complex it should not be made a test for orthodoxy."³
 - b. Date: traditionally it is understood to be written in 8th century B.C.
3. Genre: What Style of Literature Is Isaiah?
- a. Major Prophets-
 - b. Contains narratives, judgment and messianic prophecies, and poems -

³ Tremper Longman III. *Introducing The Old Testament: A Short Guide to its History and Message* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 2012), 120.

4. Connections: How Does Isaiah Connect to the Gospel?

- a. “Isaiah is one of the most _____ books in the New Testament.”⁴
- b. Immanuel-
- c. The Second Exodus-
- d. The Suffering Servant-
- e. The Remnant of Israel-
- f. Jesus’s Mission will include Gentiles-

R.E.A.P.

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

¹³See, my servant will act wisely^[b];

he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.

¹⁴Just as there were many who were appalled at him^[c]—

his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being
and his form marred beyond human likeness—

¹⁵so he will sprinkle many nations,^[d]

and kings will shut their mouths because of him.

For what they were not told, they will see,

and what they have not heard, they will understand.

53 Who has believed our message

and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

²He grew up before him like a tender shoot,

and like a root out of dry ground.

He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,

nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

³He was despised and rejected by mankind,

⁴ Tremper Longman III. *Introducing The Old Testament: A Short Guide to its History and Message* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 2012), 121.

a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.
Like one from whom people hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.

⁴ Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed.

⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

⁸ By oppression^[a] and judgment he was taken away.
Yet who of his generation protested?
For he was cut off from the land of the living;
for the transgression of my people he was punished.^[b]

⁹ He was assigned a grave with the wicked,
and with the rich in his death,
though he had done no violence,
nor was any deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer,
and though the LORD makes^[c] his life an offering for sin,
he will see his offspring and prolong his days,
and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

¹¹ After he has suffered,
he will see the light of life^[d] and be satisfied^[e];
by his knowledge^[f] my righteous servant will justify many,
and he will bear their iniquities.

¹² Therefore I will give him a portion among the great,^[g]
and he will divide the spoils with the strong,^[h]

