



Observation: Part 2

- Deshen School of the Spirit
- Dr. Patrick Oben
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OBJECTIVE

- Become comfortable starting the basic process of observing scriptures

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The Word and the Spirit

Be equipped with the Word of God
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The Inductive process



Observation



Interpretation



Evaluation



Application



Correlation



Recap from last week

- Important: Content and Form
- Four key elements to look for: terms, structure, atmosphere and literary form
- Please review that material especially as we were not live
- Any questions?



Observation of Terms

- Term: given word as it is used in a given context
- Two key elements to look for
 1. Type or kind of terms
 2. Identity and inflections

Kinds of Terms

- Two elements to watch out for
 - Routine and non-routine
 - Literal vs figurative
- Routine vs non-routine: helps with discretion to ensure you focus on important terms
- Routine: common, meanings usually obvious eg "the", "a", etc
 - Routine terms can sometimes be important
- Non-routine: carry the key to the meaning of the text

Literal vs figurative

- Determine if the term is used literally or figuratively
- Literal: their usual meaning
 - Eg tree in Gen 1:12....the earth brought forth trees
- Figurative: Symbolic
 - Eg Tree in Rom 11:24...gentiles cut out of a wild olive tree
- Sometimes this can only be done after interpretation

Identity and inflection of terms

- Identity: grammatical categories
 - Nouns, verbs, pronouns, adjectives, prepositions, conjunctions, articles etc
- Inflection: change of form to indicate number, gender, voice, tense, etc
- I find doing this easier in Hebrew/Greek using Bible Study software
- You can do it in English

Practically.....

- I take a verse or passage
- I just go through each word and note the elements of a term as well as structure
- Eg
- *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."* (John 1:1 KJV)



Structure

- Important element though unfamiliar to many of us
- Full treatment certainly out of the scope of this webinar
- However, you should learn the basics that you can start using immediately for your own study including devotional study



What is structure?

- Look at the page of this current slide
- Is there any order to the arrangement of the components?
- Where is the title? Body? Footer? Etc
- Is that order or layout carefully chosen or it was done haphazardly?
- Layout was carefully chosen, so there is meaning in it!
- Think of how an artist arranges the different parts of a painting..



Understanding literary structure

- When an author writes
 - The words are carefully chosen: terms
 - The words or portions of the word are arranged or related to each other in a particular way
- Structure
 - How terms relate to each other to form units that relate with each other equally
 - The general layout of the writing



Structural units

- Rough guide to the way different portions of the Biblical text can be grouped
 - Phrase
 - Clause
 - Sentence
 - Paragraph
 - Segment
 - Subsection
 - Section
 - Division
 - Book

Determining structure

- Depends on size of passage being studied
- For most of us, it will be shorter passages especially individual verse
 - Structure within verses or paragraphs most important
 - Syntax
- Larger portions of text eg multiple chapters or an entire book
 - Literary structural devices
 - Eg comparison, contrast, repetition, etc
 - Not discussed here....please read more if you desire
 - Not critical for daily devotional Bible study though important to know

Structure within paragraphs or verses

- Mainly grammatical
- Eg subject to verb, preposition to object, articles modifiers etc
- How different clauses are related to each other
 - Connectives:
- Key: ask yourself how different terms or parts of a verse relate to each other



Practical example...

- I will attach a scanned copy of the pages from Methodical Study that will give you an idea of how to do this
- Hopefully we have some time to demonstrate it live using Logo



Assignment

- Please carefully observe John 1:14 and note
 - The terms: kind, identify, inflections
 - Structure: how the terms relate to each other, how the different clauses relate to each other
- Important assignment: Please ensure you practice to do this
- The learning is in the practice
- Send all assignments to patrick@patrickoben.com



Course materials

- The PDF and Video will be uploaded shortly to deshenschool.com after the live session
- Please visit <https://deshenschool.com>
- Create an account, enroll in the Course and you see all previous lessons with the videos and PDF
- It is FREE!!!



Questions?