

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# BIBLE 101

SPRING 2020



# The Bible

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- Library of 66 books
- Written over 1100 years
- Many different genres/types of literature
- Many different authors/styles
- Number of different audiences/reasons

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- Many different genres/types of literature
- Many different authors/styles
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- Anthology



PRINCIPLES OF INTERPRETATION

# THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN INTERPRETING THE BIBLE



Genre is important



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It's a product of its time



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Unique perspective  
(Minority report)



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Focus on the proper story



Story of God's People

Their relationship with God  
(and God with them)

STORY OF THE BIBLE

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Focus on the proper questions



# ASKING THE PROPER QUESTIONS

~~What~~

~~When~~

~~Where~~

~~How~~

Who

Why

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Focus on the proper story



Focus on the proper questions



Focus on the proper purpose

Describe the Nature of God

Describe the Will of God

TWOFOLD PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE

Describe the Nature of God

Who God is & what God is like

Describe the Will of God

What God wants for us

TWOFOLD PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE



**LET THE BIBLE INTERPRET THE BIBLE**



## TWO TOOLS FOR INTERPRETATION

**Context**

**Internal  
Consistency**

# an.thol.ogy

a book or other collection of selected writings by various authors, usually in the same literary form, of the same period, or on the same subject





# INTERNAL CONSISTENCY

- 2 Big Ideas
- 4 Central Themes

Describe the Nature of God

Who God is & what God is like

Describe the Will of God

What God wants for us

TWOFOLD PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE



**LET THE BIBLE INTERPRET THE BIBLE**



# INTERNAL CONSISTENCY


- 2 Big Ideas
- 4 Central Themes

TWO BIG IDEAS

Faithfulness

Love


1. God is with us
2. God is most concerned with the least, last, and lost
3. God loves us
4. God is bigger than we expect



FOUR  
CENTRAL  
THEMES IN  
SCRIPTURE




I. God is with us



FOUR  
CENTRAL  
THEMES IN  
SCRIPTURE


1. God is with us
2. God is most concerned with the least, last, and lost



FOUR  
CENTRAL  
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SCRIPTURE

<sup>5</sup>Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. <sup>6</sup>God gives the desolate a home to live in; he leads the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious live in a parched land.

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3. God loves us




FOUR  
CENTRAL  
THEMES IN  
SCRIPTURE

<sup>16</sup>God is love and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them... <sup>19</sup>We love because God first loved us...  
<sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

<sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you should also love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

- John 13:34-35

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FOUR  
CENTRAL  
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<sup>8</sup>“My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways,” says the Lord. <sup>9</sup>“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.”

- Isaiah 55:8-9





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