

# HERMENEUTICS



A bright, sunny outdoor plaza with large trees and people sitting on benches. The scene is filled with lush green foliage and dappled sunlight on the paved ground. Several people are visible, some sitting on concrete benches and others walking. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and academic.

# THE SCIENCE AND ART OF INTERPRETATION

**GRAMMATICAL-  
HISTORICAL-  
CONTEXTUAL  
METHOD**

**or**

**“Literal Method”**

# ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES

**1. Linguistic**      **4. Cultural**

**2. Contextual**

**3. Historical**      **5. Metaphorical**

A night scene of a beach with waves crashing onto the shore under a full moon. The moon is visible in the dark sky, and its light reflects on the water. The waves are white and foamy as they break on the sand.

# **METAPHORICAL**

**Interpret according to  
appropriate metaphorical  
conventions**

# FIGURES - Kinds

## 1. Symbols



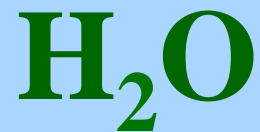
# SYMBOLS

$$E = MC^2$$

$$V = d/t$$

$$A = \pi r^2$$

$$A = v/t$$



$$\tan \theta = y/x$$



# **INTERPRETING**

## **SYMBOLS**

- 1. Definite Meaning**
- 2. Bible Interprets**
- 3. Few Un-interpreted**
- 4. Possibility of Multiple Uses**



# FIGURES - Kinds

1. Symbols

2. Comparisons



# COMPARISON

❖ Simile - explicit

❖ Metaphor - implicit

# FIGURES - Kinds

1. Symbols
2. Comparisons
3. Substitutions



# SUBSTITUTION

- **Personification - personality**
- **Anthropomorphism - humanity**
- **Metonymy - substitution**
- **Hendiadys - coordinate**
- **Merism - totality**
- **Euphemism - indirect**

# FIGURES - Kinds

1. Symbols
2. Comparisons
3. Substitutions
4. Omissions



# OMMISSION

❖ Ellipsis - omissions

❖ Rhetorical Questions - not needed



# FIGURES - Kinds

1. Symbols
2. Comparisons
3. Substitutions
4. Omissions
5. Overstatement



# OVERSTATEMENT

❖ Hyperbole - exaggeration

❖ Irony - different



# FIGURES - Kinds

1. Symbols
2. Comparisons
3. Substitutions
4. Omissions
5. Overstatement
6. Inconsistency



# INCONSISTENCY

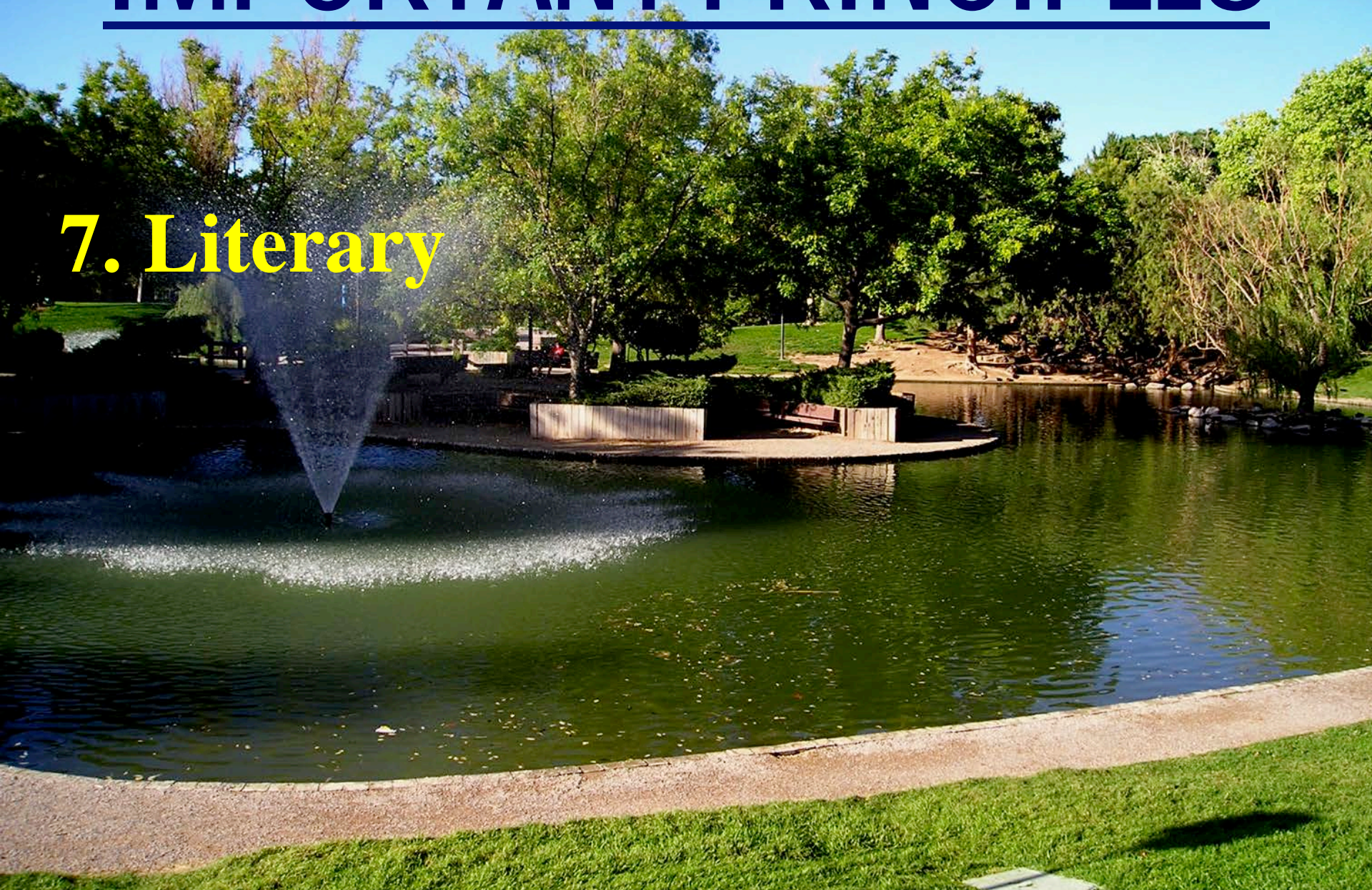
A photograph of a university campus courtyard. In the foreground, there is a paved plaza with a circular fountain featuring a colorful sculpture. The middle ground is filled with lush green trees. In the background, there are several multi-story university buildings under a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

❖ Paradox - seeming contradiction

❖ Oxymoron - opposites combined

# IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES

## 7. Literary



# LITERARY

Take literary form into  
consideration in  
interpretation



# LITERARY FORM



1. Narrative
2. Poetry
3. Discourse
4. Prophetic
5. Parabolic
6. Other

# IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES

1. *Literary*
2. *Single Meaning*



# **SINGLE MEANING**

**Meaning in each text is  
single, definite, & fixed**

# **SINGLE MEANING**

- 1. Words & sentences can have but one meaning**
- 2. Author's intended meaning**
- 3. One interpretation but many applications**
- 4. Sensus plenior - subjectivity**
- 5. NT Authors - inspiration**



# IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES

A scenic view of a park pond with a fountain, surrounded by lush green trees and a clear blue sky. The pond is in the foreground, with a concrete curb. In the background, there are many green trees and a grassy area. The sky is bright blue.

- 1. Literary**
- 2. Single Meaning**
- 3. Clarity**
- 4. Unity**

# CLARITY

Scripture was intended to  
be understood

# UNITY

**Use Scripture to interpret  
Scripture**

# IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES

A scenic view of a park pond with a fountain, surrounded by lush green trees and a clear blue sky. The pond is in the foreground, with a concrete curb. In the background, there are many green trees and a clear blue sky. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

**1. Literary**

**6. Progress**

**2. Single Meaning**

**3. Clarity**

**4. Unity**

**5. Analogy**

# **ANALOGY**

**No interpretation of a  
passage can contradict  
the rest of Scripture**

# **PROGRESSIVE REVELATION**

**God has revealed His mind  
over time**

# IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES

A scenic view of a pond with a fountain, surrounded by lush green trees and a clear blue sky. The fountain is in the foreground, spraying water upwards. The pond is in the middle ground, with a wooden walkway and benches. The background is filled with dense green foliage under a bright blue sky.

**1. Literary**

**6. Progress**

**2. Single Meaning**

**7. Logical**

**3. Clarity**

**8. Supernatural**

**4. Unity**

**5. Analogy**

# **LOGICAL**

**Utilize basic principles of  
logic & communication**



# LOGICAL

- **Priority of Objectivity**
- **Eliminate  
Subjectivity**
- **Give writer  
benefit of  
doubt  
1Cor 13:12**



# **SUPERNATURAL**

**Interpret Scripture as a  
divine book**



# IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES

A scenic view of a pond with a fountain, surrounded by lush green trees and a clear blue sky. The fountain is in the foreground, spraying water upwards. The pond is in the middle ground, reflecting the sky and trees. The background is filled with dense green foliage under a bright blue sky.

**1. Literary**

**2. Single Meaning**

**3. Clarity**

**4. Unity**

**5. Analogy**

**6. Progress**

**7. Logical**

**8. Supernatural**

**9. Finite**

**10. Christological**

**FINITE**

**Interpret aware of mystery  
in Scripture**

# **CHRISTOLOGICAL**

**Interpret with Christ as  
central to All Scripture**

# EXEGESIS



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# IDEA-DRIVEN



- ✓ Preacher -> need
- ✓ Biblical Texts
- ✓ Illustrations
- ✓ Incomplete

# TEXT-DRIVEN

✓ H.S. ->

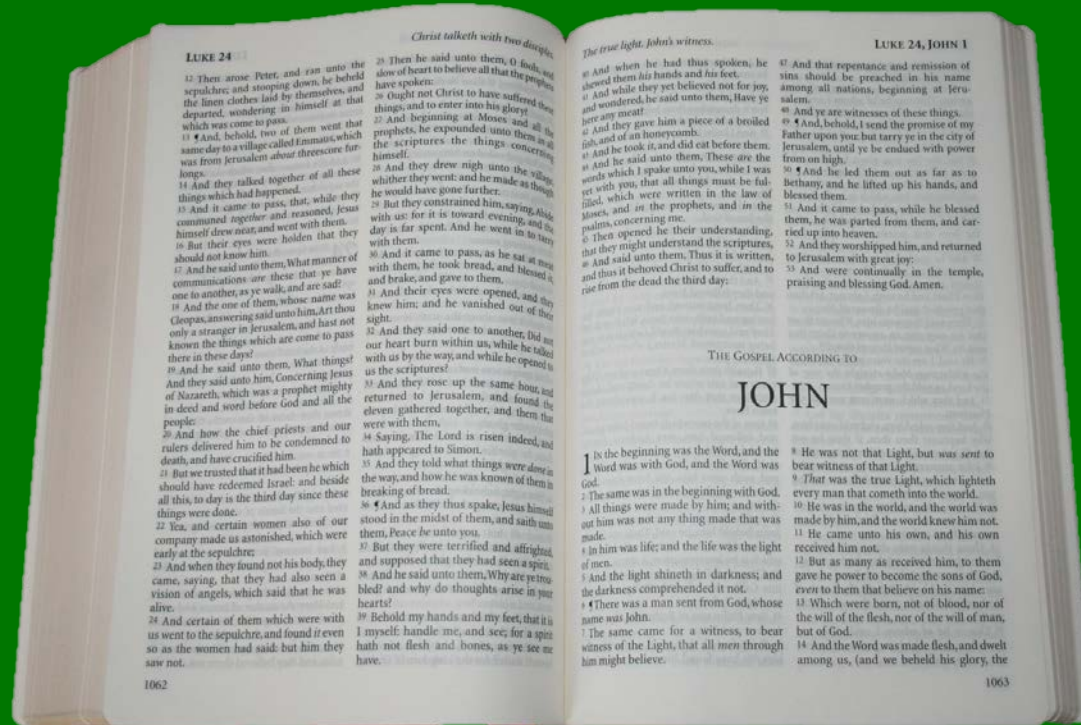
guided

✓ Sentence by Sentence

✓ Apologetics

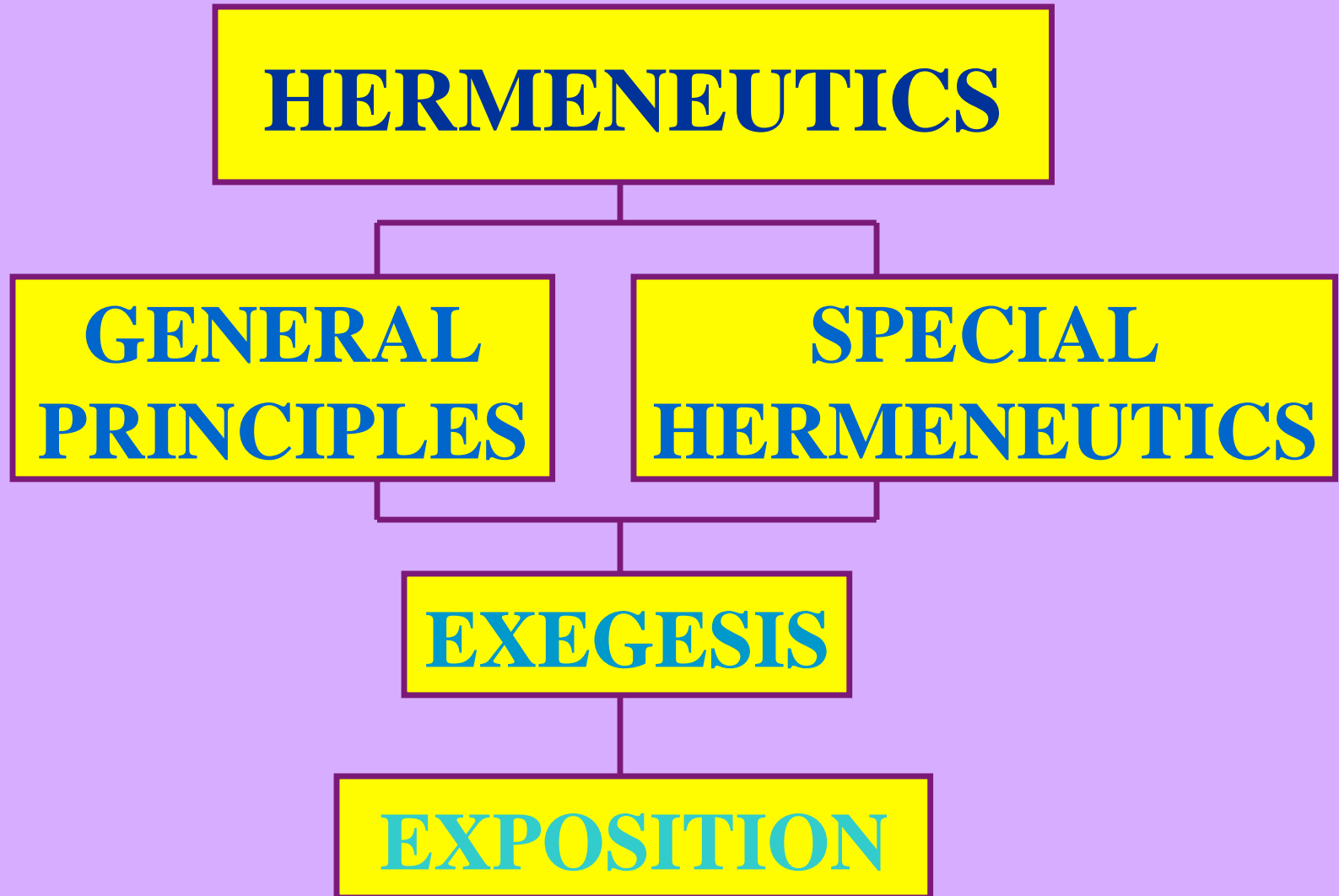
✓ Theology

✓ Whole Counsel



# **BIBLE HERMENEUTICS**

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# EXEGESIS



# SCIENTIFIC METHOD

- **Observation -**  
data collection
- **Generalization -**  
relationships
- **Verification -**  
testing

# Founders Of Science

*Isaac  
Newton*



*Johann  
Kepler*



*Robert  
Boyle*



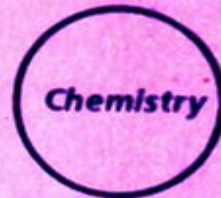
*Lord  
Kelvin*



*Louis  
Pasteur*



Founders or Primary Developers  
of the Scientific Disciplines Below



*Matthew  
Maury*



*Michael  
Faraday*



*Clerk  
Maxwell*



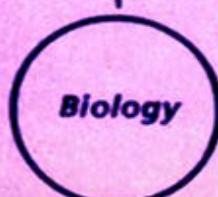
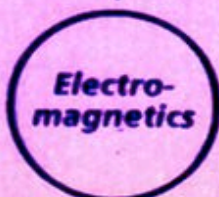
*John  
Ray*



*Carolus  
Linnaeus*



Founders or Primary Developers  
of the Scientific Disciplines Below



# SCIENTIFIC METHOD



**SCIENCE**

**EXEGESIS**

**1. Observation**

**Nature**

**Text**

**2. Generalization**

**Hypothesis**

**Interpretation**



# GENERALIZATION

**Hypothesis ->**

**Theory ->**

**Law**

**Interpretation ->**

**Doctrine ->**

**Orthodoxy**

# SCIENTIFIC METHOD



## SCIENCE

## EXEGESIS

1. Observation

Nature

Text

2. Generalization

Hypothesis

Interpretation

3. Verification

Testing

Substantiation

4. Utilization

Engineering

Application

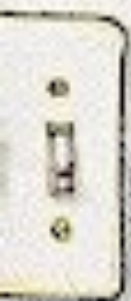
Construction

Exposition

# SUGGESTIONS

## 1. Be Objective





AFTER A THOROUGH  
INVESTIGATION, WE  
HAVE FOUND NO EVIDENCE  
OF THE PURPORTED  
"SLANT" IN COVERAGE...





# PRELIMINARY EXEGESIS

## **1. Book Study**

