

Total points not counting extra credit are 100.
Each of the following 44 questions is worth one point, for a total of 44.

True or False Questions:

1. The Bible interprets itself T F
2. A translation is an act of interpretation T F

Define each the following terms with a short answer:

3. Hermeneutics:
4. Genre:
5. Eschatology/Eschatological:
6. Eisegesis:

List four biblical genres:

- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

11. Exegesis is first and foremost

- a. A really good idea
- b. A historical task
- c. The need to interpret
- d. A selective approach to reading the text

12. All exegetes are inherently

- a. Theologically biased
- b. Culturally conditioned
- c. Subjective
- d. All of the above

13. "Exegesis" most nearly means:

- a. Reading meaning into the text
- b. Pulling original languages from the text
- c. Reading original ideas into the text
- d. Drawing out the original meaning of the text

14. _____ is an example of biblical narrative:

- a. Psalm 64
- b. The Sower
- c. 1 Corinthians 12
- d. Joseph in Potiphars house

15. The first task of exegesis is:

- a. Reading the text with care
- b. Consulting a commentary
- c. Asking good historical questions
- d. Using a good bible dictionary

16. In exegeting an epistle, a critical objective is to identify the _____ of the letter

- a. Topic
- b. Occasion
- c. Meaning
- d. Agenda

17. Literary context is the development of the thoughts and _____ of the text

- a. Structure
- b. Motive
- c. Grammar
- d. Confusion

18. Determining the literary context involves learning to ask the _____ questions of the text

- a. Obscure
- b. Right
- c. Grammatical
- d. B
- e. B and C c. Subjective
- d. All of the above

19. What is the #1 rule of hermeneutics? _____

20. Textual criticism is reliable for exegesis because it:

- a. Relies on the original MSS
- b. Is a scientific process
- c. Is done by experts
- d. Works with careful controls
- e. All of the above

21. In exegeting epistles, it is important to:

- a. Watch “the Soprano’s” for inspiration
- b. Watch for allegorical meanings
- c. Ask Mike what it means
- d. Learn to think contextually
- e. Learn to think horizontally

22. Paul’s letters contain interpretive challenges for modern readers due to their _____ nature

- a. Confusing
- b. Occasional
- c. Ancient
- d. Personal

23. The #2 rule of hermeneutics is: _____.

24. In applying scripture in extended application, we must use caution not to

- a. Press the details
- b. Forget the original intent
- c. Leave things out
- d. All of the above
- e. A and B only

25. The OT narratives are NOT:

- a. Examples for us to imitate exactly
- b. Great visual expressions of Gods character
- d. just colorful stories

26. Which statement BEST describes the Old Testament Law:

- a. A comprehensive guide for living
- b. A group of principles for holy living
- c. Over 600 commands to follow to be holy
- d. A really boring read, if you ask me!

27. CHOOSE THREE common errors we can fall into when interpreting:

- a. Allegorizing
- b. Super-sizing
- c. proof texting, out of context
- d. Harmonizing
- e. Personalizing
- f. Fraternalizing
- g. Simonizing

28. Name the books of the Pentateuch

29. Which OT Law(s) applies to Christians:

- a. The holiness code
- b. The ritual laws
- c. The casuistic laws
- d. The food laws
- e. Those repeated in the NT
- f. None of the above

30. "Thou shalt not commit adultery" is an example of what kind of law?

- a. Food law
- b. Civil law
- c. Apodictic law
- d. Casuistic law
- e. Samaritan law

31. The _____ laws have been re-newed in the new covenant and are binding on Christians:

- a. Casuistic laws
- b. Civil laws
- c. Ethical laws
- d. Ritual laws
- e. Food laws

32. Casuistic laws can best be described as:

- a. Practical
- b. Situational
- c. Restrictive
- d. Comprehensive
- e. Out-dated

33. In Exegeting the gospels one must be sensitive to:

- a. The kingdom of God
- b. Expository principles
- c. Eschatological tension
- d. A and B Only
- e. A and C Only

34. Which is not a type of Psalm?

- a. Lament
- b. allegory
- c. Imprecatory
- d. thanksgiving
- e. hymn of praise

35. The prophetic messages would best be described as:

- a. Original
- b. Curses
- c. un-Original
- d. Historical
- e. Allegorical

36. All Prophecy can be said to be:

- a. Predictive
- b. Historical
- c. Allegorical
- d. Gods Concern for Israel
- e. Fulfilled in the Old Testament

37. The essential difference between the major and minor prophets is:

- a. Their significance
- b. Their date
- c. Their height

- d. Their length
- e. The content

38. In interpreting parables which should we try to avoid?

- a. sit and listen to the parable again and again.
- b. identify the points of reference intended by Jesus that would have been picked up by original hearers?
- c. try to determine how the original hearers would have identified with the story, ,what they would have learned.
- d. see all the allegorical points that apply in details.

39. Which Book is Not included in the Wisdom section of the OT

- a. Job
- b. Proverbs
- c. Haggai
- d. Song of Solomon
- e. Ecclesiastes

40. What is Wisdom?

- a. Very high IQ
- b. The ability to make godly choices in life
- c. giving the right answers in Bible Bowl settings
- d. being old and experienced

Questions 41-44 are OPEN BIBLE. DO NOT proceed to this portion of the exam until you have answered the questions above completely. Each question is worth 5 points for a total of 20.

These are not 'essays' and your answers should be a few sentences or a short paragraph in length at the most. Reference scripture if it amplifies your answer. Feel free to use 'bullets' or lists. I am only interested in seeing that you grasp the issues and concepts, not on the eloquence or exhaustiveness of the answer per se.

41. A brother comes up to you in the fellowship, distraught after reading about the food laws in Leviticus. He is concerned that we are not applying this part of scripture in the church.

In a concise manner (bullet points are fine), cite the principles from our lectures that you would use to help this Christian. Use scripture references to amplify your answer.

42. During a discipling time, a Christian who is struggling with boldness in

evangelism is challenged on being more 'generous' in their sowing of the seed of the gospel. The cited scripture is 2 Corinthians 9:6.

Briefly comment on the above situation. Specifically, state why you might or might not use this text in a similar situation. If you disagree with the choice, state your position in a sentence or two, and suggest another text.

43. In Psalm 23, we are told that God 'prepares a table before me in the presence of my enemies' and that 'my cup overflows'. Based on this text, I believe I should set up dinner appointments with my enemies, and pour a huge glass of wine to make the conversation tolerable.

Respond to this assertion USING principles we have discussed in our class, not just 'common sense'. Again, bullet points are fine. I want to see if you understand what the interpretive issues are. Consider the text in question, and discuss the principles for dealing with such a text.

44. Isaiah 3: 13-26 is a specific kind of prophetic unit. What kind is it, and how does this impact our reading of the passage? Consider,

- a. The genre
- b. Language, and literary devices
- c. The nature of the punishments
- d. The antecedent theology
- e. What seems to be the issue?

Again, be brief, not comprehensive. I want to see how you think when you see this kind of text.

Part Three: Essay Questions

Choose three of the five essay questions listed below. Each question is worth 12 points, for a total of 36.

These are not 'sermons' so you should not expect to spend hours on each question. Therefore, I do not expect an exhaustive theological explanation of each passage. I am more interested in how you are thinking and that you take a disciplined approach to the text than that you get it completely 'right'.

You may use class notes, open bibles, dictionaries or other source materials as required.

You may 'phone a friend' within reason, (please choose someone other than your spouse)

as I would anticipate that this kind of preparation would ordinarily include seeking counsel from others.

1. (Gospel) Compare and contrast Matthew 1-2 and Luke 1-3. (I suggest reading both texts several times and making a list, to begin with.) Then,
 - a. Discuss similarities and differences in style, content, emphasis and
 - b. Discuss what these suggest about the original intended audience.
 - c. Consider issues such as, place, characters, plot tension etc. Draw some preliminary hermeneutical observations.

2. (Parable) Exegete the parable of the Sower. Consider the multiple versions, and what this suggests. Discuss the difference in placement within the storyline of the gospels, and what this contributes to our understanding of what is being taught.
 - a. Consider the 'levels' of interpretation in your handout on the gospels
 - b. Consider the 'kingdom of God' concept in your explanation
 - c. Consider any antecedent theology that impacts the imagery of the parable
 - d. Draw some hermeneutical conclusions

3. (OT Narrative) Exegete 1 Samuel 1.
 - a. Consider the historical setting, and Israel's situation.
 - b. Consider the details of the narrative and discuss common biblical themes you find. What do these suggest about the 'meaning' of this text, or what God is trying to say?
 - c. Draw some hermeneutical observations based on the text. (perhaps consider what chapter 2 is doing 'here', and whether it illuminates chapter 1 in any significant way)

4. (Epistle) Hebrews 1-2 is in some sense a Sedes Doctrinae or "Chair Passage". Discuss these two chapters.
 - a. What is the 'big idea', or 'doctrinae' being taught?
 - b. What seems to be the occasion of the letter? Defend your answer.
 - c. Discuss the significance of (some of) the referenced passages and how they support your assertions above?
 - d. Draw some brief hermeneutical observations based on the text.

5. (Prophecy) Exegete Amos 1-2 (Consider all you know to be relevant; context, date, style, antecedent texts etc)
 - a. Discuss the nature of the punishments, and what brought them about, cite supporting texts.
 - b. Comment on the style and content and what they contribute to the meaning of the text (what 'kind' of unit is this, etc)
 - c. Who is the audience and how do you know?
 - d. Discuss the groups, and how the inclusion of Gods people in this oracle gives us clues to the 'meaning'
 - e. Draw some hermeneutical observations

EXTRA Credit Questions. 5 points each

1. Examine Numbers 4-5. List anything you think is significant or noteworthy. Do you see anything in these chapters that you would consider part of the 'metanarrative'? If so, what?
2. Discuss Ezra's "ministry strategy" for helping Israel repent in Nehemiah 9.
 - a. Consider the 'levels' of interpretation in your handout on the gospels
 - b. Consider the 'kingdom of God' concept in your explanation
 - c. Consider any antecedent theology that impacts the imagery of the parable
 - d. Draw some hermeneutical conclusions
3. Read an unmarked version of Mark 1-6 without the chapter and verses.
 - a. make comments about the timeline.
 - b. what points of connection tie this section together?
 - c. what general point of knowledge do you glean from this section about Jesus and His mission?
4. (Prophecy) Exegete Amos 1-2 (Consider all you know to be relevant; context, date, style, antecedent texts etc)
 - a. Discuss the nature of the punishments, and what brought them about, cite supporting texts.
 - b. Comment on the style and content and what they contribute to the meaning of the text (what 'kind' of unit is this, etc)
 - c. Who is the audience and how do you know?
 - d. Discuss the groups, and how the inclusion of Gods people in this oracle gives us clues to the 'meaning'
 - e. Draw some hermeneutical observations