

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT | LESSON 16 BIBLICAL THINKING

TIMESTAMP [0:00] FOLLOWED BY TRANSCRIPT [with note space]

0:00 hello hello and welcome my name is cheryl mickey and i just want to welcome you to

0:06 the 16th lesson on the discipleship series why do you believe what you believe

0:13 this last lesson is going to cover an interesting topic it is can you explain

0:19 and define biblically what the foundation is for our biblical thinking

0:26 and what i want to do is i want to want to welcome every single person on the other side of this screen i don't know

0:32 who God has called to be a part of this discipleship series i only know that

0:38 he has called and i want to open in prayer

0:45 and then i also want to give a little bit of a personal introduction so if you'll join me and not to freak some of you guys out those who know me i keep my

0:52 eyes open and i look towards heaven and expect God to answer

0:58 Lord Jesus i thank you so much for every single person on the other

1:03 side of this screen i thank you Lord that you have drawn them to truth

1:09 i asked Lord that first of all you would protect them body soul and spirit heart mind and will

1:16 from any false teaching but i also asked Lord that you would guard my mouth

1:22 guard every single word that comes out of it and may it be only the words that you call me to speak and only your truth

1:30 and Lord i understand the accountability that is held here and i asked Lord also that

1:37 the understanding of this lesson would hit them like it's hit me

1:43 and that it would be taken with the severity that it is meant to be taken

1:49 but also with open ears and an open mind and a heart ready to hear

1:55 because Lord your truth is the most important truth there is
and again i thank you for the work that
2:01 you're doing in every single one of us and may we never ever
be satisfied
2:07 with where we are today but always seeking in a forward
movement tomorrow in Jesus name amen
2:14 you know i the interesting thing about this lesson and i'm
going to say the first thing is is
2:20 some of you may have been directed here to watch this first
2:26 and it's something kind of extraordinary that's only happened
one other time in my life and when i knew God was saying
2:33 put this challenge out there i understood why especially after
six months
2:40 of study six months of wondering sometimes if i was being
disobedient and putting off
2:46 this lesson but what i understood is i needed to really
understand this lesson
2:51 i needed to see what God was showing me and understand it
even though in the last 11 plus years
3:00 with him as my teacher a lot of this has been i understood a
lot of it and i could see
3:07 some things wrong within the American church but i didn't
understand what they were and i didn't understand the depth
3:14 of it and so i just want to say to God
3:21 thank you for being my teacher thank you for closing the
doors Lord and not letting me finish my Christian
3:27 ministries because i would much rather rather be like peter
and be an unlearned
3:33 and uneducated woman that has been led and taught
3:39 by by you so i'm gonna start with this and we're
3:44 gonna talk about it now before we look at how this has
affected Christian thinking and biblical
3:52 understanding we need to realize that it is deeply embedded
in our culture because as amazing as it would be to
3:59 think that western culture has this judeo-Christian foundation
what you actually see and experience is a grieco
4:06 roman influence and you see it everywhere and this isn't
about saying that it is
4:12 wrong but more about pointing out just how deeply the Greek
culture has and is

4:18 currently still influencing our world today and my challenge in this very brief time

4:24 that i have with you is to give you an overview without going into this major depth of detail but also

4:31 to encourage you to begin study and researching on your own

4:36 and so i just want to point out that even today in our modern western culture

4:42 you see it and it is not my aim to attempt a comprehensive look but rather just point

4:49 out some four specific areas that we can all see

4:54 pretty much every day around us

5:00 the architecture look at architecture right predominantly before

5:08 steel and reinforced concrete we built with stone and if you look at public buildings in

5:14 America you can see clear parallels to Greek temples

5:19 now let me just give you three prominent examples that everybody knows the white house the lincoln memorial and the

5:25 supreme court building and that's not even including all the housing styles that were built around

5:31 Greek architecture and there's actually even a revivalist trend that's happening

5:36 right now in architecture as well then there's politics

5:42 and we can see its influence here have you ever just sat and realized

5:50 that there is not one ounce of democracy in the word of God

5:55 every nation was a monarchy a king with a kingdom in other words

6:01 the king is a ruler there are no political parties no elections no votes no debates you just

6:08 have a sovereign ruler who makes a law and coming from America

6:14 that's very hard for us to grasp because anything that is different or

6:20 opposite of democracy is hard to understand for us did you know that the Greeks

6:27 started democracy the third area that i want to look at is

6:35 sports so in America we have this truly insane

6:40 love of sports i think it's equally fair to say that it might even actually be an obsession for some of us

6:46 and i wonder if you know where that actually stems from see
the bible has very little to say
6:52 about sports it actually comes from the olympic or iconic
games the Greeks had
6:57 this obsession with sports and it rolled into this cultivation of
the human body and they
7:04 were very famous for their statues that depicted these ideal
bodies that you were to have
7:10 and the display of the human body was very much a part of
Greek culture so much so that they were known for playing
7:18 their sports in the new now the last area culturally that i want
7:25 to look at is entertainment if you know anything about Greek
culture you would know that they had everything
7:31 that we have at our fingertips on our television our computer
and now
7:36 our phones they just didn't have those three things and the
point is that Greek culture
7:43 lived for leisure which the antithesis of that is that they
absolutely did not live for work
7:49 and interestingly enough that ideology has led to a need to be
7:54 entertained so the entertainment industry was huge and the
parallel to that which we see in
8:00 America is astounding i mean think about most everybody
cannot wait
8:06 for the weekend to have fun right and do what we want to do
and we stock up large
8:11 funds for our from work for a fun
8:17 leisurely retirement it's a very Greek mentality
8:24 the focus of this lesson is not about how Greek has in
influence or affected
8:30 our culture but how has very subtly and with great damage
infected the
8:35 church as a Christian our roots are in the Hebrew and Jewish
world
8:41 and what makes this so critical is that it is nearly polar
opposites
8:46 of the Greek culture because it affects the way we think how
we read and how we study the bible
8:55 so what is it it permeates commentaries in most modern day
sermons

9:00 it looks at the Old Testament as object lessons to illustrate between law and grace it says that man is dual flesh and
9:07 blood it focuses on the soul saying that only the soul is eternal and only the soul is
9:12 redeemable and only the soul goes to heaven it says that knowledge or doctrine and right thinking are what feeds the soul
9:19 and it says that morals and ethics are intellectual and only for the soul
9:26 but if it is only about the soul then any commandment or law found in the
9:32 bible that primarily deals with the physical would be irrelevant to the spiritual man right
9:40 to think that way it says that the heart or the soul is good and that the body is
9:45 evil and to think in this matter has led some to say that if the body or our flesh
9:51 doesn't enter heaven then it doesn't matter what the body does here there are terms that define this type of
9:59 thinking and because it is relevant to this lesson let's just look at those terms
10:04 this hellenistic or gnostic thinking it divides the person into the fleshly you
10:10 and the real you therefore whatever the body does it does because that is its natural
10:16 inclination what's the problem with this thought process
10:21 in this type of thinking the body is a product of the fallen world and cannot and will not ever do good
10:28 in this thinking the sooner the soul leaves the body the better off it is
10:34 so what's the danger of this kind of thinking well it leads to
10:39 spiritualizing or allegorizing nearly everything which means to give a spiritual meaning
10:46 to or to understand Scripture in a spiritual sense which is expressed by means of symbolic
10:52 fictional figures and actions of truth or generalizations about human existence
10:58 now based on your understanding did the Old Testament pass away with
11:03 Jesus's entrance into the world and did Jesus start something new or

11:08 separate from the Old Testament now if this is your thought
press in
11:14 other words if you answered yes to those two questions then
most likely
11:20 you take the Old Testament and allegorize it and instead of
real people with real lives people who experience the one true
11:27 God and understand that Jesus knew it to be inspired and
true you see the Old Testament as simply
11:34 being myths legends and stories purely to teach valuable
lessons in other words
11:40 the Old Testament is simply words to make us feel fortunate
to live in grace
11:46 to think in this manner means that the man's soul simply has
to believe and confess certain things about the logos
11:54 which leads to a very dangerous viewpoint because now
instead of asking the question what does God require of me
12:02 it becomes a question of who is logos to me
12:07 the Old Testament is completely Hebrew and was completed
before the Greek culture even came on the scene it's one
12:14 of the reasons that reading and studying the Old Testament
is critical to an understanding of what it means to
12:19 actually be a follower of God something to think about
12:27 two-thirds of the bible is written by Hebrews and the New
Testament though written primarily in the Greek language
12:33 was actually written from a Hebrew perspective did you know
that dr luke was the only author who was not a Hebrew
12:40 but he was highly influenced by the Hebrews he was
surrounded with he spent a lot of time with paul
12:47 and so though it was written in the Greek language it was
very clearly written with a
12:53 Hebrew thought process and so whether you have realized it
or not the bible is Hebrew through and
13:00 through why is this significant
13:06 the very nature of the Godhead is unity specifically a tri-unity
in the same way
13:13 in Hebrew thinking man is a tri-unity man is spirit man is
13:20 soul man is body but all are one man
13:28 all of man body soul and spirit is to be holy as yahweh is holy
13:35 it is the difference between a believer who does versus a
believer who thinks or believes in other words it's living it

13:41 out versus i think or i believe
13:46 does Jesus just redeem the soul or does he redeem the whole man
13:55 and why does this make a difference if it is just the soul
14:00 then water baptism is purely symbolic if it is the whole man
14:06 then you know that it is a true renewal of creation dying to self and rising up
14:13 the word of God from a Hebrew perspective should be instruction for the heart guidance for
14:20 the soul and direction for the body it should lead to a hunger
14:26 to know how to love your neighbor to treat those that you love to take care
14:31 of yourself to worship your creator to celebrate him to follow him
14:38 but to think Greek finds all of that just to physical or it's not spiritual enough
14:47 but to think like a Hebrew is to know that all of God's word
14:52 is about instruction to know that if we follow him that our way is blessed it is truly understanding
14:59 that there is not one single detail about our life that God is not interested in
15:04 he is detailed and even the simple everyday completely ordinary things in
15:10 our life are not above God's interest or his involvement and if you doubt me
15:18 if you've never seen God from this perspective do me a favor read the book of Exodus
15:23 and you will see that God is very precise in his instructions and the details that are given in the design and
15:30 the construction of the tabernacle the clothes that the priests wear even the utensils that are
15:36 used it is truly beyond understanding that i have a God that cares that the color is purple
15:43 so here's the question how did Greek thinking creep in
15:50 i can tell you it started in the 400 years of silence between the end of the Old Testament and the start of the new
15:55 where men like socrates plato aristotle and alexander the great rose and status infiltrating with their philosophies
16:02 their thoughts and words and creating these new ideals

16:08 it came with the rape of the Jewish nation when for three and a half years antiochus epiphanes forced everything
16:14 Greek upon the jews he built an altar to zeus in the temple and sacrifices were made to the image of a king
16:21 it was the first abomination of desolation that daniel spoke of and a foreshadowing of what Jesus said would
16:28 become a part of our future then it came in the guise of Greek
16:33 universities of athens and alexandria these Greek universities were a melting
16:38 pot of Jewish and Greek thinking and although it did lead to a Greek
16:43 translation of Scripture called the septuagint it also introduced a new method of studying Scripture called the
16:49 allegorical method where Jewish scholars like philo or clement or origen were introduced or
16:56 indoctrinated into this way of thinking
17:01 fast forward to biblical scholars like Augustine who were greatly influenced in Greek thinking not to mention martin luther
17:08 who was an Augustine monk or calvin who studied Augustine research and you will discover that
17:13 saint Augustine is literally in nearly every family tree in the church today
17:20 and if you compare his ideas to Hebrew thinking you will see that he was greatly responsible for recasting the
17:26 Christian faith into a very neoplatonic terms and you will discover how our Hebrew
17:32 words have been systematically pulled out separated from
17:39 as one of my teachers said easter was quickly separated from passover wit sunday quickly separated from pentecost
17:46 and Christmas moved months away from the feast of tabernacles do you want to know how i know in
17:52 infiltrated my life i had to look up what whit sunday was did you
17:58 know study and see for yourself i challenge you guys study and see where our Jewish roots of
18:05 the church are pulled up and roots of Greek philosophy were settled in i challenge you to look and see what
18:12 pagan customs and pagan festivals that have absolutely nothing to do with Christ have been adopted into our faith

18:21 how did Greek thinking creep in from Augustine it leads to saint to
18:27 thomas aquinas who instead of being influenced by Augustine brought in aristotle's thinking of natural theology
18:32 based on reason which laid the foundation for science and evangelical skepticism
18:38 to say that it is deeply ingrained is actually somewhat of a mild terminology
18:45 proverbs 23 7 says for as he thinks within himself so he is
18:52 so how we think every single day shapes every single aspect of our life it
18:57 shapes our behavior it shapes our character it shapes our lifestyle literally
19:03 the way we think is the key component to the people that we are
19:08 is why paul exhorts us to transform by the renewing of your mind
19:13 because how we think determines how we think about ourselves it determines how we think about the world that we live in
19:20 it even influences how we think about God and the depth of this corrupting
19:26 influence upon the Christian faith i can tell you right now has been staggering to discover
19:35 Greek ideas or ideals an ideal is a standard of perfection or
19:41 excellence which in terms revolve around how we would define our value system and this is done by simply ranking things
19:48 from what is most valuable to us all the way down to what is least valuable my friends and i always talk about this
19:54 these a couple of scenarios and the answer clearly defines a bit of our value system so the first scenario is this
20:02 if your house were on fire what is the one thing outside of your family that you would go
20:09 back in and save the other way to ask this is if you're traveling
20:15 what goes in the suitcase and what goes in the backpack with you
20:21 and those who are closest to me absolutely know my answer to that question

20:27 in other words what are willing to lose and what will you hold on to until you die this is a
20:34 very relevant question to ask and i love how my pastor put it recently
20:40 he said a belief is something that you'll argue for but a conviction is something you'll die
20:45 for here's where Greek philosophy
20:52 and theology come in they've taught this scale of values now if you would imagine this ladder and
20:58 on the top rung the number one value was spiritual and the very bottom rung was physical
21:05 because they felt that physical things were beneath them and if you were to add mental and
21:11 intellectual things since it's the opposite of physical labor it would actually rank pretty high under
21:16 spiritual and even though it was only designated to be this grading scale of what you
21:22 valued most versus what you valued least and it created
21:28 a very big divide between the spiritual and the physical which
21:33 then resulted in what we would call dualism which means exactly what it says
21:38 dividing something into two parts and that division specifically of the
21:43 spiritual from the physical has some very critical after the fact affects from it
21:51 here are some things that we're going to look at now what you may not know
21:57 or have even understood that Greek Greek thinking is the one that has divided physical and spiritual
22:05 sacred and secular natural or supernatural eternal or temporal
22:10 death as an enemy or death as a friend
22:15 first we're going to talk about the dividing of the person into two parts body and
22:21 soul how many of you think that you are a body with a soul
22:27 did you know that is a Greek idea to say that you have a soul in a body
22:32 and so if you have that mentality of thinking spiritual things are good and physical things are bad it can lead to

22:39 this belief that your body is the source of evil and your soul is the source of good and that a person's entire mission
22:46 is to get free from the body so that they can be good and so here we are living on this
22:53 physical world living in a physical body in other words we're surrounded by evil
22:59 which is why death becomes a friend because you can separate yourself from that and become
23:06 good genesis 2 7 says
23:12 then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and became a
23:19 living being the Hebrew word for being is nephesh which means soul
23:26 that does not mean that God put a soul into the dust or clay it means that the clay
23:32 became a living soul the same exact Hebrew word is used in
23:38 genesis 1 20 genesis 1 21 and genesis 1 24 to
23:44 describe living animals as living souls why
23:50 because in Hebrew thinking a soul is a breathing body it is not
23:55 separate and distinct from the body it is a live breathing body
24:02 so the irony of an sos call
24:08 is that it means save our soul but anyone putting out an sos call
24:13 clearly and distinctly means save our body the funny thing is that is actually Hebrew thinking
24:23 the effects on Christian thinking so how does Greek philosophy and the
24:29 separating of body and soul affect Christian thinking have you ever heard the term we're here to save souls
24:36 but the bible clearly speaks of saving the whole person
24:42 we move past our limited perspective and we learned that the gospel of Jesus
24:48 is comprehensive what do i mean by that yes there is a spiritual salvation from the result or penalty of sin but it is
24:55 also a holistic salvation that was meant to include every single aspect of a
25:00 person's life when you study Jesus's life and ministry here on earth you realize how much time

25:07 he spent ministering and dealing with people's physical bodies their emotional
25:12 needs and any immediate immediate spiritual concern and from a Hebrew perspective
25:18 there is no aspect of life that is off limits to God's mercy or God's grace
25:27 Matthew 10 8 says heal the sick raise the dead cleanse the lepers cast out demons
25:33 freely you received freely give you see Jesus told his followers to
25:39 freely give what they had received and it was in the context of healing and deliverance
25:44 which clearly lines up with a holistic salvation but do we teach do we disciple and live
25:50 out what it means to look like our savior if your wounds have been healed
25:57 then we are to go out and heal other people's wounds you know i heard it said that whatever
26:03 healing or deliverance that we have personally experienced qualifies us to be ministers of the same kind of healing
26:10 and deliverance and i can honestly tell you that God has continued to use me in
26:16 these areas there is no hierarchy of spirituality
26:23 so we've been taught that a hierarchy of spirituality that is contrary to what the bible actually teaches
26:28 and then we fail to realize that it is regardless of your spiritual gifts regardless of your station in life and
26:35 regardless of your career path or any other calling that you might have that every single one of us are called to
26:42 become ministers of his grace and his mercy and the reality is in order to live in
26:48 this manner we are going to have to be able to see past the walls that people have put up and the offenses that rage
26:53 against us which in reality is just an effort to guard themselves from further wounding
26:59 we've got to cultivate and develop eyes to see the wounds and look through the behaviors and to understand that we have
27:06 been powerfully equipped to deliver what God offers freely
27:12 second it's led to a dividing life into two parts sacred and secular

27:18 and that is a Greek thought that life is divided in the bible
the only thing secular is
27:24 sin all work from God's perspective completely ranks the
same
27:29 but i can tell you right now in the American church there has
been a complete division or separation of
27:35 certain positions what about your job well jobs can be
immoral
27:42 or illegal but they cannot be sacred or secular one of my
favorite things i heard that
27:48 totally resonates with me is that God would rather have a
good taxi driver than a bad missionary
27:55 see this Greek thinking has completely destroyed our witness
outside of the church because we have determined
28:02 that what we're doing is separate from who we are as
believers but to God
28:09 every single calling on a person in their life is sacred to who
we are in
28:16 him when it comes to our perspective of work
28:22 and God from a Hebrew perspective he is far more interested
in our commitment and devotion
28:28 than he is in the actual position that we would hold
28:33 we have been called to delight in him we're called to commit
our ways to him
28:38 in our relationship with him he is the one that leads us
through our hearts desires and interest he provides
28:44 opportunities and creates circumstances he gives us gifts and
talents and abilities he counsels us he convicts us
28:53 to a Hebrew work was everything they worked six days and
the seventh day
28:58 was not for leisure but for worship and as one of my
teachers says they worked for God and they worshipped God
29:06 the bible continuously documents a very high view of work
and even more
29:11 specifically of manual labor the interesting side note is that
most
29:16 of the ones that God called into full-time ministry in the New
Testament were already highly skilled in some form
29:24 of manual labor the only exception to that was the tax
collector that even the son of God Jesus Christ our Lord and

29:31 savior was skilled as a carpenter third
29:37 it's the division of the universe between natural and supernatural
29:43 the crazy thing is you don't see that division in the bible now let's pose a question
29:50 would i put satan in the category of natural or supernatural
29:55 sadly my answer was supernatural and then i got a very huge wake-up call
30:02 because the minute that i put him in the category of supernatural i was inadvertently putting him in the same
30:08 category as my God the word of God says there is a creator
30:16 and there is a creature and the devil is clearly a created creature
30:24 fourth the division of religion heaven and earth versus eternal and temporal
30:30 again on the Greek side when you divide it this way death becomes a friend the soul
30:35 is being released from the body which is seen as a prison i mean you even hear phrases at funerals
30:40 such as what a relief it is that they've been released from this body but i can tell you right now for some
30:46 people it will not be a relief but to the Hebrew i.e the bible
30:52 death is an enemy why because death restricts us because once you die you can't
30:58 communicate with the living you can't be with your family you yet the gospel seeks so clearly of
31:05 Jesus defeating death why because death is an enemy to the
31:10 believer on a deeper level this division actually leads to
31:16 questions about what is good and who is God so what is good
31:21 so if we're looking at defining what is good and if we have been influenced by a Greek philosophy and we've placed
31:27 spiritual far above physical then the question becomes what is it affecting
31:32 it will not be long before your aesthetic values become your moral values
31:37 it's very hard to separate what is aesthetically and culturally acceptable values from what is biblically and
31:44 morally acceptable values for example and this is really going to be tough for some people

31:49 sunday close from a Greek perspective they could be purely aesthetic which then has slowly
31:55 faded into separating and not even asking the question of whether they're actually morally
32:01 acceptable who is God from a Greek system of values God would
32:08 land on the spiritual rung far separated from the physical are you starting to see how this can be
32:14 a problem the creator has now been removed or at least largely separated from his creation
32:21 either God is deeply a part of this world or he isn't in our understanding of God in relation
32:28 to this world is a critical component of our faith but if you cannot believe in God
32:33 not only being a part of this world but tied to it and even to the point of him getting his hands dirty then you are
32:40 probably very Greek in thought and do not understand that God is not separated from us he is not somewhere
32:47 out there why is that important because if you believe that God is out
32:52 there far removed from physical things then you ask yourself who created all of this
32:59 so the Greeks had two answers the first would be what was considered a demiGod one who was not quite God and
33:05 not quite human where God could remain in his eternal world and this demiGod would not only
33:11 create but manage it for God the other answer was from aristotle
33:17 he believed that the world wasn't actually created ever but that matter in and of itself was eternal and had always
33:23 been here and throughout time has not only managed itself but has evolved completely separate from God completely
33:29 and interestingly enough it would actually be the beginning of evolutionary thinking that we didn't see until some two thousand years later
33:36 look at secular humanism you'll see a direct link to how it began in Greek philosophy
33:42 who is God omnipresent omnipotence or omnipotent
33:50 omniscient is he actually biblically
33:56 present in all places at all times if this is true he is in hell

34:02 or is it that he is everywhere he chooses to be
34:08 God is able to see everything and to act anywhere he chooses proverbs 15 3 says the eyes of the Lord
34:14 are in every place watching the evil and the good Hebrews 4 13 says and there is no
34:20 creature hidden from his sight but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of him with whom we have to do
34:30 the bible does not teach that God is omnipresent that is present everywhere in all things instead it shows that he
34:36 is a person and that he resides in a dwelling place
34:41 God's form God is spirit and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth john 4
34:48 24 no one has seen God at any time the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the
34:53 father he has explained him john 1 18 i saw the Lord sitting on a throne lofty
34:58 and exalted on the train of his robe filling the temple Isaiah 6 1 immediately i was in the spirit and
35:03 behold a throne was standing in heaven and one sitting on the throne revelation 4 2
35:09 God is a spirit person he is invisible to humans visions of God recorded in the bible
35:15 consistently portray him as having a distinct location he is never depicted as existing
35:21 everywhere God's dwelling place list listen to the supplication of your
35:28 servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place here in heaven your dwelling place hear and
35:34 forgive first king 8 30. now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the
35:40 Lord and satan also came among them job 1 6 God resides in the spiritual realm
35:48
which is distinct from the physical creation within that realm God has a dwelling
35:53 place in the heavens the bible mentions occasions when spirit creatures enter to take their station
35:59 before jehovah showing that in a sense God resides in a specific location

36:07 does he actually biblically have unlimited authority or influence in other words
36:13 he could do anything yes he is all-powerful and almighty
36:19 but there are things that God cannot do he cannot tell a lie
36:24 he cannot break a promise he cannot change your past he can redeem
36:29 it but cannot change it it is said that there are a total of 31
36:35 things that God cannot do and i'm on a mission to identify every
36:40 single one of them why because i want to know my God
36:49 does he actually biblically have infinite awareness understanding insight possesses of universal or complete
36:56 knowledge let me ask this question if God is simultaneously all-powerful
37:03 all-knowing and all-loving and he is operating in these attributes always
37:08 then how is it that the extreme suffering of this world continues wouldn't his knowledge
37:15 allow him to see the problem and to come up with a solution and wouldn't his love
37:20 compel him to intervene and wouldn't his power enable him to succeed
37:26 doesn't this perspective minimize how God is actually working for all eternity
37:32 because how you see God is extremely important if you do not understand God's true
37:38 nature then the things that you experience and the contradictions that you see will
37:44 cause you to have a lesser view of God
37:50 when you read and study with Hebrew thinking you realize that God did not give us an
37:55 overview of salvation history but rather a very personal account of individual lives
38:01 the word of God is a documentation of actual people and it is about his real
38:06 work in a very real world and you see that it encompasses the lives of individuals who love worship and follow
38:13 him instead of this static God that is immutable without emotion
38:19 you discover a very deeply personal God

38:25 and when you grasp the intimacy in other words once you can grasp the fact that God is intimate and that he is personal
38:33 then you can also grasp that every person is significant every decision we make is meaningful every job we engage
38:40 in is important and every relationship is lasting this is not about theology theories or
38:46 beliefs it is about real lives
38:52 the bible worldview is eastern not western and there are two questions as believers
38:59 that we need to ask and know the answers to who knows the truth and what is the truth meaning what is the correct
39:05 interpretation there is a sharp contrast between the
39:11 Greek western and the Hebrew eastern method of study you see here in the western world we use
39:17 a scientific method of interpretation called hermeneutics and that probably sounds familiar
39:22 because it is very deeply ingrained in the American church we have been taught that all knowledge
39:28 is hidden from ordinary understanding and is brought to light through a systematic analysis
39:33 the average Christian does not feel as though they have a right degree or attended the right school to be able to
39:38 understand the bible through this method of interpretation and so in most cases
39:43 people depend upon someone else who's better educated to tell them what the bible means
39:51 but the Hebraic way is very different when you read the bible it is constantly
39:57 compelling us to search for the truth in other words we are consistently exhorted to search Scripture to study Scripture
40:04 to test Scripture with the guidance of the Holy Spirit to come to an understanding of what God is saying
40:10 because if you believe that the bible is the absolute authority of God's word
40:15 then you know that truth is in Scripture and in the Hebrew mentality the more you
40:21 search for the truth personally and individually the closer you get to God
40:29 we should ask questions we should be curious

40:35 because the first principle is to search and i love proverbs 3
1-5 and i just
40:42 want you to listen to how many times it says if you do this if
you do this if you do this then this is your reward
40:49 it says my son if you will receive my words and treasure my
commandments within you
40:56 make your ear attentive to wisdom incline your heart to
understanding for if you cry for discernment lift your
41:03 voice for understanding if you seek her as silver and search
for her as hidden treasure then
41:09 you will discern the fear of the Lord and discover the
knowledge of God
41:16 i love that proverbs the second principle
41:21 is to be like the master Matthew 10 24 through 25 8 says a
41:26 disciple is not above his teacher nor slave above his master it
is enough for the disciple that he become like his
41:34 teacher and the slave like his master but you see Greek
philosophy elevates
41:40 the master elevates the preacher elevates the teacher and
anyone else that might be standing on a pulpit
41:47 but if you read and you study Scripture you understand that
the disciple is not above the master and the slave is not
41:52 about the owner and the teacher is not above his disciple i
want to look deeper at what the Greek
41:59 meaning of he becomes is the word is genomic
42:06 is to emerge or to become it signifies a change of condition a
42:12 state or place is to come into being manifestation implying
emotion a
42:17 movement a growth we are to become
42:22 like our teacher to become like our master
42:27 in Hebrew thinking i should sound like the teachers that God
has given me and i
42:34 can tell you i do i should sound like
42:39 him the third principle is grounded in
42:44 understanding how to study Scripture to a Hebrew there are
four levels of study
42:50 and i'm i apologize i'm going to mispronounce these but
remains darash or midrash and sod
43:00 the plain simple meaning of the text understanding Scripture
in its natural

43:06 normal sense using the customary meanings of the words being used
43:12 there is figurative language look at psalm 36 7 there's symbolism like in romans 5 14
43:19 there's allegories like Galatians 4 19-31 and hidden meanings like in
43:24 revelation 13:18 or first Corinthians 2 7 in the Scripture
43:29 the first thing to look for is the literal meaning it is the keystone of Scripture
43:35 scriptural understanding if we disregard the facade we lose any chance of an
43:41 accurate understanding left with no holds barred game of a pure imagination
43:46 in which we no longer objectively derive meaning from the Scripture that's an Exodus x exo Jesus but subjective
43:55 reading mean meaning putting into the Scripture is i said Jesus
44:02 Hebrew thinking exegesis means that when you exit the bible you come away with a clear
44:08 understanding that says what it means and means what it says i said Jesus means that when you enter the bible you go in with a self-centered
44:15 approach and come away with an i think i believe mentality this is my definition of exegesis and
44:21 isa Jesus but is pretty much what he's saying romance this is the implied meaning of
44:28 the text it is understanding peculiarities in the text are regarded as hints at a deeper truth than conveyed
44:35 by his passat an example of implied rumez is can be found in Exodus 21:26
44:42 through 27 where we're told our liability regarding eyes and teeth but you understand
44:49 the understanding is that we know that this liability also applies to the other parts of the body
44:54 the drash or midrash meaning search there are three very important rules to
45:01 follow in utilizing this level of understanding Scripture number one the direct understanding cannot be used to
45:08 strip a passage of its literal meaning nor may any such understanding

45:13 contradict any literal meaning of any other scriptural passage
45:19 number two let the Scripture interpret Scripture look for the
Scripture themselves to define the components of
45:24 the allegory for example Matthew 12 18-23 to understand
Matthew 13
45:30 3-9 and the primary components of an allegory represent
specific realities
45:36 and we should limit ourselves to these primary components
when understanding the text
45:43 and the last one is the sod or the meaning hidden
45:49 this is the final level of understanding the Scriptures is called
sod this understanding is the hidden secret
45:55 or mystic meaning of the text if you see 1 Corinthians 2:7
you'll understand
46:00 that more but this process often involves returning the letter
of a word to their
46:06 prime material state and giving them new form in order to
reveal a hidden meaning an example may be found in revelation
13:
46:12 18 where the identity of the beast is expressed by its
numerical value i'll be honest i'm still trying to understand
46:18 this level but i need to make it through the other three
before i even get here
46:26 Matthew 13:11-17 and Jesus answered them
46:33 mato you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the
kingdom of heaven but to them it has not been granted for
46:39 whoever has to him more shall be given and he will have an
abundance but whoever does not have even what he has
46:45 shall be taken away from him therefore i speak to them in
parables because while seeing they do not see and
46:50 while hearing they do not hear nor do they understand and
in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled
46:56 which says you shall keep on listening but shall not
understand and you shall keep on looking but you shall not
47:01 perceive for the heart of this people has become dull with
their ears they scarcely hear and they have closed their
47:07 eyes otherwise they might see what their ears hear with their
ears understand with their heart and return and i would
47:13 heal them but blessed are your eyes because they see in
your ears because they hear for truly i say to you that

47:20 many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see and did not see it and to hear what you hear and did
47:26 not hear it the word mysteries is mysterion is what can only be known through revelation
47:33 because God reveals it but in Greek thinking you must be
47:39 educated and have a degree to know how that understanding can only come through a systematic analysis which has led to
47:45 people depending on quote unquote experts to tell them what it means but as you can see that is not the
47:52 Hebraic way it is not what God spoke and it is not what God intended
47:59 the last principle to understand is that in the ancient world they didn't have a bible like wait like we do right
48:06 at our fingertips they had to listen and the more they listened the more clues would emerge and in those clues
48:13 they would take them to a deeper meaning or understanding and i have actually come to a much
48:19 deeper understanding of this when i felt led by the Holy Spirit to begin listening to my audit bible while i
48:26 sleep and it's fascinating because what you learn
48:32 and how God taught me the importance of this actually was when i was a high schooler
48:38 and back then it was nothing to go to sleep with a radio playing on a music station
48:43 and i just remember i'd be walking through the hallways of school and new song would come on at least i
48:49 didn't think i'd ever knew but all of a sudden i'm seeing it and i know the words to it
48:55 and that's how God taught me that i could put the word of God in me
49:01 my spirit could actually hear and store and discern now is that the only thing i
49:06 should do absolutely not but you know that when i actually read the bible now i read it with my eyes and i listen to
49:14 it on the audio bible there is something very powerful about
49:19 hearing the word of God and i can tell you that it is even
49:25 deeper there's the con concrete versus abstract thinking passive versus active

49:32 descriptions impersonal versus personal relationships linear thinking versus block logic
49:37 i am not going to dive into this but i would highly encourage you to it was
49:43 fascinating just the tip of the iceberg that i saw
49:48 so what is the difference well to the Hebrew it's the moral man to
49:53 the Greek is the intellectual man to the Hebrew it's about practice and to the Greek it's about knowledge
49:59 to the Hebrew it's about your conduct and to the Greek it's about right thinking to the Hebrew it's duty and strictness
50:06 of conscience into the Greek is spontaneous and luminous play of intelligence to the Hebrew it's about moral values into the Greek it's an
50:12 intellectual value i just want to give you one final
50:17 snapshot to see if you can understand that there's this western mentality that has come from
50:24 Greek thinking so the English word listen means
50:29 pay attention and the English word here means to recognize the words
50:35 but the English words mean only to do what you are told and this part of my lesson came from a
50:42 study of Hebrew versus Greek through a website called torah life ministry
50:49 but the Hebrew word shema does not just mean listen hear or obey
50:56 it is a lifestyle involving having an ear to hear
51:01 it means to listen and pay full attention that if your life depends on it and once you've paid attention and
51:06 heard what is said begin immediately to incorporate what has been set into your life and adapt every aspect of your
51:12 thought life speech and conduct to what you have heard and then begin to memorize and teach it to your children
51:19 and demonstrate it to the world until you and the world and everyone around you is transformed into the image of the
51:24 words you have heard it means doing whatever he says and not
51:31 doing whatever he instructs against and doing this not to win his favor but out of a mixture of awe and passionate love
51:37 of him and in full faith and trust that what he says is

51:43 good so why why Augustine
51:49 well i can tell you that his influence has contrasted with the truth of who God is and what his word says
51:55 and we're going to move into this final part of this lesson before i close but there are specifically these key
52:01 areas that i want to look at because they are important components of our faith and of right thinking which of
52:08 course is tied to right belief that is that are incredibly integral to our walk
52:16 bodily functions so if in Greek thinking we are good
52:21 souls trapped in evil bodies then the church is going to have problems talking
52:26 about bodily functions and it's even more challenging times seeing Jesus as a man that needed to
52:33 sleep or eat or empty his bowels which has led to a challenge
52:40 is that while non-believers have difficulty believing in the full deity of Christ there are many Christians that
52:45 have problems with the full humanity of Christ but he is absolutely 100 both
52:52 and this is something i have covered very heavily in the last lesson on the trinity
52:59 God is creator and redeemer God created this physical world he made
53:05 our bodies and guess what he invented sex but did you know that Augustine's view on sex that corrupted thinking
53:12 see he believed that sex even in marriage was lust and it was from this idea that somehow celibacy in priesthood
53:20 was actually holier than marriage that's the total opposite of Hebrew
53:26 thinking a rabbi must be married and rabbis must experience love why
53:31 so that they understood it our body not our soul i need you to
53:37 listen to this 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 or do you not know that your body
53:44 is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you whom you have from God and that you are not your own for you have
53:51 been bought with a price therefore glorify God in your body
53:58 Scripture clearly says that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit it's God's residence

54:06 our body not our soul is his residence so it's either evil or is God's residence
54:12 why does this matter because by default it affects some very important commands
54:19 from Jesus what are sacraments
54:25 well it's a fancy Christian term that is just means it's something that's been ordained or commanded by Christ they are
54:30 physical acts with spiritual ramifications if you do not believe
54:36 that doing something with your physical body can have a spiritual effect then
54:41 very important things just become symbolic ordinary and ineffective
54:48 the Lord's supper symbolic or significant let me read f1
Corinthians 11:23-32 not many
54:55 pastors will teach on this passage let me read it to you for i received from the Lord that which
55:00 i also delivered to you that the Lord Jesus in the night in which he was betrayed took bread
55:06 and when he had given thanks he broke it and said this is my body which is for you do this in remembrance of me
55:13 in the same way he took the cup also after supper saying this cup is the new covenant in my blood do this as often as
55:20 you drink it in remembrance of me for as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup you proclaim the Lord's death
55:26 until he comes therefore whoever eats the bread or
55:31 drinks a cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner shall be guilty of the body and the
55:38 blood of the Lord but a man must examine himself and in so
55:43 doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup for he who eats and drinks
55:49 eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly
55:55 for this reason many among you are weak and sick and in
56:01 number sleep but if we judge ourselves rightly we would not be judged
56:07 but when we are judged we are disciplined by the Lord so that we will not be condemned along with the world
56:14 do you understand what paul is saying here a physical wine and a physical bread can have

56:20 astronomical effects on you spiritually it judges you it can make you weak
56:26 sick or even die we cannot afford to be undiscerning in
56:31 this and we cannot afford wrong thinking and i promise you this the next time you
56:37 do communion you better stop and think about this Scripture and study it
56:44 and so is water baptism symbolic or significant is it just h2o
56:49 now i know that i covered this in less than three but i think that it begs to be revisited again because this is a
56:56 physical act that was designed created and commanded by Jesus and it has a
57:01 profound effect on a believer's life when you read and study the book of acts
57:07 there is not one single documentation of water baptism where anyone waited
57:14 to get it done upon their repentance and belief i want to share a story that was
57:20
firsthand by one of my teachers
57:26 there was a young man that my teacher and his wife knew of he was a hell's angel
57:32 and he had the devil tattooed on his body as a hell's angel and when he became a Christian he knew
57:37 that he should be baptized but he noticed that when people were that their shirts went wet and became
57:43 transparent he didn't want anybody to see the devil on his body and so he went to a surgeon and he said
57:50 can you remove that and the surgeon told him yes i can but it'll take a lot of money and a lot of time
57:55 and he said i don't have money and i don't have the time
58:00 and so a friend of my teacher baptized him in a swimming pool in the backyard
58:06 and he went down into the water to bury his past and wash away his sins and when he came up out of the water
58:12 the devil had gone washed off his back or wherever it was
58:19 if you were to tell him that baptism is just symbolic he would laugh you in the face
58:27 we are one being body soul and spirit we are not separate

58:33 at death we lose the body and as i said before to a Greek thinker that's a good thing but they believe in the
58:38 immortality of the soul but if you are a true believer then you must believe in the
58:44 resurrection of the body and we are getting a new body but i want to continue in another area
58:51 that ties in regarding Israel
58:56 you see God gave Abraham a covenant and promised him two physical things
59:02 a physical people and a physical land God has never withdrawn those promises
59:10 the New Testament says for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable romans 11 29
59:17 the land is still a physical land and it belongs to the Jewish people they are still a physical people
59:24 beloved by God yet it is true that they are not saved until they believe in Jesus
59:30 when you read the Old Testament God's blessings were physical health fertility of the land but there were curses that
59:35 when they were disobedient physical sickness fled drought
59:41 yet we have made a new covenant not God it has shifted within the church to be a
59:48 spiritual covenant with Israel this is known as replacement theology and we have called the church Israel
59:55 but i can promise you the New Testament never does it doesn't even call it the new Israel
1:00:02 and to have this belief is to say that God is done with his physical people and that he's only interested in his
1:00:08 spiritual people which then leads to very few people talking about the land of Israel or the current middle east
1:00:14 situation somehow designating it as ir relevant it is not
1:00:20 the best way i heard it explained was that ownership of the land is unconditional but occupation of the land
1:00:26 however is conditional did you know that the word Israel is used in the New Testament
1:00:33 over 78 times in the new American standard bible and not once is it used at the Christian church
1:00:40 meaning that Greek thinking has taken the spiritual Israel and made it above God's
1:00:47

physical Israel and then we have two other major issues to look at
1:00:53 regarding earth and its future i find that there is confusion
regarding hope
1:00:59 for the future either we are pessimistic just trying to
survive or we live in hope
1:01:05 and not the meaning of the English word hope you know i
hope it's going to be good but the Greek word elvis
1:01:13 which is a hope that is absolutely certain about what is
going to happen
1:01:18 so what then does the word of God say is to be coming or
happening to this world
1:01:24 well i am absolutely certain that Jesus is coming back
bodily and physically here to this earth
1:01:32 but did you know that you and i are also returning to this
earth after we die that we will live here a second
1:01:39 time on this old earth that's the hope of our future we are
getting brand new bodies
1:01:47 i don't need a body in heaven but i need one here on the
earth
1:01:52 the resurrection takes place here why is Christ coming back
what is Christ
1:01:59 going to do why in the world would he bring back all the
dead Christians
1:02:06 he's not coming back to earth to judge because the bible is
very clear that at judgment heaven and earth are gone
1:02:13 so then how long is he back for for 400 years the church
was very clear
1:02:19 about the hope of the future of this world papayas the
ancient bishop of herophilus
1:02:25 said this we believe in the corporal reign of Christ on earth
meaning the bodily reign of Christ on earth for a
1:02:32 thousand years the word millennium used to be what the
church preached
1:02:38 and my bible is very clear Christ is coming back to take
over the world's government and that we are going to
1:02:46 share it with him right here on this old earth there is a day
that the devil is kicked
1:02:53 out and until that happens we can't have the kingdom
established here our job right now

1:03:00 is to rescue his victims and get them out of his kingdom and into Christ

1:03:06 and when you begin to read the word with Hebrew thinking you will begin to see Scripture in a whole new light

1:03:15 let me read Isaiah 2 3-4 to you and many people will come and say come

1:03:21 let us go up to the mountain of the Lord to the house of the God of jacob that he may teach us concerning his ways and

1:03:28 that we may walk in his paths for the law will go forth from zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem and he will

1:03:34 judge between the nations and will render decisions for many peoples and they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears

1:03:41 into pruning hooks nation will not lift up sword against nation and never again will they learn war

1:03:48 the teaching of the millennium has almost been lost in the man responsible

1:03:53 Augustine it is said that in his early ministry that he did originally teach about

1:03:59 Christ's return but they began to teach on post-millennialism

1:04:04 before that there was no all-millennial or pre-millennial or post-millennial

1:04:10 he actually taught that we are in the millennium already

1:04:15 but biblically that would mean that the devil has been bound sealed and locked up where he couldn't deceive anyone anymore and if

1:04:21 that were true please please explain to me the world that we're living in right now

1:04:27 so why did Augustine change because he was indoctrinated with Greek thinking

1:04:33 and suddenly the idea that Jesus would ever come back physically to a physical

1:04:39 world and rule it physically just wasn't spiritual enough and in the year 431 Augustine persuaded

1:04:46 the council in ephesus to condemn the belief of the millennium as heresy

1:04:52 and that is why revelation 20 is either ignored twisted or treated

1:04:57 allegorically if you understand

1:05:04 the millennium biblically you will realize that everything about your life right now
1:05:10 all of it is training for that time and what you do can take on a whole new
1:05:15 meaning the bible says that we will rule with a rod of iron and that's not a rod of
1:05:21 cruelty it just means that all of us are going to live under the benevolent dictatorship of a Christian government
1:05:26 of the Lord Jesus Christ our savior and in that time our entertainment
1:05:32 our money our government the courts everything is going to be under Christian authority
1:05:38 and what happens next did you know that heaven is simply a
1:05:44 temporary relocation until Christ's return and yet many people believe that that is
1:05:51 where we go to live with God forever but if you begin to study the word of
1:05:56 God you discover and you learn that it is God who is going to be moving locations
1:06:03 and coming to the new earth to live here for the Greek that viewpoint is
1:06:09 unfathomable yet it is true we will see God's face
1:06:15 read revelation 20 21 21-22
1:06:21 and then there's pre-determination or predestination
1:06:26 Augustine was the one who came up with the doctrine of predestination which he meant was pre-determination
1:06:32 he falsely taught a Greek view of predestination not a biblical view
1:06:38 and that's where the false teaching of once saved always saved stems from in essence God made a decree and there's
1:06:45 nothing that you can do about that that is not biblical it's not the relationship that God has
1:06:51 or wants he is not a puppet master up there pulling our strings
1:06:57 the God of the bible gives you a choice every single day to follow him or not follow him we get to choose
1:07:04 he not only listens to our prayers but our prayers can influence his decisions
1:07:10 read the bible for yourself there is so much

1:07:16 more [Music] i mean i studied for six months guys
1:07:22 and i'm just trusting that what i have taught today is exactly what God wants
1:07:27 me to teach and exactly what you need to hear
1:07:33 so what now be aware and be alert
1:07:40 ask the Holy Spirit to continually help you to discern if what you are hearing
1:07:46 is Greek thinking or Jewish Hebrew thinking and remember we live in a Greek culture
1:07:52 understand its influence in your thought process and then saturate yourself
1:07:59 get into the word of God guys pay more attention to his word than you do anything else
1:08:05 because the more the word gets into you body soul and spirit heart mind and will
1:08:10 the more biblically sound your thinking will be study the Old Testament in conjunction
1:08:16 with the New Testament and you will see that though it is to testament it is one unified message
1:08:23 because the more you can think from a Jewish Hebrew perspective the quicker you're going to be able to identify
1:08:29 Greek thinking i want to end with a visual picture and story that i
1:08:35 hope will help you it came from one of my teachers and i have not forgotten it
1:08:44 paul says don't be a chameleon be a caterpillar romans 12
2
1:08:50 1 if you don't believe me go home and look that up in your bible it might be a slightly different version but he says do not let the world around
1:08:57 you color your thinking because that's what happens to the chameleon
1:09:04 put him on red he turns red put him on blue he turns blue if you want to kill him put him on the sun he'll explode
1:09:12 so many people take their thinking from other people even from preachers they listen to instead of getting into the
1:09:17 word for themselves be a caterpillar paul actually says have your mind
1:09:24 metamorphized the Greek word is metamorphous see the caterpillar goes through this

1:09:30 process of metamorphosis it's an ugly little thing as a caterpillar but a caterpillar is
1:09:37 developing the most beautiful colors inside
1:09:43 not taking his colors from anywhere else producing them from the inside and one
1:09:48 day those wings are going to burst out and the color is going to be seen
1:09:54 so don't be a chameleon don't take your thinking from the people around you be a caterpillar
1:10:01 let the color of your thinking come from the inside and let the spirit and the Scripture
1:10:08 color you i want to end in prayer
1:10:14 Lord Jesus you constantly blow me away with the things that you teach me
1:10:21 and therefore you've asked me to freely give it out get back
1:10:26 i am praying Lord for the person on the other side of this screen continually praying Lord that they will lean in and
1:10:33 that they will see you and that they will seek truth and that they're willing to say i may
1:10:39 not believe the truth but Lord i want to know your truth no matter how hard that truth is
1:10:45 guide their journey Lord you know exactly what each of them needs to hear how they need to hear when
1:10:51 they need to hear and what they need to do because the way you teach me is going to be different than how you teach somebody
1:10:57 else but the truth is the truth Lord i am praying for the entirety
1:11:04 of these 16 lessons i don't understand how you're going to
1:11:12 use them i only know that you are i don't understand where you're going to take them
1:11:17 i don't know what borders are going to be reached or crossed but you do
1:11:23 my job Lord was obedience to the process to doing what you've called me to do and
1:11:28 using these skills gifts talents abilities and everything else to do this
1:11:35 so that it is a tool i thank you Lord i praise you in Jesus

1:11:40 name amen i just want to exhort and encourage you with one final thing

1:11:47 once you have completed this this same exact tool does not need to be

1:11:53 reduplicated it's free it's a resource

1:11:59 and you now have within your hands the ability to begin disabling someone

1:12:06 else it is biblical it is biblical guys that we should be

1:12:12 being mentored and mentoring discipling i hate the word mentoring sorry disciple

1:12:20 disciple i should never ever be done being disciplined and nor should i ever

1:12:26 stop discipling it just so happens that the gifts that God has given me are something that can

1:12:32 be used globally it doesn't have to be one-on-one and that's the beauty of technology and everything else that's

1:12:38 available right now go and make disciples

1:12:47 be a disciple and thank you