Observation – What does it say?

Interpretation – What does it mean?

Application – What does it mean for me?

Hebrews 10:18-31

New American Standard Bible 1995

¹⁸ Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is
 no longer *any* offering for sin.

¹⁹ Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter
the holy place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living
way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is,
His flesh, ²¹ and since *we have* a great priest over the house
of God, ²² let us draw near with a sincere heart in full
assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled *clean* from
an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

 10^{23} Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without

11 wavering, for He who promised is faithful; ²⁴ and let us

12 consider how to stimulate one another to love and good

13 deeds, ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is

14 the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the

15 more as you see the day drawing near.

16 ²⁶ For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the

17 knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice

18 for sins, ²⁷ but a terrifying expectation of judgment and the

19 fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries.

20 ²⁸ Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies

21 [Deuteronomy 17:2-6] without mercy on the testimony of

22 two or three witnesses. ²⁹ How much severer punishment

23 do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot

24 the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of

25 the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted

26 the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know Him who said,

27 "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay." And again, "The Lord

will judge His people." ³¹ It is a terrifying thing to fall into
the hands of the living God.

 $30 \quad {}^{32}$ But remember the former days, when, after being

31 enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings,

Read the passage through completely before looking at these questions.

Review the section from last week (v. 18-25) for the context. Then focus on v. 26-31.

Observation (What does it say?):

Consider the observation questions on the back of this page. What do you notice in this passage?

- *Repeated words or ideas?*
- Comparisons or contrasts?
- Unusual or symbolic language?
- *Conditional (if -then) statements?*
- What else do you observe in this passage?

Interpretation (What does it <u>mean</u>?):

After observing the passage:

How would you define the following? What other meanings might each word have?

- What questions come to mind as you read?

Application (What does it mean <u>for me</u>?):

 How might this passage affect someone's "confidence" (v. 19) or faith "without wavering" (v. 23)? How would you respond?

Hebrews 10_18-31.docx

² "If there is found in your midst, in any of your towns, which the Lord your God is giving you, a man or a woman who does what is evil in the sight of the Lord your God, by transgressing His covenant, ³ and has gone and served other gods and worshiped them, or the sun or the moon or any of the heavenly host, which I have not commanded, ⁴ and if it is told you and you have heard of it, then you shall inquire thoroughly. Behold, if it is true and the thing certain that this detestable thing has been done in Israel, ⁵ then you shall bring out that man or that woman who has done this evil deed to your gates, that is, the man or the woman, and you shall stone them to death. ⁶ On the evidence of two witnesses or three witnesses, he who is to die shall be put to death; he shall not be put to death on the evidence of one witness. Deuteronomy 17:2-6

For more suggested methods of study: <u>http://www.goodnotsafe.com/methodical-bible-study/</u> For examples of inductive studies: <u>http://www.goodnotsafe.com/inductive-bible-study-examples-2/</u>

Observation (What does it <u>say</u>?)

What <u>facts</u> do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer's thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose ("in order that...")?
- Are there conclusions ("Therefore...")?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good "headline" for the passage?

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Interpretation (What does it mean?)

What <u>questions</u> come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application (What does it mean <u>for me</u>?)

What is the <u>impact</u> on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them. J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)

For a much more detailed description of the methodology, see

Robert A. Traina, Methodical Bible Study. Wilmore, Kentucky: Asbury Theological Seminary, 1952.

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