Observation – What does it say?

Interpretation – What does it mean? **Application** – What does it mean for me?

Hebrews 10:18 - 39

New American Standard Bible 1995

1 ¹⁸Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer 2 any offering for sin.

3 ¹⁹ Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy 4 place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He 5 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 6 7 sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled 8 clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 9 ²³Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; ²⁴ and let us consider how to stimulate 10 one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not forsaking our own 11

12 assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one

13 another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

14 ²⁶ For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of

- 15 the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a
- terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire which will 16
- consume the adversaries. ²⁸ Anyone who has set aside the Law of 17
- Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 18
- 19 ²⁹ How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who
- 20 has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean
- 21 the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has
- 22 insulted the Spirit of grace? ³⁰ For we know Him who said,

23 "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 24

25 living God.

³² But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you 26 endured a great conflict of sufferings, ³³ partly by being made a public 27 28 spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming 29 sharers with those who were so treated. ³⁴ For you showed sympathy

- 30 to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property,
- knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a 31

lasting one. ³⁵ Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which 32

- 33 has a great reward. ³⁶ For you have need of endurance, so that when
- 34 you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.
- ³⁷ FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE, 35 HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY. 36 37 ³⁸ BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH:
- 38 AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM.
- 39 ³⁹ But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but
- 40 of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.

Read the entire passage before looking at these questions.

After more detailed studies of three short sections, what do you learn looking at the passage as a whole?

Observation (What does it say?):

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

What (if any) words, phrases, or ideas that tie the sections together?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

After observing the passage, what questions do *vou have:*

How would you title each section?

v. 18-25	
v. 26-31	
v. 32-39	

Application (What does it mean for me?): What part of this passage would be the most challenging for you to apply?

How might this combined passage be helpful to you in times of difficulty or doubt? How might you use it to help another person who is struggling?

Hebrews 10_18-39.docx

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 <u>mean</u>?)

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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