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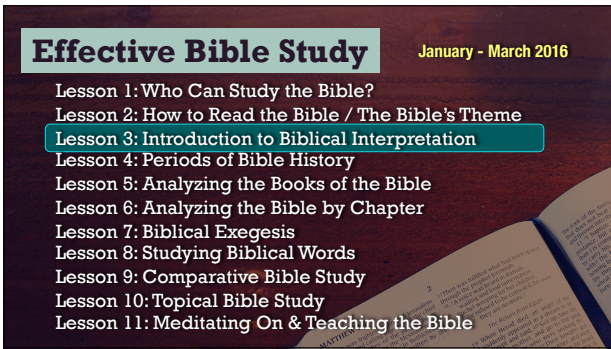
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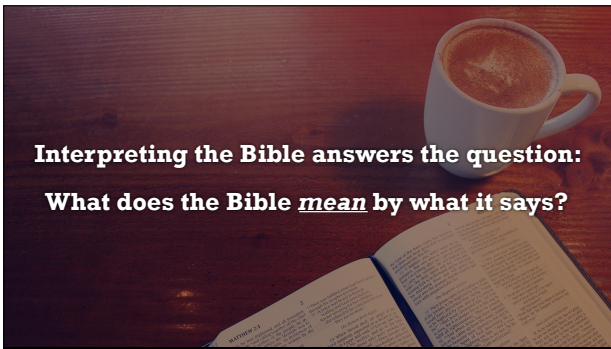
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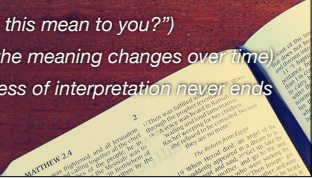
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**Six Pitfalls of Interpretation**

1. Misreading the text – *What does the text actually say?*
2. Distorting the text – *(Making the text say what you want)*
3. Contradicting the text – *(Misusing Scripture to authorize sin)*
4. Subjectivism – *(“What does this mean to you?”)*
5. Relativism – *(The idea that the meaning changes over time)*
6. Overconfidence – *The process of interpretation never ends*




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**Interpreting the Bible means closing some gaps:**

1. **Language Gap**  
*Illustration: 1 Corinthians 4:1, “minister”*
2. **Cultural Gap**  
*Illustration: Mark & Roman culture*
3. **Geography Gaps**  
*Illustration: “Went up to Jerusalem” • Laodicea*

**Effective Bible Study**  
2 Timothy 2:15 | Read It, Explain It, Apply It

**Sources of Interpretation**




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**Paul's Third Journey**  
*Acts 18:23-21:16*



ASIA MINOR  
GREECE  
MEDITERRANEAN SEA  
GREAT SEA  
LIBYA

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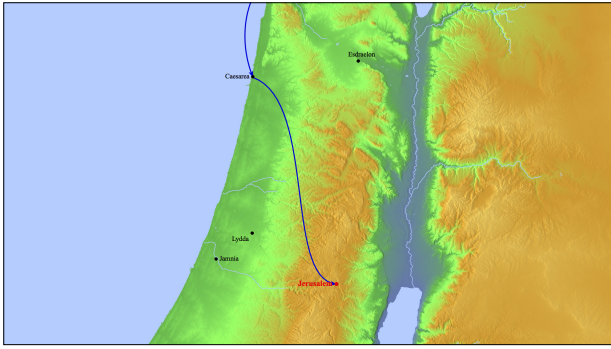
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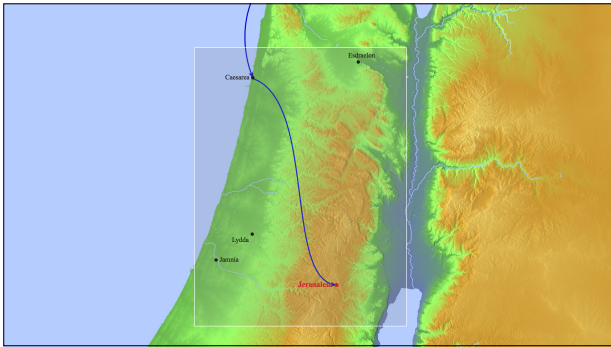
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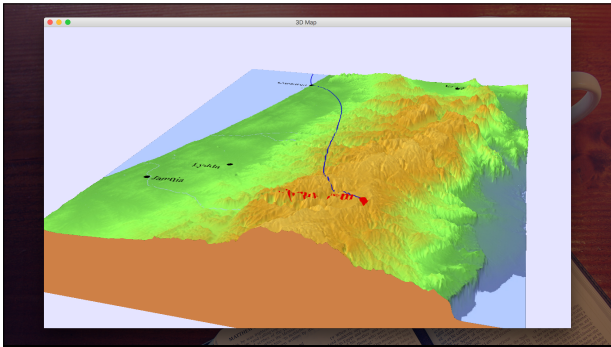
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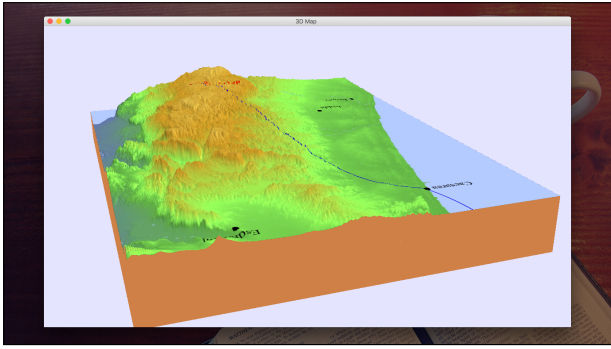
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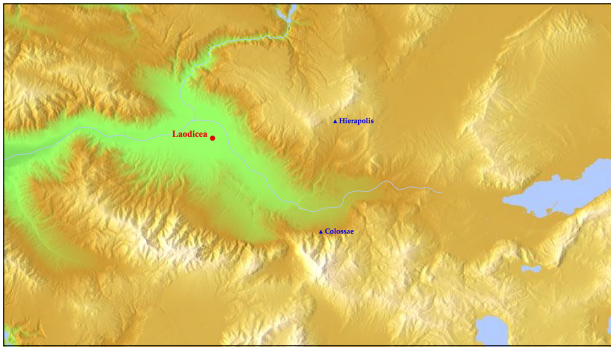
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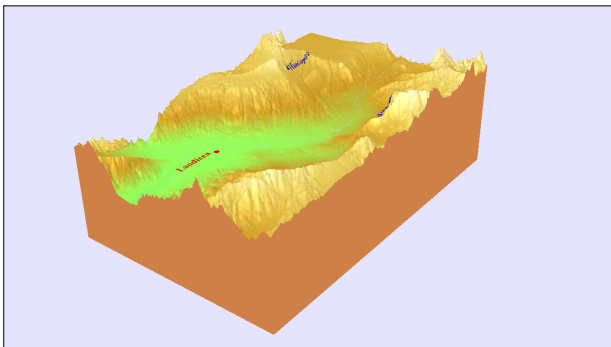
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Hierapolis from Laodicea

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Mt. Cadmus

Colossae from Laodicea

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15



Locus River in Colossae

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**Interpreting the Bible means closing some gaps:**

- 1. Language Gap**  
*Illustration: 1 Corinthians 4:1, "minister"*
- 2. Cultural Gap**  
*Illustration: Mark & Roman culture*
- 3. Geography Gaps**  
*Illustration: "Went up to Jerusalem" • Laodicea*
- 4. History Gap**  
*Illustration: Pilate during Jesus' trial*

**Effective Bible Study**  
2 Timothy 2:15 | Read It, Explain It, Apply It

**Sources of Interpretation**

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**Principles of Interpretation**

- 1. The Literal Principle**  
*Understand Scripture in its literal, normal, natural sense.*
- 2. The Historical Principle**  
*What did it mean to the people to whom it was spoken or written?*
- 3. The Grammatical Principle**  
*Look at the sentence and parts of speech*
- 4. The Synthesis Principle**  
*One part of the Bible does not teach something that another part contradicts.*

**Effective Bible Study**  
2 Timothy 2:15 | Read It, Explain It, Apply It

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**Continue working to memorize the themes for each book of the Bible.**

**Effective Bible Study**  
2 Timothy 2:15 | Read It, Explain It, Apply It

**Assignment**

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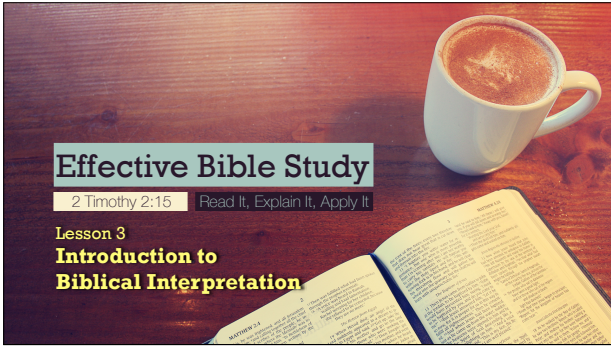
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