

Let's Discuss...The Bible

PART 5_Help Me Understand!



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Key Bible verses:

*Break the teeth in their
mouths, O God;
Lord, tear out the fangs of
those lions!
Let them vanish like water that
flows away;
when they draw the bow, let
their arrows fall short.
May they be like a slug that
melts away as it moves along,
like a stillborn child that never
sees the sun.*
Psalm 58:6-8 NIV

Noah's story...
Genesis 5:28-10:32

Abraham's (originally Abram)
story...
Genesis 11:26-25:19

David's story...
1 Samuel 16 - 1 Kings 3:15 & 1
Chronicles 10:14 - 2 Chronicles
1:13 (David also wrote many of
the Psalms)

*But despite all the miraculous
signs Jesus had done, most of
the people still did not believe
in Him.*
John 12:37 NLT

EPISODE SUMMARY

In this episode we talk about how the authors of the Bible did not shy away from writing about very real and raw stories of people of faith throughout their time...the Bible is anything but boring! These authors paint a picture of what it looks like to navigate life, faith and relationships in the real world. This is so helpful to us - we face a very real world too.

We also talk about the importance of doing an 'exegesis'. This allows us to find the intended meaning of Bible passages and can be especially helpful when reading parts of the Bible that seem difficult to understand.

DEFINITIONS

exegesis: critical explanation or interpretation of a text, especially of Scripture; an in-depth study of a Bible passage that seeks to understand the historical context of the passage, how it fits into the wider biblical narrative, and how it would have been understood by its original audience

imprecatory psalms: psalms in which the writer is expressing a wish for judgement or harm to befall their enemy or someone they

perceive to be an enemy of God (The psalms are poems written by people expressing their deepest and most genuine thoughts and feelings. These are not included in Scripture to model how we should feel toward others but to reflect the range of emotions that we all experience, even the biblical authors, and to model how honestly we can come before God.)

metanarratives: the big picture themes that are woven throughout the narrative of the Bible

LET'S DISCUSS...

Let's do an exegesis!

Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.
Proverbs 29:18 KJV

Here are some tools you could use to gain a deeper understanding of this verse:

- Watch **Proverbs** by the Bible Project.
 - » *Hint: You can find these overviews for any book of the bible on bibleproject.com, YouTube, or by searching the book title under "Q Discover" on the Bible app.*
- Consider getting a **study Bible** for more context and information- The ESV, Amplified, NIV and NRSV translation all have study bibles with additional comments & insights.
- Use **biblegateway.com** to read the verse side by side in many different translations (versions).
- Use **blueletterbible.com** to find each word of the verse in its original language, read lexicon (dictionary) entries for in depth definitions, and see where else in the Bible these words were used.
- Always be sure to read the verses that come before and after any Bible passage you are studying to make sure you understand the context (or backdrop) of the passage it sits within. This might give you clues on what the author is saying.
 - » EX: Philippians 4:13 ESV says "I can do all things through him who strengthens

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Key Bible verses:

But you may not look directly at my face, for no one may see me and live.

Exodus 33:20 NLT

But Moses protested, "If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' they will ask me, 'What is His name?' Then what should I tell them?"

God replied to Moses, "I Am Who I Am. Say this to the people of Israel: I Am has sent me to you."

Exodus 3:13-14 NLT

Do not boil a young goat in its mother's milk.

Exodus 23:19, Exodus 34:26, Deuteronomy 14:21

Where there is no vision, the people perish...

Prov 29:18a KJV

me." Does this mean literally anything? If we read the verses surrounding verse 13, we see that Paul is talking to the Philippians about the difficult situations he has faced. So when he says "all things", he is referring to learning how to thrive in any situation, hunger, abundance, or need.

Diving in...

1. What literary style is this text?

Literary style: the way that the author chooses to present their text, using different techniques. For example, is it a letter? Narrative (a story)? Poetry? Etc...

2. What context was this written in (historically and culturally)?

Hint: Who was the King ruling at the time?

3. Who was the author?

4. Who was it written for?

5. What was the author aiming to get across to the audience?

6. How does this fit within the ideas and themes that we see elsewhere in the Bible (the metanarrative of Scripture)?

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LET'S PRAY...

- We thank God for all the different tools we can use to understand the Bible. With thankful hearts, we understand that we are privileged in getting to read and study the Bible without persecution in this country. We pray for a real hunger for truth that motivates us to keep digging deeper into Scripture.

LET'S GO DEEPER...

- blueletterbible.com
- biblegateway.com
- biblehub.com
- bibleref.com
- *Journey Into the Word* by J. Scott Duvall and J. Daniel Hays [book]

Proverbs 29:18_Exegetical Insights

1. What literary style is this text?

Poetry (Proverbs is also considered part of a collection of wisdom literature)

2. What context was this written in (historically and culturally)?

It was likely written during the rule of King Solomon. Solomon had a reputation for being wise. 1 Kings 4:34 tells us that people came from all over the world to hear his wisdom.

Proverbs 1:1 also sets the scene: "The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel". David was a shepherd boy who was plucked out of seemingly nowhere by God to be chosen as king over Israel. He made huge mistakes during his life, but continually turned back to God. He shares his journey very openly throughout the Psalms, crying out to God in grief, repentance, praise, confusion, faith, and more. 1 Samuel 13:14 and Acts 13:22 call David a man after God's own heart. So, this wise king is the son of that guy. All this would probably have been in the minds of those reading this text at the time...

3. Who was the author?

Most of Proverbs, including chapter 29, is credited to King Solomon.

4. Who was it written for?

As king of Israel, Solomon probably wrote Proverbs for all the Jewish people, the Israelites. More specifically, some proverbs are written as wisdom being passed down from a parent to a child, or to anyone wanting to become wiser.

5. What was the author's original intended meaning of this text?

Solomon was warning his audience that things can go wrong in our lives when we don't understand and apply God's divine revelation to our lives. On the other hand, he encourages them that by following the blueprint that God lays out for us, which we find in the Bible, we can live a life of blessing and joy.

6. How does this align with other biblical texts (the metanarrative of Scripture)?

We see the same principles that Solomon lays out in this verse repeated throughout the Bible. We can see them being lived out by many biblical characters, the Israelites, and later all believers.

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