Hermeneutics

# History of Hermeneutics

1. **Renaissance 1300-1600**
   1. Hermeneutics became popular with study of old text and discovery of new documents
2. **Reformation period**
3. Friedrich Schleiermacher
   1. A theologian from Germany proposed 3 theories
      1. Grammatical reconstruction
         1. Grammar of original language
      2. Historical reconstruction
         1. Cultural context
      3. Reparative reconstruction
4. Wihelm Dilthey Schleiermacher’s student
   1. Schleiermacher’s theory caused theologians to enter a hermeneutics never-ending circle
5. Martin Heidegger (1889-1976)
   1. We are products of our own situation, not allowing us to properly interpret text without bias
   2. The interpreter cannot escape bias, we should still research using biases
6. Hans-Georg – Gadamer(1900 – 2002)
   1. Re-proposed concept of Horizons, we see things through our own horizon
   2. It is not a bubble, rather a ever expanding horizon
   3. A text is in-animate, the person behind the text is not.
   4. Kind of like Narnia wardrobe, ever expanding “wardrobe”/Horizon
7. Jurgen Habermas (1929 – present)
   1. Same thing with Gadamer, the fusions of horizon was not apparent
8. Paul Ricoeur (1923 – 2005)
   1. A text contains endless possibilities.

**Communication = author + text + reader**Scripture is inspired and directed by God, both divine and Human, cannot separate them!  
Post-modernism separates the author and divine intervention

**Who possess the meaning of communication**We are all theologians and interpreters, just matters if we are good theologians or not!

**What kind of interpreter are you?**Good/faithful or bad? Do we interpret what we want to hear or do we allow the text or person speak for themselves?  
What are the limitations?

Seek context of author experience, audience culture, and original text meaning

Acts 14:12 – Paul is referred to as Hermes | Greek god  
Hermeneutics is the art and science of interpretation  
Biblical Hermeneutics is the study of principles and interpretation f the Bible, both **verbal** and **nonverbal**Hermeneutics in its original meaning means interpret  
There is the activity of interpretation and philosophy of it

**Hermeneutics def**

* Every act of seeing is putting the world together in a certain way
* Knowledge is interest driven
* Fusion of view points, or horizons (author and reader)

Traditions Is good and needed for understanding  
importance of the power of language.

Hermeneutic Circle | all understanding is context driven – breaking it down then putting it back together repeated

It is not relativism but realism that helps us understand things  
Helps us understand language, tradition and history

Sermon with Hermeneutics

When approaching a sermon, it is critical to understand context and hermeneutics of passage.

How does hermeneutics work

Deals first with why a person thinks the way they do.  
Then what one believes is secondary to this project.

There is an ethical aspect to our interpretations that we would not bear false witness to the text, hence study it as much as you can

The words on the page where written by humans for humans, it was written for you not too you. Context is key in interpreting the original meaning of the text and the present meaning of the text.

Sola Scriptura or solo Scriptura

Exegesis and other Christian cuss-words

Exegesis is the study of scripture and its attempted meaning, particular tools need to be used to study using exegesis, proceed with cation

Hermeneutics Josh Longenecker