xeet

obsessing over small details ruins the bigger picture

People do same with bible

Thesis: while many argue over exact details, focus on Jesus -> spiritually fulfilling + logically sound

Challenges, Christocentric hermeneutic, examples

First order issue: biblicism assumptions 🡪 (Christian smith)

false dichotomy (all inerrant or all human)

Mental gymnastics + doubt OR distrust + unworthy (david mack)

Inconsistencies – creation story + Leviticus

Different order of creation

Funne rules

Illogical from literalist view

Rebuttal: chance of misinterpretation

Block: pharisees do that – Matthew 12

Second order dissolution: A Christocentric hermeneutic

Neither an account of history nor a instruction manual (Barth, Church Dogmatics)

Literal lies mean spiritual truth

Intentionally unreliable, no deceptive intent

Example: genealogy in Matthew

Middle ground for controversial passages

Rebuttal: excuse to ignore hard parts

Block: parables are a testament to complexity of truth (c smith)

Praxis: Two examples from David Mack

Fire – promise of purification, not threat of punishment

Motif throughout Leviticus – context for matthew

“you shall be perfect” – a promise, not a command

Sermon – describing the transformation, not just adherence to law

Perfect, Greek – teleios, meaning complete, mature, brought to its end

Divine assistance – through god, not human

Spirit not letter 🡪 not static law, but dynamic and living relationship with the divine

Recognize deeper fruits of the spirit

Appreciate art not by details but by deeper meaning, so too bible

Focusing on spirit 🡪 timeless wisdom speak as vividly as from genesis to revelation