

The 5 Points of Interpreting Scripture

(Based on the poster by Jonathan Welton with the same title)¹

- ❶ - The meaning the writer intended and the expected interpretation of the hearers or readers.
- ❷ - The text must never be interpreted to mean anything different to point #1.
- ❸ - Christian theology or doctrine must not be used in the interpretation.
- ❹ - The original wording, grammar and language of the author's period in history is critical to understanding the true meaning of any text.
- ❺ - It is essential to know the historic setting in which the text was written.

NOTE: Contextual questions always need to be asked about a piece of text:

- What Covenant was the writer under?
- Who was the leader or king at the time of writing?
- Where was the text written?
- Who were the intended readers?

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(Readers will need to look up for themselves any scriptures alluded to in this document)

¹ – The article is no longer available free on the internet (February 2023)