

How to “Break Down” a Scripture - Part 2

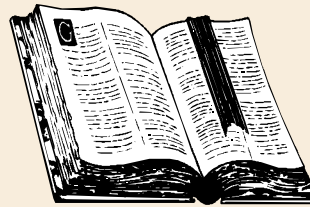
THE PROCESS OF “BREAKING DOWN” A PASSAGE

A. THE FIRST STEP IS PRAYER. ASK GOD TO HELP YOU SEE WHAT IS BEING TAUGHT.

1. Familiar passages ought to be read all the more careful.
2. Example: Luke 15:4 – “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it?”
3. Where did he leave the ninety-nine? In the wilderness! Then in the song why do we say they were left in the fold of safety? Read carefully..

B. KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THE OVERALL BOOK IN WHICH THE PASSAGE APPEARS.

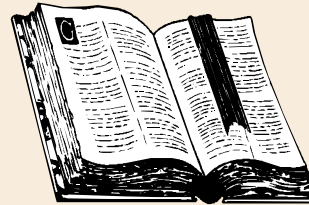
1. Old Testament or New Testament.
2. Does it have to do with:
 - a. Law
 - b. History
 - c. Literature
 - d. Prophecy
 - e. Biography



C. BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE OVERALL CONTEXT. You may need to consider more than just the singular passage you are considering. You may be limiting yourself . . . and God.

D. WHO IS THE AUTHOR OF THE TEXT?

1. Who wrote the passage.
2. Who is speaking or being quoted in the passage.
3. Was the speaker inspired or uninspired.



E. TO WHOM IS THE TEXT ADDRESSED?

1. What do we know of these people, their situation, their history, the reason for addressing the text to them.
2. What is their relation to God, and how were they serving Him.
3. What was their particular problems and weaknesses.