

Approaching the Bible



**Interpreting
and
Applying**

Approaching the Bible



Miles Coverdale:

It shall greatly help you, if you to understand the Scriptures if you note only what is written, but

- To whom and of whom
- With what words
- At what time
- With what intent
- What circumstances
- Considering what goes before and what follows

Approaching the Bible



In other words:

- What?
- Who?
- When?
- Where?
- Why?

To which I add

- Apply

The Six P's

In understanding any passage of the Bible we need to take into account 'The Six P's'.

- The **PERSON** – who wrote it.
- The **PEOPLE** – to whom it was written.
- The **PLACE** – where it is about.
- The **PERIOD** – in which it was written.
- The **PURPOSE** – for which it was written.
- The **PLAN** – around which it was written.

The Variables

The two main variables I wish to consider are:

- Who????
- When????



That is

- **PEOPLE** and **TIME**



Terminology- People

There are four types of people we shall be considering

- **Jews**
- **Proselytes**
- **God Fearers**
- **Gentiles (Pagans)**



Aristotle



Terminology - Time

Progressive Revelation



Genesis to Abraham	Abraham to Moses	Moses to Malachi	The Gospel Period	The Acts Period	The Post Acts Period																							
Genesis 1 – Genesis 12	Genesis 12 - Exodus	Exodus - Malachi	Matthew Mark Luke John	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Acts</td> <td>Romans</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hebrews</td> <td>1 & 2 Corinth</td> </tr> <tr> <td>James</td> <td>Galatians</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 & 2 Peter</td> <td>1 & 2 Thess</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1,2,3 John</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jude</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revelation</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>To Jewish Christians</td> <td>To Jewish and Gentile Christians</td> </tr> </table>	Acts	Romans	Hebrews	1 & 2 Corinth	James	Galatians	1 & 2 Peter	1 & 2 Thess	1,2,3 John		Jude		Revelation		To Jewish Christians	To Jewish and Gentile Christians	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Ephesians</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Philippians</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Colossians</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 & 2 Timothy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Titus</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Philemon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>To Christians</td> </tr> </table>	Ephesians	Philippians	Colossians	1 & 2 Timothy	Titus	Philemon	To Christians
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Example 1 – *Circumcision*

Abraham

All boys – 8 days old

Isaiah 56:4-7

- 4. For this is what the LORD says: "To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose what pleases me and hold fast to my **covenant** -
- 5. to them I will give within my temple and its walls a memorial and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that will not be cut off.
- 6. And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD to serve him, to love the name of the LORD, and to worship him, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my **covenant** -
- 7. these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations."

Circumcision in Acts
For Jewish Christians? YES!
For Gentiles Christians? NO!

- Acts 14:26-28
- Galatians 2:11-16
- Acts 14:26-28
- Galatians 2:1-11 – Titus
- Acts 15:1-6
- Acts 15:19-21 – The decision / the letter
- Acts 16:1-4
- Acts 21:17-25

Circumcision after Acts

- Colossians 2:9-12
- Titus 1:9-12
- Philippians 3:1-4a
- Philippians 3:4b-9

Recommended Reading

Galatians

Interpretation
and Application

Michael Penny

\$15.00

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