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# Finding The Truth: Understanding the Bible

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## The Bible: God's Own Story

The Bible is not a story of man's search for God, but the account of God's search for man.

## Overview: Understanding the Bible as a whole

The four chapters of the story:

- Creation
- Fall
- Redemption
- Consummation

## Nature of Scripture

Because the Bible communicates God's word to us it is important to understand fundamental principles.

1. As "God's" message, it has eternal relevance and speaks to all humankind, in every age and every culture.
2. As the Word of God it must be understood and obeyed.
3. Each book of the Bible was written to a particular people during a particular historical period.
4. Interpretation requires understanding the "tension" between eternal relevance and historical particularity.

## Reading the text

Exegesis: What did the text mean to its original hearers?

- Context: Historical and Literary
- Content: meanings of words, grammatical relationships, manuscripts

Hermeneutics: How is this meaning incorporated into today?

## Literary Genres

Narrative

Law

Poetry and Wisdom Literature

Prophetic and Apocalyptic

Gospel

Epistle

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## Lesson 1

Studying the Bible: Introduction

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## Suggested Reading

HTRTBFAIW: pages 11-56

HTRTB BBBB: pages 1-20

## Scriptures used

Genesis 1-11

Romans 1; 8:29

2 Corinthians 4:4; 3:18

Isaiah 53:6

1 Peter 1:3; 2:25

John 11:25-26; 14:6

Revelation 21-22

## Notes