

try to interpret it in a way that is contrary to one's own feelings and inclinations, and see to how great an extent this can be reasonably done. The primary tools in interpretation are the study -- are what would more properly be called grammatical-historical, that is to say they are the study of the particular words used as used elsewhere in the Bible and translated in early versions of the Bible. And a comparison of similar usages elsewhere in the Scripture. Most of what is needed for grammatical-historical exegesis can be derived directly from the Bible itself. If one compares passage with passage particularly ~~xxxx~~ checking carefully the meaning of the words

hypothesis as to the progress of thought and then carefully check to see whether the hypotheses can be sustained or whether they may be erroneous.

The proof-text method of establishing theology is a great defect although it is necessary to seek to employ it. One should always remember that a text without a context is only a pretext and that a reference does not mean that a certain group of words prove something but that the context from which these words are taken is proof of the matter that the later writer desires to present.