

12.

sentence actually says. I believe that ~~the~~ principal need in hermeneutics is unbiased lexical and grammatical study of the Bible, comparing passage with passage to see what God has said, rather than spending much time in consideration of the ideas of those who reject our basic view that the Bible is God's inerrant word through which He desires to tell his people what He wants them to know.

I. PREJUDGMENT *p. 4*

An especially common form of this danger is present when one approaches a verse with an idea of a definite truth taught elsewhere in the Scripture and assumes that this is the subject of the particular verse. When I was still a seminary student I was sometimes shocked at hearing a verse that seemed at first sight to contradict a particular theological truth so treated by the professor as to rob the verse of all meaning whatever. I felt that the Lord must have had a reason for placing the verse in the Scripture and that we should seek to discover that reason rather than to try to explain it away.

P. 11 *B2-11*
One of the greatest needs for interpreting Scripture is to make every possible effort to avoid allowing prejudgments or presuppositions to influence one's interpretation. It might be helpful to begin by trying to interpret each verse in as many ways as possible, even including those that might seem to contradict what had already been learned from other passages, and then carefully to weigh each suggested interpretation. What God expresses in one place will not contradict