

5-3-1 - Kaiser & Silva Chapter 1

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NT615: Biblical Exegesis

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### Five Quiz Questions

1. How does the Bible being both a divine and a human book affect the need for hermeneutics?
2. Why is understanding the modern meaning of words and phrases not necessarily akin to understanding the Bible's meaning?
3. According to Silva, the meaning of passages can be considered in how many ways? Can they truly be isolated from each other?
4. What distinguishes general hermeneutics from Biblical hermeneutics?
5. What are the four main models for understanding the Bible?

### Three Terms With Definitions

1. Hermeneutics - the discipline that deals with principles of interpretation
2. Grammatico-Historical Exegesis - an exegesis (an interpretation with an explanation of the text that involves a careful detailed analysis) that pays attention both to the language in which the original text was written and to the specific cultural context that gave rise to the text.
3. Historicity - a look at the accuracy and authenticity of a passage in comparison to other passages that discuss the same event(s).

### Summary Paragraph

Chapter 1 of *Biblical Hermeneutics* seeks to answer the question of “who needs hermeneutics anyway? First, Silva defines hermeneutics and points out the need for correct hermeneutics even on texts that come from a relatively close time and culture, such as

Shakespeare, and how we apply these things to every single thing we read. He then uses Matthew 8:23-27 to discuss the eight different areas that one can delve into to look for the meaning of the passage. Next, Silva discusses the difference between general hermeneutics and Biblical hermeneutics. He concludes by briefly touching on the work of Hans-Georg Gadamer, Paul Ricoeur, and E. D. Hirsch in the wake of the 1946 decision that “it is a fallacy to depend on what an author meant to say as a guide to determining what a text means” and what that means for the models for understanding the Bible.