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Questions

1. Why should we not assume that the linguistic rules of English syntax or the nuances of English words correspond to those of the New Testament Greek?
2. Why is it important to use hermeneutics to understand the bible?
3. By considering how a passage of scripture fits into a canonical content what type of theology is being considered?
4. Can hermeneutics be applied to other things outside interpreting the Bible?
5. Why is it important to be aware of the history of interpretation?

Answers

1. We run the risk of imposing our ideas on the biblical text.
2. The bible is a divine book, but it is made by humans. So, there is a potential for misinterpretation.
3. Systematic theology is what is being considered.
4. Yes, hermeneutics can be used in everyday conversation, when interpreting body language, or when reading the newspaper. Hermeneutics is used in daily life and most of the time happens unconsciously.
5. We need to be aware of the history of interpretation because whether we realize it or not it does affect both directly and indirectly. We can assume that a specific interpretation is the meaning of a text, when it's simply an assimilated accepted fact that the history of the church has passed down.

Terms

Hermeneutics: The study of principles and methods of interpretation. The form hermeneutic often refers to a specific theological perspective that may guide one's interpretation.

Contextualization: Often used as a synonym of application, this term refers to the process of understanding and explaining a text or a doctrine by taking into account the interpreter's own historical context.

Perspicuity: The claim that the Scripture were "plain to the understanding" of any reader on the matter of one's need for salvation. It did not mean that learning was not needed to interpret Scripture, nor did it mean that all Scripture was equally clear and free of difficulty.

Summary

Hermeneutics is important when interpreting the bible because it is a book that is not just divine, but it has been created by humans and there is potential for misinterpretation. Hermeneutics is not used exclusively for us to understand and interpretate the Bible, but it is used in the day-to-day life of most people. There can be multiple factors that can affect interpretation things to be

considered should be the context in which the Bible was written, the culture, and language as a few examples.