

Tiffany Black:5-3-1 February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

QUESTIONS:

1. Name the six parts of writing a letter in Jerusalem during the Book of Acts?
2. What is the process of exegesis on an Epistle?
3. What does the “basic rule” state?
4. What does the “second rule” – common hermeneutics state?
5. Describe the problem with task theology in Epistles?

ANSWERS:

1. Six parts of writing a letter are: name of the writer; name of the recipient; greeting; pray wish or thanksgiving and final greeting and farewell.
2. Read and if necessary, reread the desired sections, what is the point of each section; move on the next sections or paragraphs and finally ask how the remaining verses fits into the argument and/or problem.
3. The basic rule is a premise that a text cannot mean what it never could have meant to its authors or readers.
4. Common hermeneutics is whenever we share comparable particulars (i.e., specific life situations) with the first century hearers; God’s word to us is the same to them.
5. Being that the Epistles are task oriented and not systematically presented however this does not mean that one cannot systematically derive or expresses a theology from the Epistles.

TERMS:

Epistles – is a writing directed or sent to a person or group of people, usually an elegant and formal didactic letter. The epistle genre of letter-writing was common in ancient Egypt as part of the scribal-school writing curriculum.

Task Theology – theology being written for or brought to bear on the task at hand.

Biblical Theology – focuses on the teachings of the individual authors and books of the Bible and places each teaching in the Scriptures' historical development. It is a presentation of the Old and New Testament writers' theological teachings within their historical setting.

SUMMARY:

In Chapters 3 and 4 Fee and Stuart allow us to look contextually and hermeneutically at the Epistles. After the Gospels they are the next popular genre within the New Testament. We begin by gaining a working historical context of the Epistle we are studying this starts by making both a tentative but informed reconstruction of the problem. Next gather together four notes which asks the following: (1) what you notice about the recipients themselves, (2) Paul’s attitude, (3) any specific things mentioned as to the specific occasion of the letter, and (4) the letters natural, logical divisions. Having these elements clearly highlighted will allow you to better exegete the Epistles and to gain greater insight and

understanding of not only what was being said then but how it can be applicable to us now as well.