

Patricia Huggins

March 3, 2023

NT615 The Epistles: Learning to Think Contextually – Ch. 3 and The Epistles: The
Hermeneutical Questions – Ch. 4

QUESTIONS

1. Identify the six parts of the ancient letter form.
2. When considering Literary Context and the learning to ‘Think Paragraph’ process, what question should be asked repetitively of the text?
3. What principle refers to something that one believer feels can be done in good conscience and then, by their action, leads another to do the same although the person cannot do so in good conscience?
4. _____ are occasional documents of the first century, conditioned by the language and culture of the first century, which spoke to specific situations in the first century church.
5. What is considered the great flaw in our common hermeneutics?

ANSWERS

1. Name of the Writer, Name of the Recipient, Greeting, Prayer Wish or Thanksgiving, Body, and Final Greeting and Farewell
2. What is the point?
3. The Stumbling Block Principle
4. Epistles
5. A general lack of consistency (because we bring our history to the Epistles)

TERMS

Task Theology: theology being written for or brought to bear on the task at hand; addresses a specific situation or question that was happening in the world or in a church at that time.

Hermeneutics: learning to hear the meaning in the contexts of our own day; the theory and practice of interpretation which involves an understanding that can be justified

Existential: tried and true; provable, verifiable, alive, subjective

SUMMARY

Epistles are a literary form intended for the public and generally consists of six parts. These letters should be read in full to best understand the message that was being given and the occasion on which it was given. An exegesis of the Epistles require informed reconstruction and a working outline. Ultimately, we are asking what the point of the Epistle is and what does it mean to us.