



# SETTING THE GROUNDWORK

## DECLOBBERING THOSE CLOBBER TEXTS



**WHAT DO YOU  
WANT TO GET OUT OF THIS SERIES?**



# **BEFORE WE START** **A DISCLAIMER**



# FUTURE MEETINGS

**Leviticus — 15 October**

*Leviticus 18:22, 20:13*

**Sodom — 12 November**

*Genesis 19:1–38, Jude 6–7*

**Paul — 10 December**

*Romans 1:25–27, 1 Corinthians 6:9–11, 1 Timothy 1:9–10*

***Broke. Woke. Bespoke. — 21 January***



**READING THE BIBLE IS**

**HARD**



# HOW SHOULD WE READ THIS TEXT?

**If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.**

*Matthew 5:29–30*



# HOW SHOULD WE READ THESE TEXTS?

**If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.**

*Matthew 5:29–30*

**As for the male and female slaves whom you may have, it is from the nations around you that you may acquire male and female slaves. You may also acquire them from among the aliens residing with you, and from their families that are with you, who have been born in your land; and they may be your property.**

*Leviticus 25:44*



**TO HELP US READ BETTER,  
I HAVE QUESTIONS  
FOR US TO THINK ABOUT.**



# WHERE CAN WE FIND GOD'S REVELATION TO HUMANITY?



**DO WE HAVE TO BELIEVE  
EVERYTHING  
THE BIBLICAL AUTHOR'S BELIEVED?**

**CAN WE BELIEVE THINGS  
THAT THE BIBLICAL AUTHORS WOULD  
DISAGREE WITH?**



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DISAGREE WITH?**



# HOW CAN WE INTERPRET THE BIBLE, THEN?

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***original meaning*** What was the author trying to say?

***first meaning*** What did the first audience hear?

***biblical meaning*** What does it mean in the context of the Bible?

***personal meaning*** What does it mean to me?

***communal meaning*** What does it mean to us?

***spiritual meaning*** What deeper spiritual truth can I/we find?

***ethical meaning*** What ethics does the passage demonstrate?

***eternal meaning*** What principles underly the passage?



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