



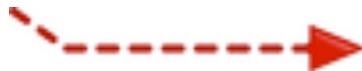
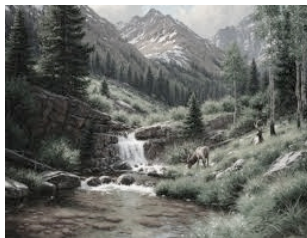
The Observation Of The Parts

① THE PURPOSE OF OBSERVING THE PARTS

In the study of the Bible, it is helpful to realize that **every portion of Scripture has an arrangement, a structure, a framework**, and these consist of various **PARTS** that reveal the **thoughts or events** described. The **OBSERVATION OF THE PARTS** is:

“recognizing the framework of a verse or passage of Scripture, and is a part of and leads to a closer look at the details”

Again, **EVERYTHING IN THE WORD OF GOD HAS ITS PROPER PLACE IN RELATION TO THE SUBJECT MATTER! START WITH OBSERVING THE WHOLE** (looking at the picture on the puzzle box), **AND THEN MOVE TO THE PARTS** (the pieces of the puzzle).



In the **OBSERVATION OF THE PARTS** a **border** is formed, or recognized. Again, the analogy of a jigsaw puzzle, after observing the picture on the box, one attempts to find the **edge pieces** (*border pieces*), and then proceeds to fit the **border** pieces together! **THE BORDER PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK AND AN OUTLINE FOR FITTING THE PIECES TOGETHER!**



THE BORDER MAKES IT EASIER TO SEE WHERE THE PIECES FIT

② HOW TO OBSERVE THE PARTS OR VISUALIZE THE FRAMEWORK OF A PASSAGE

- VIEW THE VERSE OR PASSAGE IN A FORMAT THAT MAKES THE SUBJECT MORE EVIDENT:

This is done by dividing a verse into parts and reading it in such a way. In doing this one is enabled to more easily **observe** the framework, and format of a passage. By reading the **Word of God** in parts, an outline is easily created of the main subject matter! Reading the Scripture this way leads to, and enables one to make more **observations**, and to more clearly observe both the parts and details! **READING THE SCRIPTURE IN THIS WAY GREATLY ENHANCES OBSERVATION, RESULTING IN GREATER DISCOVERY AND APPLICATION!** Read a clause or phrase, and stop and ponder what you have read, then read the next clause or phrase, connecting it with what has already been read, and again stop and ponder what you have read.

EXAMPLES

JOHN 6:37-40

*“All that the Father giveth Me
shall come to Me
And him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out
For I am come down from heaven
not to do mine own will,
but the will of Him that sent Me
And this is the will of Him that sent Me
that of all which He hath given Me I should lose nothing
but should raise it up again at the last day
And this is the will of Him that sent Me
that every one which seeth the Son,
and believeth on Him,
may have everlasting life
And I will raise him up the last day*

As already seen, reading the passage through without stopping, making an **overview observation**, (*observing the obvious*), the initial impression of the subject matter is:

THE MISSION OF CHRIST.

By dividing the passage into clauses and phrases, one is able to make more **observations** concerning the details of the subject matter.



The Father Has Given A People To Christ.
All Of Those Given To Christ Shall Come To Christ.

All Of Those Given To Christ Shall Come To Christ And Shall Not Be Turned Away.
Christ Came Down To Do The Will Of The Father.
The Will That He Came To Do Is To Lose None Of Those Given Him, But To Raise All Of Them
Up Victoriously.

JOHN 10:11, 14-18

*“I am the good shepherd
the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep
I am the good shepherd
and know my sheep,
and am known of mine
As the Father knoweth Me, even so know I the Father
and I lay down my life for the sheep
And other sheep I have,
which are not of this fold
them also I must bring
“and they shall hear my voice”
and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd
Therefore doth my Father love Me
Because I lay down my life,
that I might take it again”
This commandment have I received of My Father”*

Again, as already seen, reading the passage through without stopping, making an **overview observation**, (*observing the obvious*), the initial impression of the subject matter is:

CHRIST THE SHEPHERD OF THE SHEEP.

By dividing the passage into parts one is able to **observe** more clearly the details of the subject matter.



Christ Is The Good Shepherd.
As The Good Shepherd He Has Sheep.
As The Good Shepherd He Gives His Life For The Sheep.
As The Good Shepherd He Knows His Sheep.
And His Sheep Know Him.
As The Good Shepherd There Is A Union Between The Father And The Shepherd.
There Are Other Sheep Not Of The Jewish Fold.
And As The Good Shepherd He Will Bring Them Also.
In Bringing Them They Will Hear His Voice.
The Father Loves Christ.
Christ Voluntarily Lays Down His Life.

Man Does Not Take Away The Life Of Christ.
Christ Lays Down His Life To Raise It Again.
Christ Has The Power To Lay It Down And To Raise It Again.
The Laying Down Of His Life And The Raising His Life Is A Commandment That He Received
From God.

● **OBSERVE CONTEXT:**

Thought is usually expressed in a series of **related ideas** known as **context**. Such reflects a writer's overall flow of thought. **CONTEXT PROVIDES THE FRAMEWORK FOR EACH WORD, AND EVEN DIRECTION ON HOW A WORD OR SENTENCE SHOULD FUNCTION!**

Context is;

“the weaving together of words, the connection of words, the parts of a discourse that surround a word or passage, the interrelated conditions in which something exists”

Context is;

“what goes before, and what follows after, the setting in which a passage occurs”

CONTEXT IS ESSENTIAL IN DISCOVERING AND ARRIVING AT A CORRECT UNDERSTANDING! Paul admonished Timothy *“Study (give diligence) to shew (present) thyself approved (accepted) unto God, a workman (laborer) that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing (holding to a straight course) the word of truth”* If Scripture can be **rightly divided**, it can also be **wrongly divided**, and one of the surest means of doing so is to ignore context! **NEGLECT OF CONTEXT IS A COMMON CAUSE OF INACCURATE INTERPRETATION, AND IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS AND DESTRUCTIVE!**



✓ **Out of context the Scriptures can be twisted to say just about anything:**

EXAMPLES:

Out of its context one can make the Bible to say that *“there is no God”* (**Psalm 14:1**). *“The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God”* The **context** is; *“The fool hath said in his heart”* but if you disregard the **context**, it says; *“There is no God”*



Out of its **context** one can make the Bible say that *“Christ is a deceiver”* In **Matthew 24:5b** we read the words; *“I am Christ; and shall deceive many”* The **contextual setting** of these words is; *“For many shall come in My name, saying”*



Out of its **context** one can make the Bible say that “*there is no resurrection of the saints of God*” In **I Corinthians 15:18** we read the words; “*they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished*” The **contextual setting** of these words is found back in **verse 14** “*And if Christ be not risen, then*”

Though these are blatant examples of taking a phrase out of its context, **they do illustrate the great danger of removing words and phrases from their contextual setting!**

✓ **A single word or sentence can have various meanings depending on the context in which it is used:**

EXAMPLES:

The word “*bear*” can be used as a **noun** (*speaking of an animal*) as in **I Samuel 17:34**, and it can be used as a **verb** meaning “*to carry*” (**Galatians 6:2**). **CONTEXT DETERMINES USAGE AND MEANING!**



The word “*free*” can be used meaning “*without charge*” (**Romans 5:15**), and it can be used as meaning “*independence, as not bound or confined*” (**Galatians 5:1**). **CONTEXT DETERMINES USAGE AND MEANING!**



The word “*light*” can be used meaning “*the opposite of dark*” (**II Corinthians 4:6**), and it can be used as “*the opposite of heavy*” (**II Corinthians 4:17**). **CONTEXT DETERMINES USAGE AND MEANING!**



The word “*rose*” can be used to speak of “*a flower*” (**Isaiah 35:1**), and it can be used as “*the past tense of rise*” (**I Corinthians 15:4**). **CONTEXT DETERMINES USAGE AND MEANING!**



The word “*suffer*” can mean “*to permit or allow*” (**Matthew 3:15; 19:14**), and it can mean “*to be in misery*” (**II Timothy 3:12**).

✓ **Some words share the same spelling, but differ in pronunciation and meaning:**

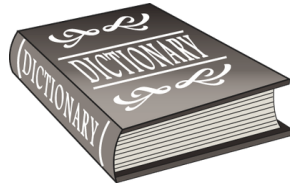
EXAMPLES:

The word “*close*” can be used as meaning “*to shut*” (**Amos 9:11**), and it can be used as meaning “*to draw near*” (**Acts 27:13**). **CONTEXT DETERMINES PRONUNCIATION, USAGE AND MEANING!**



The word “*bow*” can be used as meaning; “*a weapon*” (**Genesis 27:3**), and it can be used as meaning “*the bending of the head or the body in respect*” (**Genesis 27:29**). **CONTEXT DETERMINES PRONUNCIATION, USAGE AND MEANING!**

✓ **CONTEXT** serves as a dictionary



EVERY WORD HAS A MEANING, and the basic meaning of a word can be determined by its **relationship to other words**, which is **context!** The definition of the word in question may be the word next to the word, it may be in the verse, or it may be in the surrounding verses. But the word will usually be defined somewhere in the **context!** If the sentence does not show what a word means, then we must branch out to the surrounding sentences, and paragraphs until meaning can be determined.

EXAMPLES

GENESIS 15:5

*“And he brought him forth abroad, and said Look now toward heaven, and **tell** the stars if thou be able to number them”*



The word in question is the word “*tell*” There is a direct link between “*stars*” and the word “*them*” and the defining word of “*tell*” is the word “*number*” To “*number*” is “*to count*” so the word “*tell*” in the **context** means “*to count*”

PSALM 15:1

“LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in Thy holy hill”



The word in question is the word “*abide*” the surrounding words are “*who shall*” and “*in thy*” There is a repetition of these surrounding words and they are seen around the word “*dwell*” The contextual meaning of the word “*abide*” is to “dwell”

JOHN 2:3

“And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine”



The word in question is the word “*wanted*” the surrounding words are “*they*” and “*wine*” There is a repetition of these surrounding words and they are seen around the word “*no*” The contextual meaning of the word “*wanted*” is “no” having reference to “*a lack*”

JOHN 15:4-11



The word in question is the word *“abide”* occurring nine times. The word following is the word *“in”* and this is repeated following the word *“continue”* (verse 9). The word *“in”* is repeated also in **verse 11** following the word *“remain”*. The contextual meaning of the word *“abide”* is to *“continue”* or to *“remain”*

ROMANS 1:24

“Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts”



The word in question is the word *“Wherefore”* the words that follow are; *“God also gave them up”* and there is a repetition of these words in **verse 26** following the words; *“For this cause”*. The contextual meaning of *“Wherefore”* is *“For this cause”*

EPHESIANS 6:13



The word in question is the word *“withstand”* the words preceding it are the words *“that ye may be able”* and these words also occur in **verse 11** preceding the words *“stand against”*. The contextual meaning of the word *“withstand”* is to *“stand against”*

I PETER 3:10-11



The word in question is the word *“eschew”* the surrounding words are *“Let him”* and *“evil”* and these words also occur in **verse 10** surrounding the word *“refrain”*. The contextual meaning of the word *“eschew”* is to *“refrain”*

VIEW SCRIPTURE WITHIN THE STRUCTURE OF CONTEXT:



It Enables One To **Rightly Divide The Word.**
It Serves As A **Safeguard Against Doctrinal Error.**
It **Determines The Usage And Meaning Of Words.**

CONTEXT CONSISTS OF DIFFERENT TYPES

<u>IMMEDIATE</u> CONTEXT	<u>Words & Sentences</u> that are before and after the passage.
<u>NEAR</u> CONTEXT	<u>Paragraphs</u> that come before and after the passage.
<u>BOOK</u> CONTEXT	The <u>message</u> and <u>purpose</u> of the book.
<u>HISTORICAL & CULTURAL</u> CONTEXT	The <u>time</u> and <u>conditions</u> of the writing.
<u>BIBLE</u> CONTEXT	The general teaching of the Bible as a whole.

From this we see that context goes out in larger and larger circles:

