PRINCIPLES OF BIBLE STUDY #3 - CONTEXT

2 Peter 1:20, 21

There are some very important Bible study principles, or _____ that must be followed so that the proper interpretation takes place.

- How would YOU like it if you made a statement for the purpose of communicating a very important truth, yet it was misconstrued by the hearer and the message you intended to be sent was drastically changed when it was communicated to someone else by the original hearer?

Illustration: Dr. Fauci's claim of being taken out of context

God's words are intended to be read in context! Taking Scripture out of context leads to _____ doctrine and _____. Most heresies are truths _____.

cf. 2 Peter 3:15, 16

Anytime you study the Bible, you must ask the question: What is the _____?

I. ~~DEFINING CONTEXT~~
- Context = **the parts of a discourse that _____ a word or passage and can throw light on its meaning**
  - Context is the _____ in which a passage occurs.

cf. Isaiah 28:9, 10
- A precept or line cannot be _____. Instead, they must be stacked one upon another so that verses are taken in context.

Taking verses out of context is nothing more than "cherry picking" verses, usually to _____ a certain doctrine that may not even be in the Scriptures!

The authentic meaning of Scripture is derived from _____ verses in succession.

<mark>**II.   DISTORTING CONTEXT**</mark>

Many people do not know where to start reading in the Bible, so they use the "lucky dip" method. They say, "Lord, show me where you want me to read" and randomly open their Bible and start reading wherever the Bible happens to open. This is DANGEROUS!

Taking Scripture out of context can cause a person to:

1. Never be _____ due to false doctrine being taught.
2. Never _____ after being saved due to taking in false doctrine.

Examples of distorting context:

- **cf. John 3:5** - out of context it is used to teach that _____ is essential for salvation
  - Read verses 1-7 for the context
- **cf. Matthew 7:1** - out of context it is used to teach that we are not to _____
  - Read verses 1-5 for the context, also see John 7:24
- **cf. Amos 4:4** - out of context it could be used to _____
  - Read verses 1-4 for the context

<mark>**III.   DISCOVERING CONTEXT**</mark>

- Every _____, _____, _____ and _____ in the Bible has a specific doctrinal context.

Examples of obvious context:

- **cf. Joel 2:1** - the context is just prior to the _____
- **cf. James 1:1** - context is the _____
- **cf. Matthew 24:3** - the context is just prior to the _____

Conclusion: **cf. Ecclesiastes 12:12**

Studying the Bible is a _____ with GREAT BENEFITS… but it requires _____!