

# INERRANCY & HERMENEUTICS

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What every Evangelical pastor should know  
about biblical truth and interpretation

# True or false?

- “EFCA pastors believe that every word of the Bible is literally true”

Is *loincloth* true?



# Cronkite



DOUGLAS BRINKLEY



And that's the way it is..... This is Walter Cronkite,  
CBS News; good night.

(Walter Cronkite)

[izquotes.com](http://izquotes.com)

## Biblical Literalism

*% of Hispanics in each group who say the Bible is ...*

	<b>Word of God</b>	<b>Should be taken literally</b>	<b>Should not be taken literally/ Unsure</b>	<b>Book written by men</b>	<b>Other (vol.)/ Don't know</b>
All Hispanics	73	43	30	21	7=100
Catholic	78	45	33	15	8=100
Protestant	90	57	33	8	3=100
Evangelical	94	63	31	4	2=100
Mainline	77	39	38	20	3=100
Unaffiliated	37	21	16	54	9=100
<i>Attend worship services</i>					
At least weekly	91	56	35	5	4=100
Monthly/Yearly	72	40	32	20	7=100
Seldom/Never	44	24	20	46	10=100
Foreign born	78	50	28	15	7=100
U.S. born	65	31	34	29	6=100

Source: Pew Research Center survey of Hispanic adults, May 24-July 28, 2013. Q253a/b. Foreign born includes those born in Puerto Rico. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

# Literally the most misused word

**THE ADVERB CLUTTERS OUR SPEECH TO THE POINT  
WHERE IT IS IN DANGER OF LOSING ITS LITERAL MEANING**

BY CHRISTOPHER MUTHER / GLOBE STAFF

When "Parks and Recreation" co-creator Michael Schur began crafting Rob Lowe's character for his NBC sitcom, he wanted him to be a man of extremes.

"It was referenced in an episode last year that he does 10,000 push-ups a day," Schur says of the character Chris Traeger. "He lives every moment of his life to the fullest, so overusing the word 'literally' seemed like a good character fit. He's the kind of guy who is always claiming that something was literally the greatest thing he's ever seen or something is literally the most fun you could ever have. In real life, it's something that drives me crazy, because it's so often misused."

Schur isn't the only one peeved by "literally" gaining popularity as both a throwaway intensifier and a replacement for "figuratively." It's a word that has been misused by everyone from fashion stylist Rachel Zoe to President Obama, and linguists predict that it will continue to be led astray from its meaning. There is a good chance the incorrect use of the word eventually will eclipse its original definition.

What the word means is "in a literal or strict sense." Such as: "The novel was translated literally from the Russian."

"It should not be used as a synonym for actually or really," writes Paul Brians in "Common Errors in English Usage." "Don't say of someone that he 'liter-

~~literally~~  
figuratively

## “Well versed”

- Literal interpretation
- Hurrah!

## “Poorly versed”

- Literalistic interpretation
- Boo!



1. “Absolute” inerrancy (too hard)
2. “Limited” inerrancy (too soft)
3. “Critical” inerrancy (just right!)



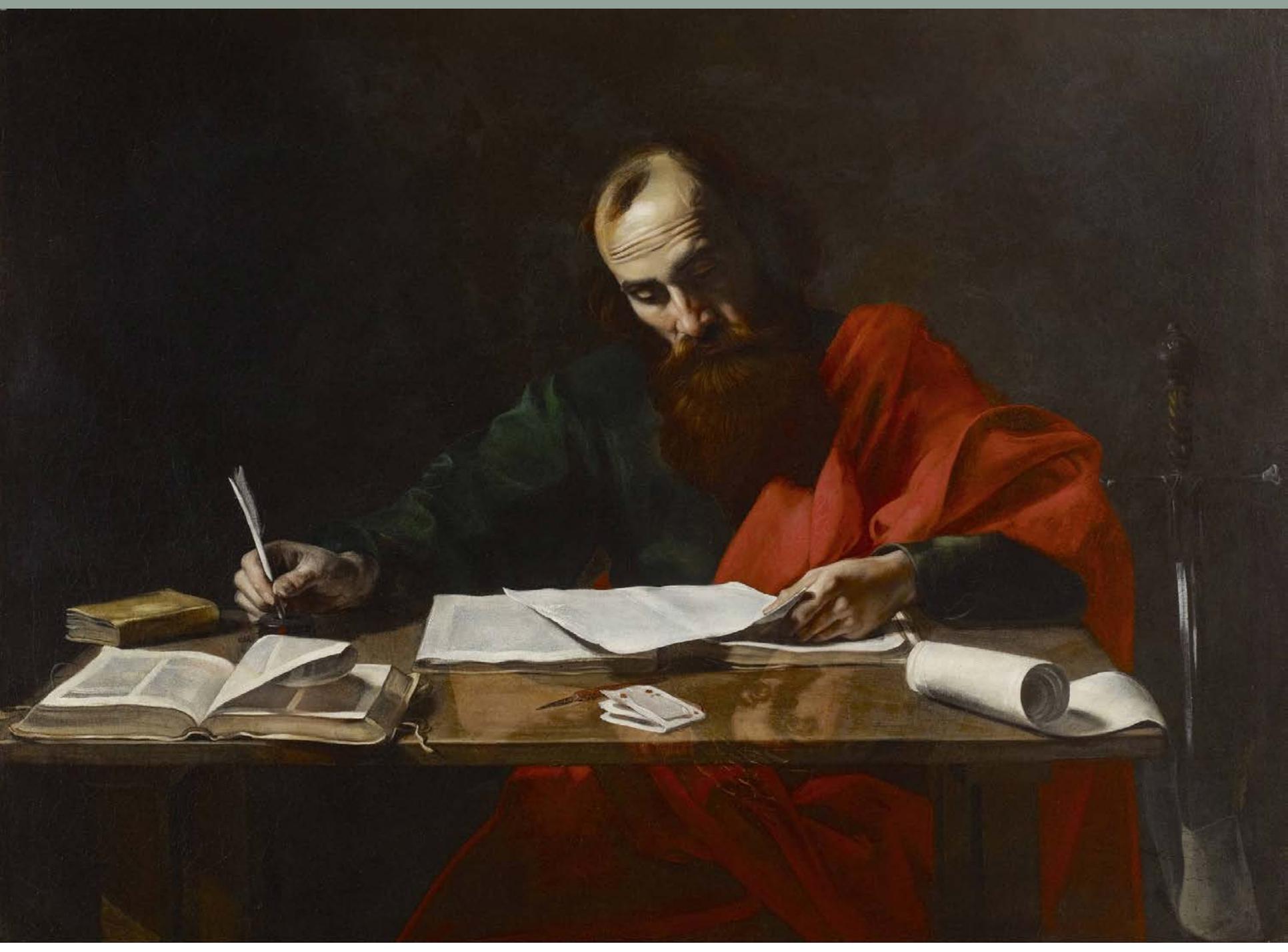


# II. THE NATURE OF SCRIPTURE

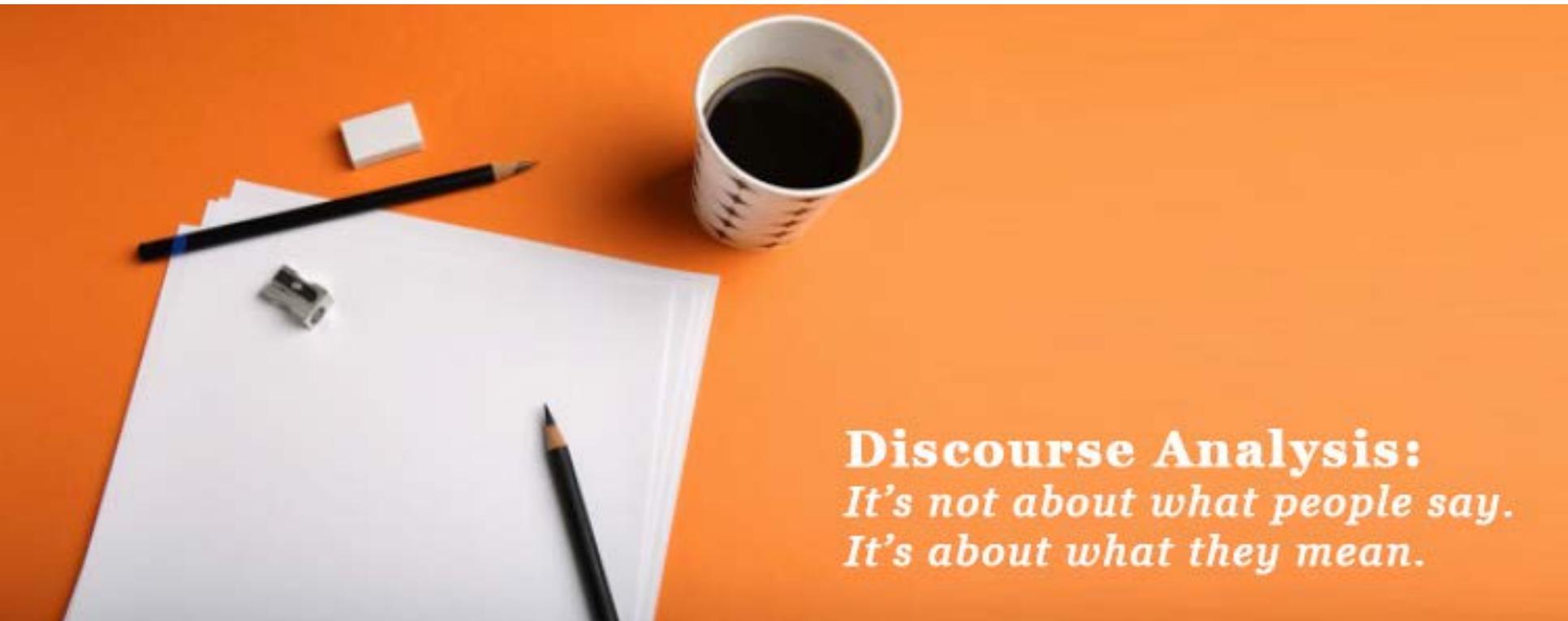
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Inspired Discourse









**Discourse Analysis:**  
*It's not about what people say.  
It's about what they mean.*

# THE HOLY BIBLE

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is inspired discourse that presents Christ in order to form Christ in us – and does so in many ways...

# III. THESES ON INERRANCY

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What every pastor should know

# Deceptions to avoid

- Do not confuse inerrancy with “perfect book” theology.



# Deceptions to avoid

- Do not confuse literal with literalistic interpretation

# Cron•ki•tis

- *noun*
  - acute or chronic inflation of literality
  - *also*: a hermeneutical disease marked by this



# The Song of Solomon Illustrated

(For our literalist friends.)

"How beautiful you are, my darling,  
how beautiful you are!

...Your eyes are like doves behind  
your veil...

...Your hair is like a flock of goats...

...Your teeth are like a flock of  
newly shorn ewes...

...Your lips are like a scarlet  
thread...

...Your temples are like a slice  
of pomegranate...

...Your neck is like the  
tower of David... built  
with rows of stones  
on which are hung a  
thousand shields...

...Your two breasts are  
like two fawns,  
twins of a gazelle  
Which feed among the  
silies...

...Your lips, my bride,  
drip honey... honey and  
milk are under your tongue,

And the fragrance of your  
garments is like the  
fragrance of Lebanon...

...Your navel is a round goblet...

Your belly is like  
a heap of wheat...

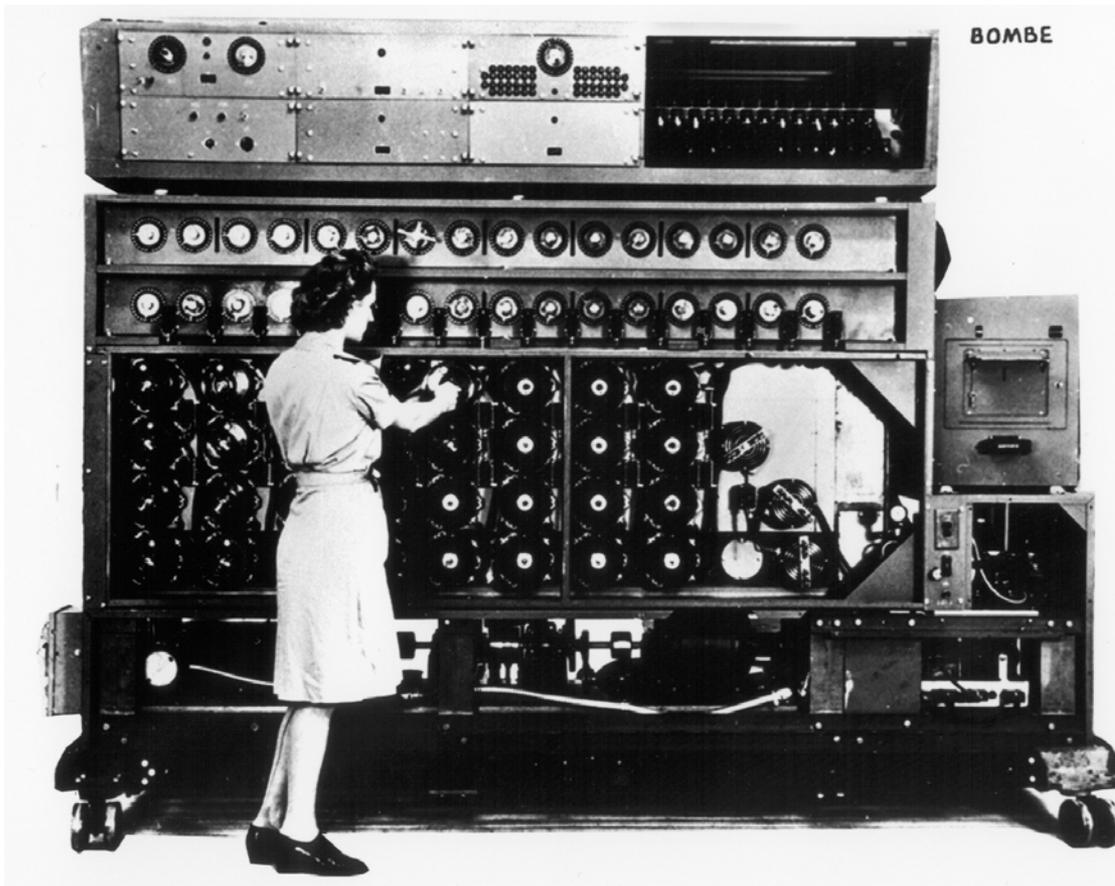
...your nose is like the  
tower of Lebanon,  
which faces toward  
Demascus..."

...from  
Song of Solomon  
Chapters  
four and  
seven.



# Deceptions to avoid

- Do not use inerrancy as a device for de-coding holy enigmas or for dismissing interpretive disagreement



# Definitions to ponder

- “Infallible”: not liable to fail (cf. “impeccable”)
- “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout ... so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it”  
(Isa. 55:10-11)

Definitions to  
ponder



- “Inerrancy means that when all facts are known, the Scriptures **properly interpreted** will be shown to be wholly true **in everything that they affirm**, whether that has to do with doctrine or morality or with the social, physical, or life sciences.”

## Definitions to ponder



- “When all the facts are known, the Bible (in its original writings) **properly interpreted in light of which culture and communication means had developed by the time of its composition** will be shown to be completely true (and therefore not false) in all that it affirms, **to the degree of precision intended by the author**, in all matters relating to God and his creation”
- - from David Dockery, *Christian Scripture: An Evangelical Perspective on Inspiration, Authority and Interpretation*

# Following the way the words go...

“insofar as they make affirmations...”

- Literal truth requires literal interpretation, which in turn requires literary (i.e., discourse) sensitivity: *literacy*.

# Verses a well-versed inerrancy will ponder

- “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true” (Rev. 21:5)
- “Let God be proved true” (Rom. 3:4)
- “Your word is truth” (John 17:17)
- “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away” (Matt. 24:35)

# Definitions to ponder

- “True words communicate *what is*”
- “Truth is a covenantal correspondence, a faithful fit, between what is said and what is, between God’s words and God’s deeds, between what God says and what God is”
- “Jesus is the truth because he fulfills what God promised (truth as fidelity) and because he corresponds to what God is (truth as reliability)”

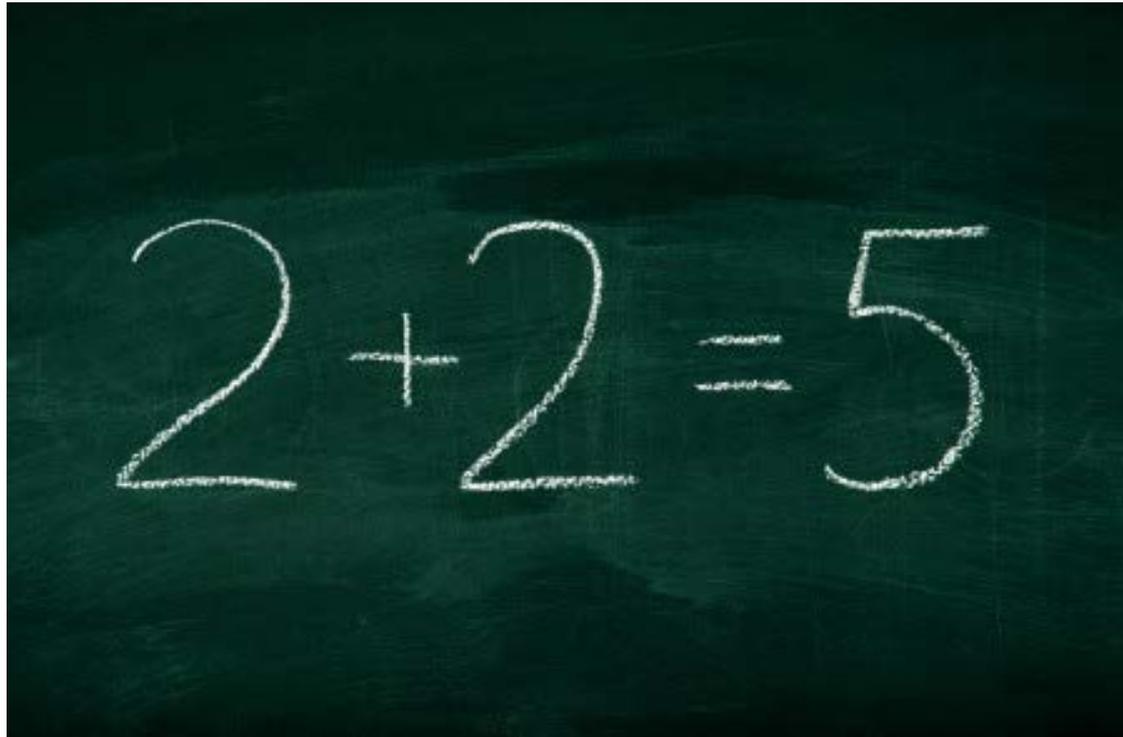


“Authority belongs to truth and truth only. . . . I can make no sense – no reverent sense, anyway – of the idea, sometimes met, that God speaks his truth to us in and through false statements by biblical writers”

- J. I. Packer, *Truth & Power: The Place of Scripture in the Christian Life*

# Definitions to ponder

“Error”



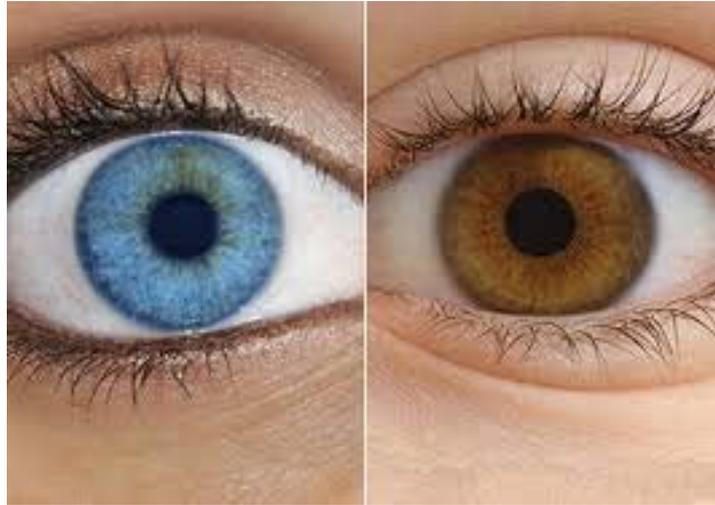
A photograph of a chalkboard with the equation  $2 + 2 = 5$  written on it in white chalk. The equation is written in a simple, hand-drawn style. The numbers are slightly irregular, and the plus and equals signs are also hand-drawn. The chalkboard is dark green and has some faint, illegible markings in the background.

# “Mistakes in Literature and Whether They Matter”

Sir Christopher Ricks

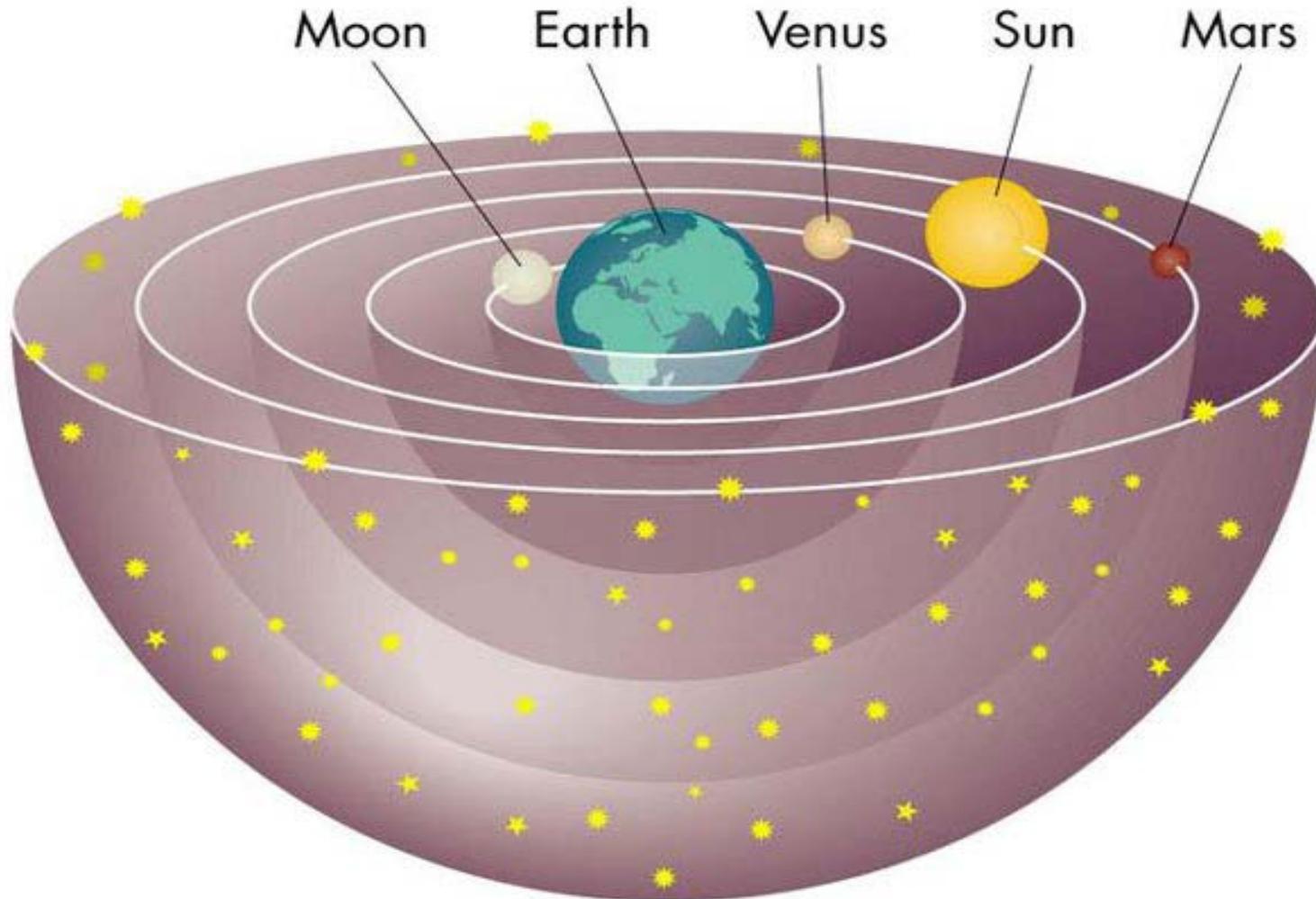
Professor of Poetry (Oxford  
University), Professor of the  
Humanities (Boston University)







“Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved”  
(Ps. 93:1c)



Prof. John Frame  
(Reformed Theological  
Seminary, Orlando)



- Inerrancy means that Scripture is true, not that it is maximally precise
- An error is a failure to make good on one's claim
- Statements, especially in ordinary language, often claim different kinds and degrees of precision

# Morals for interpretation:

- Inerrancy is not a quick fix to pervasive interpretive pluralism, or to determine in advance what kind of truths we will discover in Scripture.
- Inerrancy is rather a call to a long hermeneutical obedience in the same direction the words go.

# Morals for interpretation:

- Inerrancy applies to the authorial discourse of Scripture, not to the reader's interpretation.
- The best interpreter is therefore a humble interpreter who is open to correction by the text and is willing to listen to others, especially the “great cloud of witness-interpreters” who have gone before us.

# Morals for interpretation

- Inerrancy does not entail a literalistic hermeneutic, but we may HOPE for true interpretations.
- HOPE = “Historically Omniscient Perfect Exegete”



# The Spirit's illumination makes readers not historically omniscient, but right-minded and right-hearted

- Inerrancy of Scripture gives us boldness
- Fallibility of interpreter gives us pause
- Interpretive virtue = praying & paying (attention to) the text
- Humble interpreters will have most boldness when they preach the gospel, the main story-line of Scripture, and the main doctrines affirmed throughout church history

# Morals for interpretation

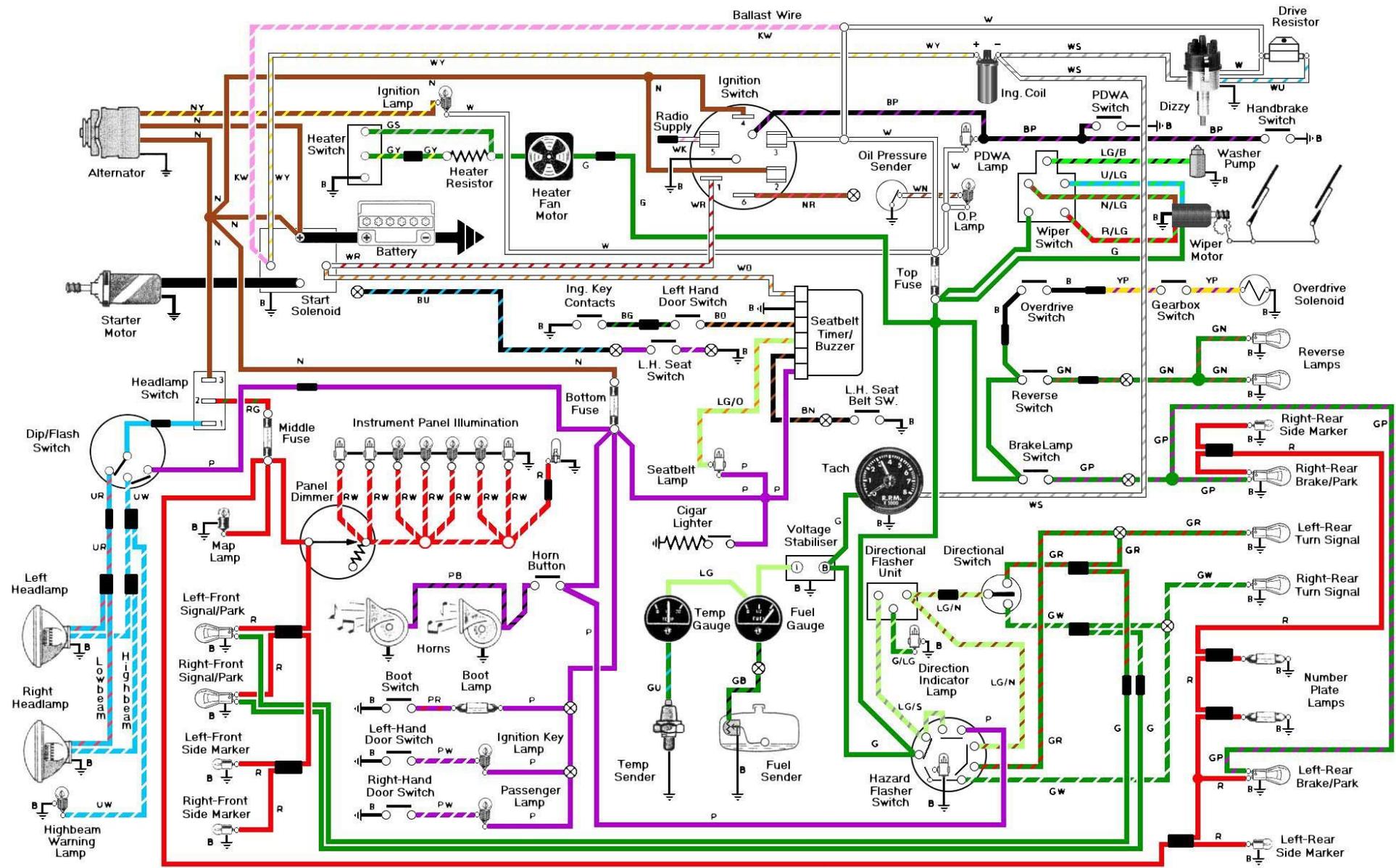
- The Bible's truth claims should never be determined without first discerning what the biblical authors are saying.
- Meaning is prior to truth, and literary form (i.e., form of discourse) is prior to meaning content.

# Morals for interpretation

- The forms of biblical literature are like maps in a canonical atlas: we will only be able to follow them if we know how to read them (i.e., what kind of maps they are)







B=black      P=purple  
 G=green      R=red  
 K=pink      S=slate (gray)  
 LG=light green    U=blue  
 N=brown      W=white  
 O=orange      Y=yellow

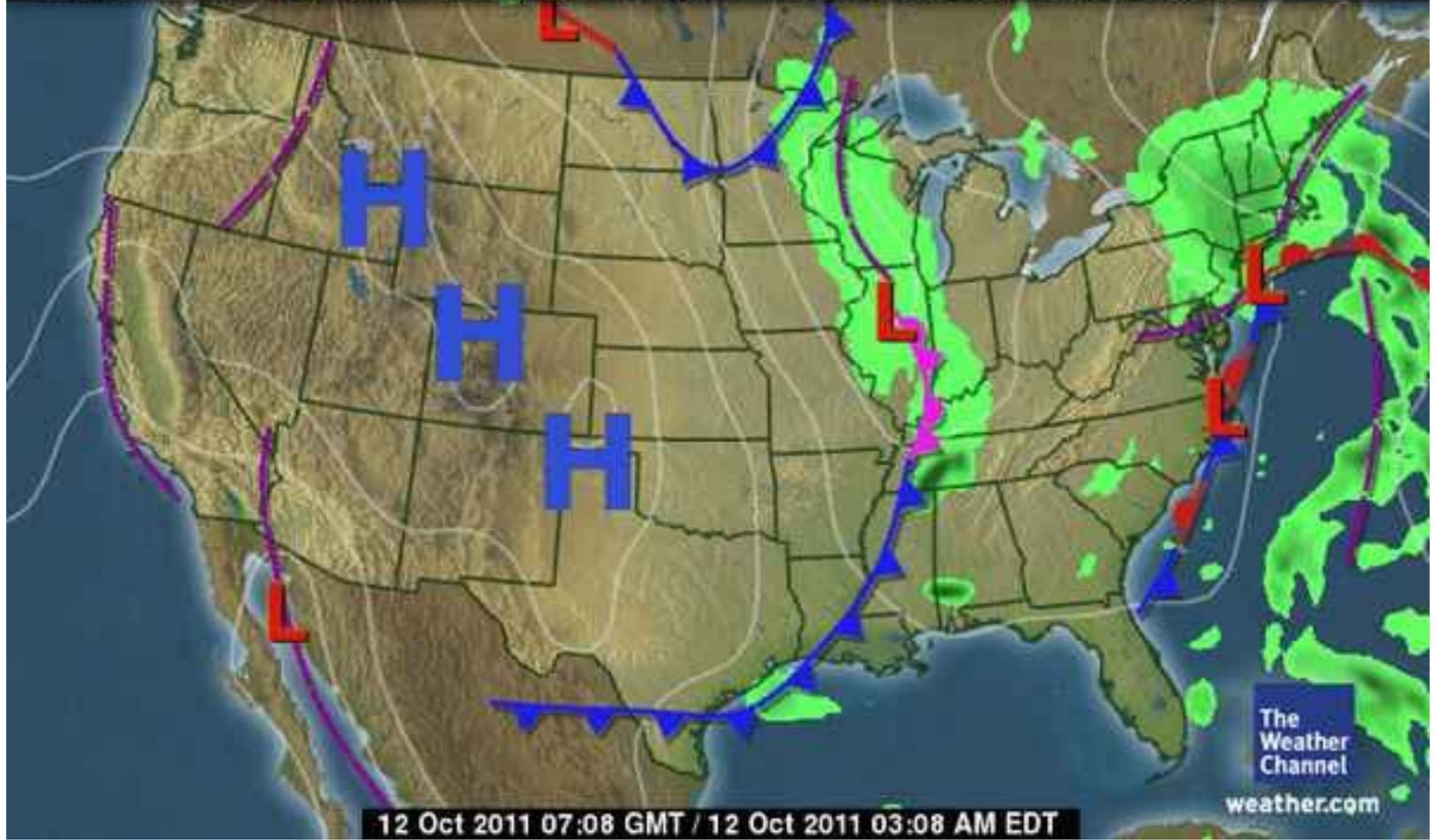
*Spitprint 78*  
 1978 Triumph Spitfire, Federal Version





# Thursday Morning

LT RAIN/DRIZZLE MOD/HVY RAIN FRZ RAIN/SLEET LT SNOW/FLUR MOD/HVY SNOW



12 Oct 2011 07:08 GMT / 12 Oct 2011 03:08 AM EDT

The Weather Channel

weather.com

# OLD STONE BRIDGE ESTATES

A part of the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4, and the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, and the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4, all being in Section 14, Town 10 North, Range 17 East, Dodge County, Wisconsin.

### SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE:

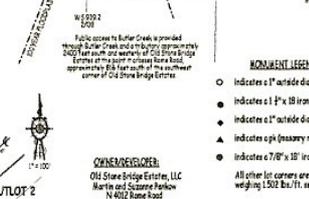
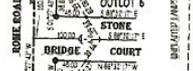
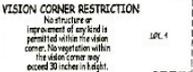
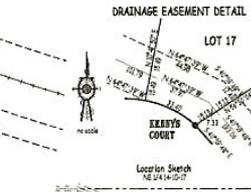
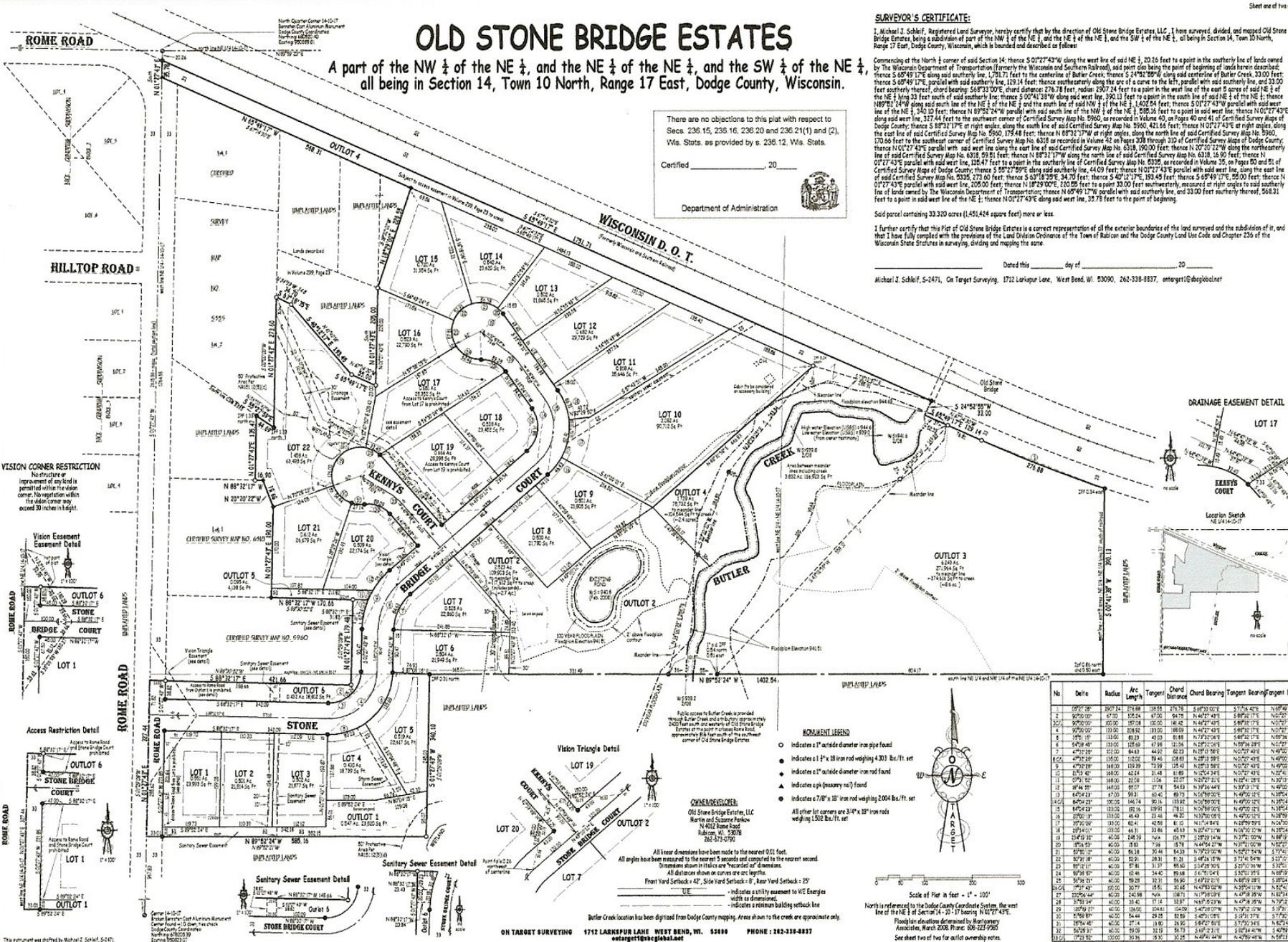
I, Michael J. Schaff, Registered Land Surveyor, hereby certify that the direction of Old Stone Bridge Estates, LLC, I have surveyed, divided, and mapped Old Stone Bridge Estates, being a subdivision of part of the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4, and the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4, and the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4, all being in Section 14, Town 10 North, Range 17 East, Dodge County, Wisconsin, which is bounded and described as follows:

Commencing at the North 1/2 corner of said Section 14; thence S 02°27'43"W along the west line of said NE 1/4, 20.26 feet to a point in the southerly line of lands owned by The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (Formerly the Wisconsin and Southern Railroad), said point also being the point of beginning of lands hereinafter described; thence S 60°49'17"E along said southerly line, 1,701.70 feet to the centerline of Butler Creek; thence S 24°52'20"W along said centerline of Butler Creek, 33.00 feet; thence S 60°49'17"E, parallel with said southerly line, 129.34 feet; thence southeasterly along the arc of a circle to the left, parallel with said southerly line, and 33.00 feet southerly thereof, chord bearing S 68°33'00"E, chord distance 278.78 feet; radius 397.74 feet to a point in the east 1/2 corner of said NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4; thence N 10°27'43"E along said southerly line, 130.11 feet to a point in the south line of said NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4; thence S 00°43'39"W along said west line, 130.11 feet to a point in the south line of said NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4; thence S 02°27'43"W along said south line of the NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4; and the south line of said NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4, 1,602.56 feet; thence S 02°27'43"W parallel with said west line of the NE 1/4, 33.00 feet; thence N 89°50'24"W parallel with said south line of the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4, 1,602.56 feet to a point in said west line; thence N 02°27'43"E along said west line, 327.44 feet to the southeast corner of Certified Survey Map No. 5960, as recorded in Volume 40, on Pages 40 and 41 of Certified Survey Maps of Dodge County; thence S 89°50'24"E at right angles along the south line of said Certified Survey Map No. 5960, 421.64 feet; thence N 02°27'43"E at right angles along the east line of said Certified Survey Map No. 5960, 175.48 feet; thence N 89°50'24"E at right angles, along the north line of said Certified Survey Map No. 5960, 170.60 feet to the southeast corner of Certified Survey Map No. 6318 as recorded in Volume 42 on Pages 308 through 310 of Certified Survey Maps of Dodge County; thence N 02°27'43"E parallel with said west line along the east line of said Certified Survey Map No. 6318, 190.00 feet; thence N 02°27'43"E parallel with said southerly line of said Certified Survey Map No. 6318, 15.90 feet; thence N 02°27'43"E parallel with said west line, 126.47 feet to a point in the southerly line of Certified Survey Map No. 6318, as recorded in Volume 35, on Pages 80 and 81 of Certified Survey Maps of Dodge County; thence S 89°50'24"E along said southerly line, 44.09 feet; thence N 02°27'43"E parallel with said west line, along the east line of said Certified Survey Map No. 6318, 273.60 feet; thence S 63°18'39"E, 34.70 feet; thence S 42°12'17"E, 163.49 feet; thence S 60°49'17"E, 59.03 feet; thence N 02°27'43"E parallel with said west line, 209.00 feet; thence N 89°50'24"E, 120.00 feet to a point 33.00 feet southerly thereof, measured at right angles to said southerly line of lands owned by The Wisconsin Department of Transportation; thence N 60°49'17"W parallel with said southerly line, and 33.00 feet southerly thereof, 56.31 feet to a point in said west line of the NE 1/4; thence N 02°27'43"E along said west line, 32.78 feet to the point of beginning.

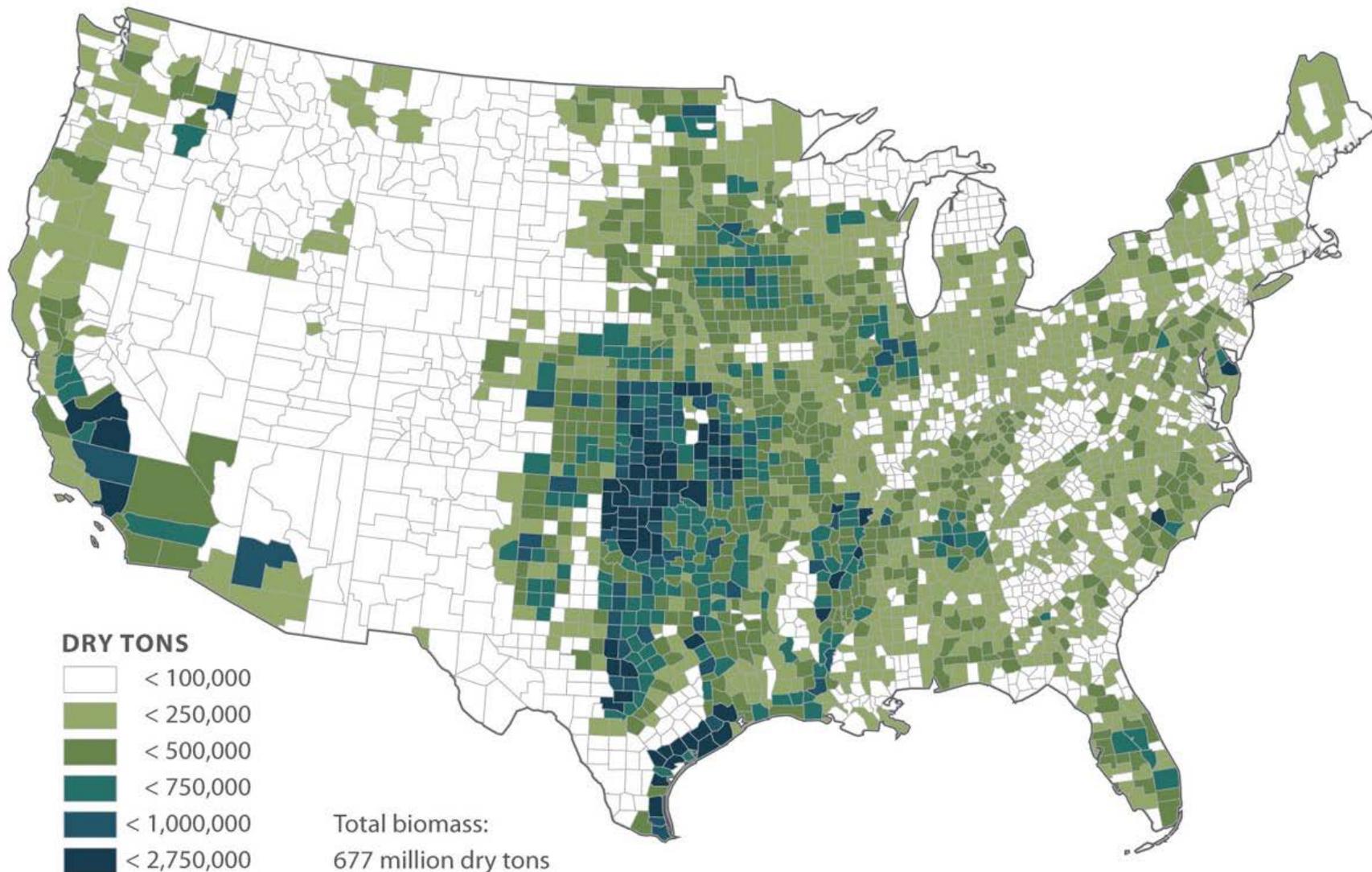
There are no objections to this plat with respect to Secs. 236.15, 236.16, 236.20 and 236.21(1) and (2), Wis. Stats. as provided by s. 236.12, Wis. Stats.  
Certified \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_  
Department of Administration

Said parcel containing 33.333 acres (1,451,424 square feet) more or less.  
I further certify that this plat of Old Stone Bridge Estates is a correct representation of all the anterior boundaries of the land surveyed and the subdivision of it, and that it is being compiled with the provisions of the Land Division Ordinance of the Town of Rubicon and the Dodge County Land Use Code and Chapter 236 of the Wisconsin State Statutes in surveying, dividing and mapping the same.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_  
Michael J. Schaff, S-2471, On Target Surveying, 1712 Lakesur Lane, West Bend, WI 53090, 262-338-8837, mtj@otarget.com



No	Delta	Radius	Arc Length	Tangent	Chord	Chord Bearing	Tangent Bearing	Tangent Bearing
1	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
2	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
3	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
4	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
5	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
6	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
7	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
8	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
9	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
10	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
11	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
12	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
13	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
14	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
15	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
16	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
17	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
18	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
19	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
20	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
21	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
22	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
23	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
24	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
25	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
26	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
27	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
28	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
29	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
30	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
31	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
32	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"
33	00°00'00"	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	00°00'00"	00°00'00"	00°00'00"



## Total potential biomass availability across the continental United States

Though biomass production is generally widespread, it is most concentrated in the southern plains, California, the Corn Belt, and along the Mississippi River. Counties that are not shaded may have biomass available, but in comparatively small amounts.



Old Testament

Genesis  
Exodus  
Leviticus  
Numbers  
Deuteronomy

Joshua  
Judges  
Ruth  
1 Samuel  
2 Samuel  
1 Kings  
2 Kings  
1 Chronicles  
2 Chronicles  
EZRA  
NEHEMIAH  
ESTHER

Psalms  
Songs of Solomon

History

Poetry

Job  
Proverbs  
Ecclesiastes

ISAIAH  
JEREMIAH  
LAMENTATIONS  
EZEKIEL  
DANIEL  
HOSEA  
JOEL  
AMOS  
OBADIAH  
JONAH  
MICAH  
NAHUM  
HABAKKUK  
ZEPHANIAH  
HAGGAI  
ZECHARIAH  
MALACHI

Wisdom

Prophecy

MATTHEW  
MARK  
LUKE  
JOHN  
ACTS

ROMANS  
1 CORINTHIANS  
2 CORINTHIANS  
GALATIANS  
EPHESIANS  
PHILIPPIANS  
COLOSSIANS  
1 THESSALONIANS  
2 THESSALONIANS  
1 TIMOTHY  
2 TIMOTHY  
TITUS  
PHILEMON

History

Epistles

Hebrews  
James  
1 Peter  
2 Peter  
1 John  
2 John  
3 John  
Jude

REVELATION

Epistles

Apocalyptic

New Testament



# Morals for interpretation

- Inerrancy does not mean that all biblical narratives must pass the Cronkite test

ONE DREAM  
CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

# SELMA



PARAMOUNT PICTURES, PATHÉ and HARPO FILMS PRESENT A PLAN B/CLUOD EIGHT FILMS/HARPO FILMS PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH INGENIOUS MEDIA, AN AVA DUVERNAY FILM DAVID OYELOWO "SELMA"  
TIM WILKINSON CARMEN EJOGO GIOVANNI RHYS ALESSANDRO NIVOLA CUBA GOODING, JR. WITH TIM ROTH AND OPRAH WINFREY CASTING AISHA COLEY MAKEUP JASON MORAY COSTUME DESIGNER RUTH E. CARTER  
EDITED BY SPENCER AVERICK PRODUCTION DESIGNER MARK FRIEDBERG DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY BRADFORD YOUNG EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BRAD PITT CAMERON MCCRACKEN DIARMUID MCKEOWN NIK BOVER AVA DUVERNAY PAUL GARNES NAN MORALES  
PRODUCED BY CHRISTIAN COLSON OPRAH WINFREY DEDE GARDNER JEREMY KLEINER WRITTEN BY PAUL WEBB DIRECTED BY AVA DUVERNAY  
www.SelmaMovie.com



IN SELECT THEATRES CHRISTMAS DAY. EVERYWHERE JANUARY 9.



# Genesis 1-3

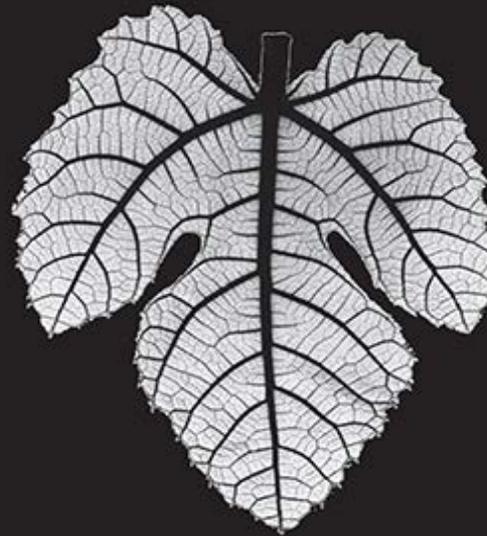


Distinguished Professor of  
Biblical Literature and  
Northwest Semitic  
Languages and Literature  
(American Jewish University,  
Los Angeles)



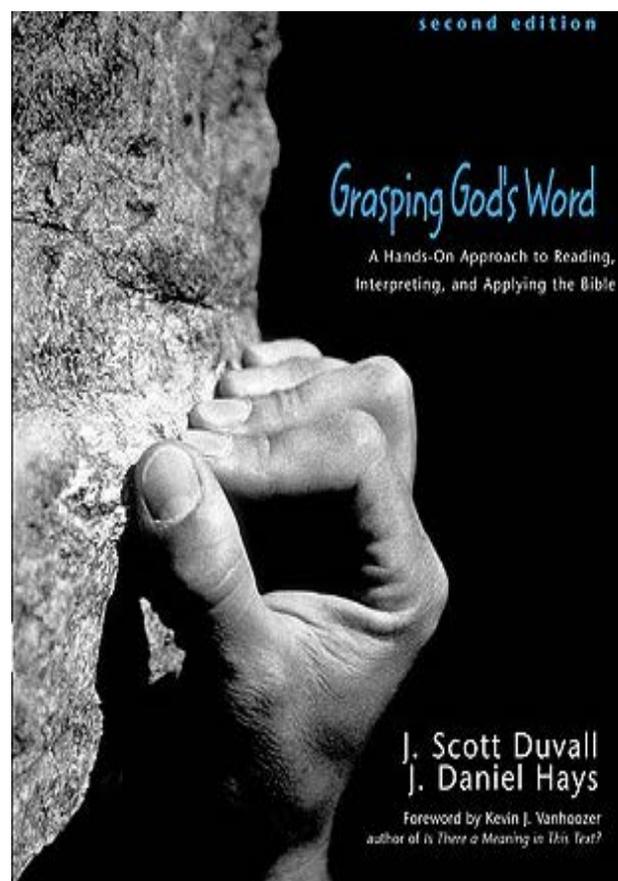
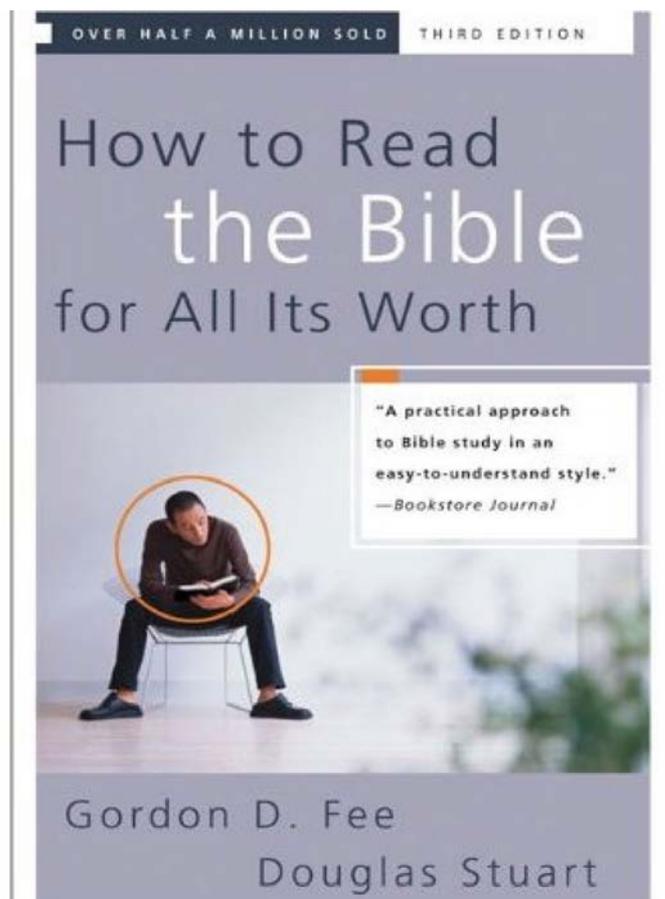
ZIONY ZEVIT

What  
Really  
Happened  
in the  
Garden  
of Eden?





The literal sense = the literary sense =  
what the author is doing with his words



# CONCLUSION

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Cheap vs. costly inerrancy

# Cheap inerrancy

- 1. the profession of biblical truth without the interpretive practice
- 2. the profession of biblical truth with an illiterate interpretative practice

# Costly inerrancy

- 1. We must strive to become biblically literate.
- 2. We must strive to become virtuous interpreters (right-hearted and right-minded readers who desire above all to hear and do God's word)
- 3. We must be willing to endure ongoing difficulties rather than reach for facile answers.

# Journalistic truth: take two

- 1. The truth of Scripture *is* journalistic (i.e., *like* journalism) inasmuch as it is testimony (often eye-witness testimony) to good news: things that God has done in history.
- Thin description (modern journalistic reporting) vs. thick description (theological reportage that attests the event *and* its true interpretation)

# Journalistic truth: take two

- 2. Even to read newspapers today requires sensitivity and competence (i.e., literacy) to literary genres

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# THE EVENING TELEGRAM

ONLY PORTLAND EVEN-  
ING NEWSPAPER THAT  
PUBLISHES ASSOCIATED  
PRESS NEWS.

VOL. LIX.

PORTLAND, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1906.

NO. 3.

# GREAT EARTHQUAKE KILLS 1000 PEOPLE IN SAN FRANCISCO

NEW YORK, April 18.—A fearful earthquake killed 1000 people in San Francisco between 5 and 6 this morning.

## CATASTROPHE IS COLOSSAL

received at about 5 o'clock in the morning. Following it was estimated that all over the city, which the fire department is now attempting to fill with water.

Millions of Damage. The earthquake, it is estimated, has done more damage than any other disaster that has ever occurred in the history of the world.

It is estimated that the damage done in San Francisco is about \$500,000,000. The earthquake was felt all over the world.

## RAILWAY BUILDERS ARE HANDICAPPED

Scarcity of Labor Seriously  
Delays Construction  
Work.

## BUTTE BANKERS MAY LOCATE IN THE ROSE CITY

Bank & Cheam, bankers of Butte, Mont., are in the city with a view to locating out one of the local banks as a result of the fire.

## WOOPERS PREPARE FOR LONG MARCH

Will Spend Three Months in  
Tour of Oregon This  
Summer.

www.oldimprints.com

**DEAR ABBY:**

## **My Dad Objects To a Pet Monkey**

**D**EAR ABBY: I am 10 years old and my Daddy said that when I saved enough money I could buy anything I wanted with it.

All my life, I have wanted a monkey. I have saved \$14. I asked Daddy if I could buy a pet monkey and he said no, because I wouldn't know how to take care of it. My Mom is the fussy type. You know, everything has to be just so. Do you know anyone who has a pet monkey, and can give me some advice?

**WANTS A MONKEY**

**DEAR WANTS:** I have had two pet monkeys (David and Bathsheba) and, although I love monkeys, your father is right. To quote my son (he was 4 at the time), "Monkeys should live with monkeys, and people should live with people."



**ABIGAIL  
VAN BUREN**



# Letters TO THE Editor

## Didn't lose me

I read your Feb. 26 article regarding the ski industry losing women's participation in the sport with interest. I was one of those women until I purchased an innovation that significantly extended my physical ability to enjoy the sport.

The apparatus, called CADS, is the invention of Walter Dandy, a resident of Vail. I'm sure you, being an integral part of Vail, are aware of this unusual yet extremely functional invention that allows both men and women to ski with far less stress on their muscles, joints and skeletal structure.

If not, I urge you to visit the Web site at [www.cads.com](http://www.cads.com). I'm not involved with the company other than being grateful for CADS extending my skiing career. Without the use of CADS, I would be unable to handle the stress and associated pain on my knees.

If you have not already done so, you might want to contact Walter to learn more about his invention. It certainly would provide an article of interest to your readers, and, most likely, would help negate the loss of participants of our great sport.

Anita Sanctuary

## New lease

I just wanted to mention that I, too, approached my late 40s with much less skiing enthusiasm than my husband. We have always skied Vail, since our 20s,

but as the years progressed, my knees began to tolerate skiing less and less.

As a physical therapist for over 20 years with bad knees (chondromalacia, onset of osteoarthritis and what we call "joint mice"), I was hesitant to join my husband's all-day skiing glee only to be in misery at night with swollen, painful knees. When my skiing during the day was interfering with my ability to walk to dinner at night down to Sweet Basil or La Tour, I knew I was in deep trouble. Not even severe knee pain was going to stop me eating!

But it would make me take a second thought about donning my skis the next morning. The only thing that saved me, and gave me back my ability to get back on the slopes with my enthusiastic husband, was finding Walter Dandy from Avon and his CADS system. (I think this stands for Constant Force Articulated Dynamic Struts, which is a mouthful.)

CADS are well described at [www.cads.org](http://www.cads.org) and are available right there in Vail. In fact, this skiing apparatus biomechanically reduces the pressure on the knee joints and transfers the forces down through your boot, simply by skiing. Walter even fit the CADS system to me at Mid-Vail the first day I met him and skied with me to train me how to use the system to my best advantage.

It is my opinion that with a clever and functional system like CADS, many aging or previous-

ly injured skiers would be back on the slopes much sooner and more often, whether they are male or female. It was pain and swelling that was keeping me in the village. I have heard of other people having great results being able to ski without their hip or back pain thanks to CADS. They are one of those little-known secrets around town that keep us up there skiing while actually reducing harmful forces and pressure to our aging parts.

Sandy Raskin  
Colorado Springs

## Keeps me going

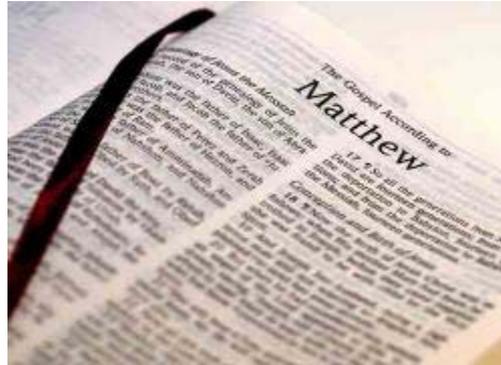
I am a 61-year-old woman, and I have been skiing for 30 years. Because of many years of tennis and running as well as skiing, I have osteoarthritis and a loss of cartilage in my knees.

For many years, I considered trying CADS but put it off because of the hassle (not my ego). Three years ago, the pain became excruciating when I would hit bumps of any kind, so I bit the bullet and became an instant CADS enthusiast. The hassle is minimal, and the benefits are huge.

I can ski anything on the mountain again without pain. I still do have swelling and don't ski every day, but when it's a GREAT day, powder or sun, I am out there and able to enjoy the beauty of the mountains. My grandchildren are now skiing, and it is wonderful to be on the mountain with them. For us, skiing has always been a great family sport!

Ann Frein

*What's on your mind? Share your insight on problems and solutions with the community that meets in the pages of the Vail Daily.*



A4 Wednesday, December 16, 2009

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# OPINION

VIEWPOINT

## Why we need a public option on health care

By Richard Feinberg

I oppose death panels.  
 I detest inefficiency and waste.  
 I don't want some mindless bureaucrat to inter-  
 vene between my doctor and myself.  
 I don't want a numberscrunching micromanager  
 telling me which doctor I may see or rationing my  
 access to medicines and medical procedures.

That's why we need a public option.  
 Think about the health care system most of us  
 experience today. I know I'm not the only one who  
 has been told by my insurance company which  
 doctors I may see if I want to be fully covered-or,  
 sometimes, if I want to be covered at all.

Who hasn't had a friend or relative denied im-  
 portant treatment because an insurance company's  
 panel of "experts" deemed the procedure "experi-  
 mental"? Or inappropriate? Or simply too expen-  
 sive?

A few years ago, my dental carrier refused to  
 reimburse a periodontist because the company's  
 "experts" (may I say, "bureaucrats"?) determined  
 that my fractured tooth would "heal itself!"

Today, my brother's medical insurance com-  
 pany requires him to drive 500 miles for cancer  
 tests because the hospitals in his home town are  
 "out of network."

Supporters of the present health care system  
 warn us of a government takeover. Having experi-  
 enced single-payer medical service while travel-  
 ing abroad, I only wish that it were so. In truth,  
 the bills now before Congress would do little  
 more than curtail our insurance companies' most  
 egregious abuses.

We're warned that a public option-if one is in-  
 cluded in the bill-would lead to unfair competi-  
 tion and drive private companies out of business.  
 Why is public competition so unfair? Because,  
 we're told, the government can operate without a  
 profit.

Personally, if we can offer world-class patient  
 care at a reasonable cost by forgoing profits, I'm  
 all for it. I'd like to see decisions made about my  
 health based on what is best for me rather than a

Proponents of the current system warn that pub-  
 lic health care will mean higher taxes. I'm grati-  
 fied to learn that they are so concerned about my  
 pocketbook. I find it curious, however, that they  
 never mention the insurance premiums I'm al-  
 ready charged. It's not that I like paying taxes, but  
 I recognize-to use Ronald Reagan's metaphor-that  
 "there is no free lunch." I'm more than willing to  
 pay higher taxes if it saves me many thousands in  
 premiums.

I know many of my neighbors are suspicious of  
 Big Government; indeed, I am myself. What I fail  
 to understand is why we should be less suspicious  
 of Big Business. Certainly our government can  
 make, and has made, colossal blunders. Still, I can  
 think of nothing it has done to match the likes of  
 Enron, Lehman Brothers, AIG, or Bernie Madoff-  
 all icons of private enterprise.

When our country really is in trouble, it seems  
 we always turn to government. When Pearl Har-  
 bor was attacked, how many of our countrymen  
 proposed to hand our military over to a profit-  
 driven corporation? When the Soviets launched  
 Sputnik, did we rely on private companies to run  
 the space program? There may be a place for pre-  
 paid security firms, but do you really want to see  
 police departments privatized?

Yes, governmental agencies can run amok. We  
 all can cite examples. Unlike Blackwater, howev-  
 er, when elected leaders compromise our nation's  
 welfare, we can vote them out of office. That's  
 what representative democracy is all about.

Most of us take pride in our form of govern-  
 ment and are convinced that other countries would  
 do well to follow our lead. Lincoln's "Gettysburg  
 Address," arguably the most famous speech in  
 American history, concludes with a defense of  
 government of, by, and for the people. Why, then,  
 are many of our fellow citizens so fearful?

If our country is not the democracy fashioned  
 by Jefferson and Lincoln, on what grounds do we  
 justify our history of fighting "round the globe"? If  
 we truly use a democratic nation, the government  
 is us.

# Doing biblical truth: interpretation as discipleship (and discipleship as interpretation)

