

“LOCATING REVELATION”

John 14:16-18, 26

Going to look at the process of finding revelation in a particular text. Important to understand that not every scripture can be approached the same way. Some passages you can look for Curse/Cause/Cure. Others don't fit that pattern.

I. FINDING THE THEME

A. Step 1: Find the theme of the text

1. The main idea that runs all through the sentences
 - a. You look for repeated words: Helper V16/26 Spirit V17/26
 - b. Look for statements that explain the repeated words
 1. V17 He may abide with you forever... (He is the Helper)
 2. V17 He dwells with and will be in you... (Spirit of truth)
2. When you look at these you see that the passage about is The Holy Spirit
 - a. The theme: *What difference does the Holy Spirit make in believers lives? What will He do?*

B. Step 2: Find the different statements of the theme or main idea

1. What does the text say about the theme? (Go through each verse and write down the different aspects)
 - a. V16 Helper (KJV Comforter)
 - b. V16 may abide with you forever
 - c. V17 Spirit of truth
 - d. V17 dwells with you and will be in you
 - e. V26 will teach you all things
 - f. V26 bring to remembrance all I said to you

C. Step 3: See if you need to do word studies on key words

1. You see that Comforter is translated with many different words/ways
 - a. Comforter/Helper/Counselor/Advocate/stand by you/Friend/Intercessor/Advocate/Strengtheners/Standby
 - b. Doesn't mean they disagree: It means the original word is so rich 1 English word isn't enough
2. You do word studies
 - a. Strong's: Parakletos an intercessor, consoler :- advocate, comforter.
 - b. Vincent's: was used for legal assistant, pleader, advocate, one who pleads another's cause
 - c. Thayer's: in the widest sense - a helper, succorer, aider, assistant The Targums and Talmud borrow the Greek words and use them of any intercessor, defender, or advocate
 - d. CWD: To comfort, encourage or exhort, referring to an aid of any kind. In the Greek writers, used of a legal advisor, pleader, proxy, or advocate, one who comes forward in behalf of and as the representative of another.

D. Step 4: If you have more than 3 ideas – look for logical groupings

1. Do some of the statements go together? (there are more than three)
 - a. Different aspects of the same statement/idea?
 1. Teach/bring to remembrance and perhaps spirit of truth all go together
 2. Abide with you forever/dwells with you and will be in you
2. Choose your 3 points (the context tells me Jesus is wanting them to be reassured of presence)

I. AN EMPOWERING PRESENCE

II. A COMFORTING PRESENCE

III. A GUIDING PRESENCE

II. DEVELOPING THE THOUGHTS

A. Under each point you begin to build a case for why this is true/what it means for us

1. What is the context of the passage (*Jesus preparing them for the fact that He is leaving them*)
 - a. Why would that be considered bad news to them? Because they had access to His help
2. So you see that the three arguments or ideas are dealing with three problems or fears they will face
 - a. **Their lack of power without Jesus**
 1. HS is a Helper
 2. Another: Greek word meaning exactly the same as Jesus
 - a. V18 I will not leave you alone/orphaned – I will come to you (through the Holy Spirit)
 - b. **The problem of guilt:** Jesus knew they would fail/do wrong/sin/get off track
 1. Jesus is the first Advocate – speaking to God on our behalf: Accept them b/c of my blood
 2. HS is another Advocate: Speaking to us about Jesus work/who God is
 - c. **The problem of lack of their knowledge or equipping for life**
 1. They would be facing all kinds of difficulties in their lives
 - a. V27 let not your heart be troubled... my peace I leave with you
 2. The answer is that the Holy Spirit will guide them: V26 teach you all things/bring to remembrance

B. Build your case

1. State the problem/perhaps some of the consequences – then give the answer through the Holy Spirit
 - a. Give scriptures & illustrations that fill out the ideas