



The Faith Rest Life

Part I

Motivation

- Why are some Christians are committing suicide?
- God the Father has a life plan for YOU
- God's plan is FAITH
 - Faith Dependency on the Holy Spirit
 - He Does the Work
 - We Receive Blessings



God Has A Plan For Your Life

- Phase I: Faith in Jesus Christ as Savior
- Phase II: Faith Dependence on the HS
- Phase III: Face to Face with Jesus Christ



Your Christian Life Has Meaning





Faith-Rest (Life) Approach

- Faith Rest Background
- Faith Rest Description
- Faith Rest “Technique”
- Faith Rest Examples



Faith Rest Background

“R.B. Thieme, Jr. developed the doctrine of the faith-rest drill early on in his ministry. The term faith rest describes the way of life of the believer in the Old Testament and faith rest is one of the spiritual mechanics in our lives as believers in the Church Age.”

http://kukis.org/Doctrines/faith_rest.pdf

Faith Rest Life

- We walk by faith
- We should rest in faith dependence on the Holy Spirit (“God is in charge.”)
- This is our continuing life, not a one-time decision

Faith-Rest Description

“The faith-rest, briefly described, is that principle taught in the Word of God by which we enter a divinely provided dynamic rest from struggling to live for God. This is done by believing the promises of God’s Word, which releases God to work in and through us with His mighty power and wisdom. Even the indispensable means of living the Christian life called “walking in the Spirit” is appropriated by believing God’s promises of the Holy Spirit’s ministry to us.”

Hal Lindsey in “Combat Faith” (p 34)



Faith-Rest Technique

Hebrews 4:1-2 (NASB)

Therefore, let us fear lest, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you should seem to have come short of it.

For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it was not united by faith in those who heard.

Faith Rest Examples

- Faith Heroes of Hebrews Chapter 11
- Positive Example: David (Individual)
 - 1 Samuel 17
- Positive Example: Hezekiah (Nation)
 - Isaiah 36
 - 2 Kings 18:13 – 19:37
 - 2 Chronicles 32:1-23
- Positive Example: Jehoshaphat (Nation)
 - 2 Chronicles 20
- Negative Example: David 2 Samuel 11:1-27

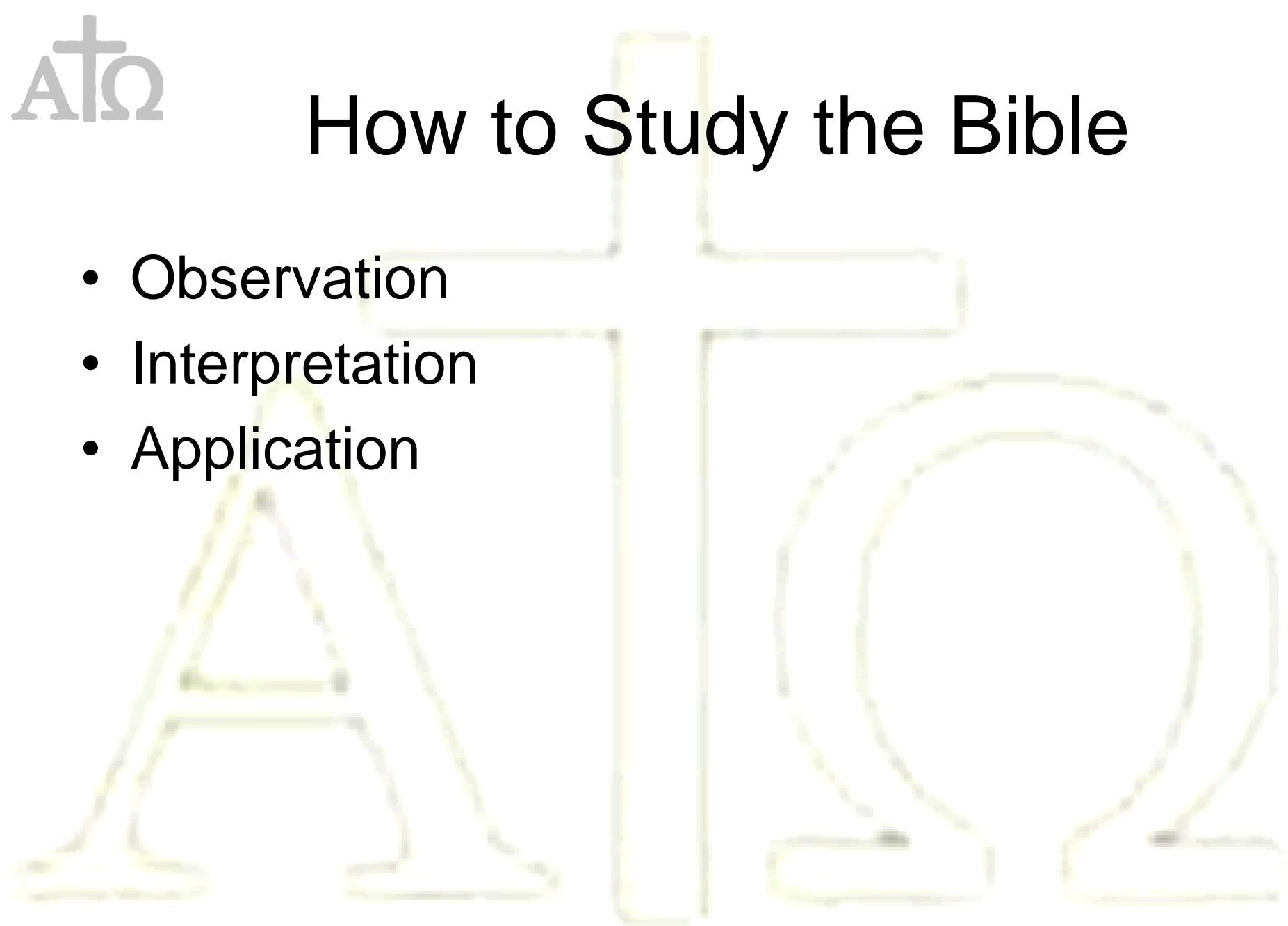
Basic Faith Rest Technique

- A Promise (The Word of God)
- Faith and then Rest in that Faith
- It is NOT an incantation or amulet
- It is understanding the character of God through the “promise” and having faith in God’s character and your relationship to God “in Christ”



How to Study the Bible

- Observation
- Interpretation
- Application



Kings Versus Chronicles

- Kings
 - Kings focus on the Northern Kingdom
 - Kings focus on kings
- Chronicles
 - Chronicles focus on the Southern Kingdom
 - Chronicles focus on theology/spirituality

Chronicles as “Spiritual”

“**1 and 2 Chronicles** covers much of the same material covered by **2 Samuel** and **1 and 2 Kings**, but the emphasis of the book of **Chronicles** is different. **Chronicles** also relates the historical narrative but does so from a **spiritual, theological** perspective often answering the question of the “why” of many events recorded in **2 Samuel** and the books of **Kings**. **Chronicles** amounts to a “divine commentary” on the reigns of David and Solomon” [author’s emphasis]

Mock, Dennis J., Bible Training Center for Pastors, Vol2 Old Testament Survey, page 117

Outline of 2 Chronicles 20

- I. Problem Identified (1-2)
- II. Jehoshaphat Responds (3-4)
- III. Jehoshaphat Prays (5-12)
- IV. God Answers (14-19)
- V. Judah's Response (20-21)
- VI. God Acts (22-23)
- VII. Judah's Booty (24-25)
- VIII. Judah's Thanksgiving (26-29)
- IX. Lasting Peace/Rest (30)

Background

- Duty of the King
 - Deuteronomy 17:18 Read the “Law”
- Reigned almost 150 years after David and almost 150 years before the Northern Kingdom is taken out
- Chastised for forming an alliance with King Ahab of the Northern Kingdom to recover Ramoth-gilead from Syria (Aram).
2 Chronicles 17. Jehoshaphat was defeated and Ahab died.

Deuteronomy 17:18-19

Verse 18 Now it shall come about when he [the king] sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself a copy of this law on a scroll in the presence of the Levitical priests.

Verse 19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, by carefully observing all the words of this law and these statutes.

King Jehoshaphat

- Jehoshaphat was a good King:

2 Chronicles 17:3-4

And the Lord was with Jehoshaphat because he followed the example of his father David's earlier days and did not seek the Baals, But sought the God of his father, followed His commandments, and did not act as Israel did.

Problem Identified (1-2)

1 Now it came about after this that the sons of Moab and the sons of Ammon, together with some of the Meunites, came to make war against Jehoshaphat.

2 Then some came and reported to Jehoshaphat, saying, “A great multitude is coming against you from beyond the sea, out of Aram and behold, they are in Hazazon-tamar (that is Engedi).”

Comments

- Amon & Moab are Sons of Lot, Abraham's Nephew
- Verse 1 is a statement of fact with the backing of biblical inerrancy
- Verse 2 is what someone said to Jehoshaphat. What was said to Jehoshaphat is quoted accurately. But, the truth of what was said is not guaranteed.

“Meunites”

- “Meunites” is not in the Masoretic text. From the Ammonites is in the text. This makes no sense.
- Later there are three forces: Ammon, Moab, Mt. Seir.
- There is a “mysterious” people called Meunites that inhabited the region near Mt. Seir (Edom).

Verse 2 Comment 1

- “Some came” is literally “they came.”
- This is an attempt to resolve the fact that the text does not say who told Jehoshaphat. Could it have been someone from this attacking force? Maybe.
- In any case, what someone said is reported accurately by the inerrant text.
- The accuracy of what this someone said is not guaranteed. So it could have been exaggerated to some extent to cause Jehoshaphat to fear.

Verse 2 Comment 2

- A great multitude means you are badly outnumbered which based upon the narrative is true
- “the sea” is not specified. Logic says it must be the Dead Sea, called in the Old Testament, “Salt Sea.” But it is not so identified here.
- En Gedi is on the west side of the Dead Sea (see map)
- Logic would suggest that the hostile force started in Ammon, joined with Moabite forces and then swung around the southern tip of the Dead Sea into Edom and from there into Judah.

Map for Verse 2



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King's Response (3-4)

3 Jehoshaphat was afraid [alarmed] and turned his attention to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah [declared a national emergency].

4 So Judah gathered together to seek help from the Lord; they even came from all the cities of Judah to seek the Lord.

- Jehoshaphat was “afraid.” In this context, perhaps a better word is “alarmed.” He did not run in fear or cower in a corner. He acted decisively in faith.
- Jehoshaphat “proclaimed a fast” is similar to declaring a national emergency.

Outline of Jehoshaphat's Prayer

- Jehoshaphat Stands in Temple (verse 5)
- God's Identity & Essence (verse 6)
- God's Relationship to Israel (verse 7)
- Temple Meeting Place with God (verse 8)
- Protocol Identified (verse 9)
- Protocol Applied (verses 10 - 11)
- Request for Judgment (verse 12)