Hearing God’s Voice in the Pages of Scripture

Session #2: The Attention the Bible Requires

How do we get to grips with the intentions of the biblical authors as these are expressed in the inspired pages of Scripture?

I. The Inspiration of the Bible

‘The Bible, as originally given, is the inspired and infallible Word of God. It is the supreme authority in all matters of belief and behaviour.’ (UCCF Doctrinal Basis)

II. The Intention of the Author

1. The intention of the author as laid down in the text
2. The intention of the author and the significance for the reader
3. The intention of the author and the inspiration of Scripture
4. The intention of the author and the canon of Scripture
5. The intention of the author and the task of interpretation

III. The Meaning of the Text

1. Reading for the literary flow: literary context
2. Reading for the historical background: historical context
3. Reading for the big picture: biblical context

Further Reading

For starting out on interpreting the Bible:

Richard Chin, How to Read the Bible Better (Matthias Media, 2021).


**For next steps on interpreting the Bible:**

Nigel Beynon and Andrew Sach, *Dig Deeper! Tools to Unearth the Bible’s Treasure* (IVP, 2005).


Andrew Sach and Tim Hiorns, *Dig Deeper into the Gospels: Coming Face to Face With Jesus in Mark* (IVP, 2015).

**For going further on interpreting the Bible:**


**For heavy lifting on interpreting the Bible:**


Antony Billington  
*Word Alive 2022*