

John 3:8
The wind blows where He wishes.

TRUTH, TRIBES, AND CULTURE IN THE SBC

LOOKING AT OUR SBC LANDSCAPE FROM ABOVE RE: FRIENDLY COOPERATION

Who among you is wise and understanding?

Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. . . But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peace-loving, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, free of hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. — James 3:13, 17-18

The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance (change of mind). — 2 Timothy 2:24-25

BASE TRUTHS

What is Truth?

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me. (John 14:6)

Why did God give us Scripture?

You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to Me! (John 5:39)

How should we use Scripture?

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

What if we disagree?

Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls . . . Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind. . . So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another. Do not tear down the work of God. (Rom. 14:4-5,19-20)

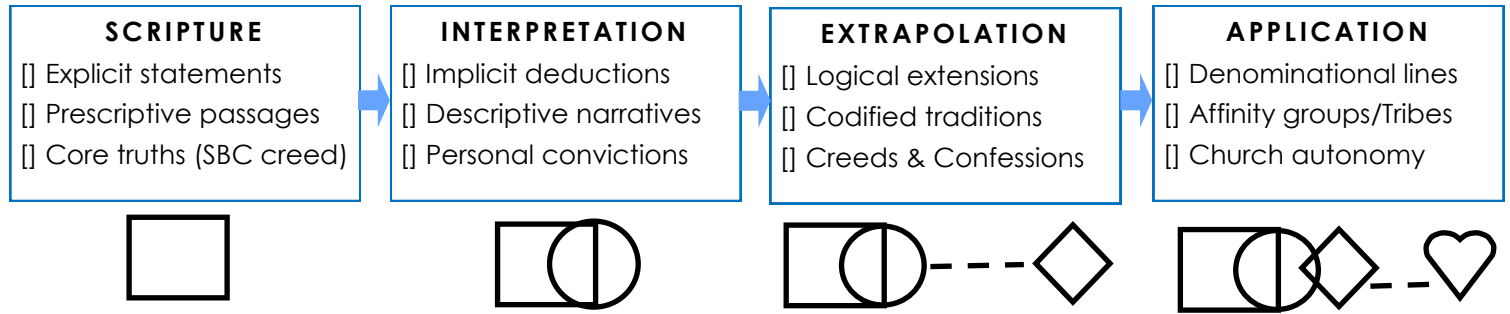
HOW WE DO OUR BEST TO HANDLE SCRIPTURE ON THE ROAD TO APPLICATIONS

Hermeneutical challenges leading to Inevitable Eisogesis: 7 Hidden Things that Blind & Bind our Hearts

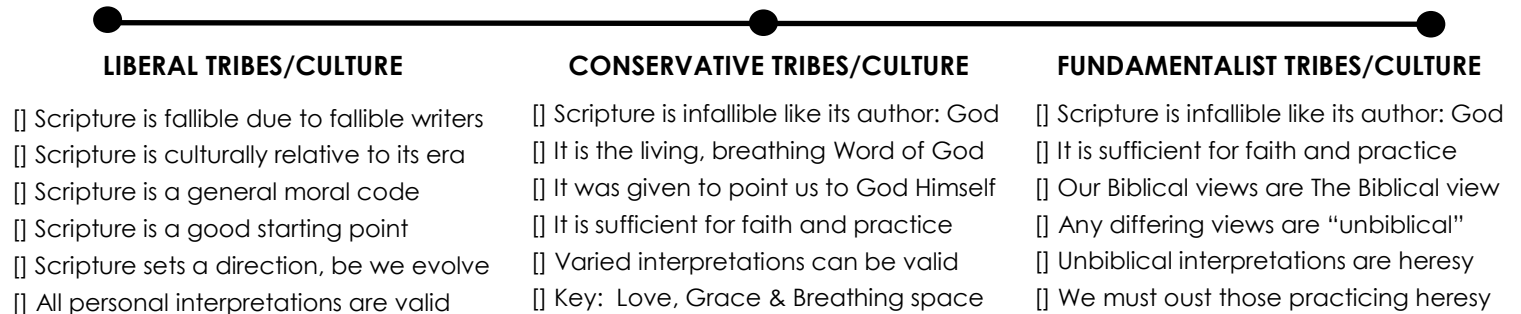
Wounded Hearts; Defense Mechanisms; Coping Strategies; Role Playing; Binding Addictions; Logical Fallacies; Cognitive Biases

Appeals to Authority & Cherry Picking from diverse sources to support personal conclusions and convictions:

CreeDs; Confessions; Constitutions; Commentaries; Case History; Quotes; Traditions; Sermons; Definitions; Testimonies; Experiences



HOW VARIOUS CULTURES/TRIBES/DENOMINATIONS/AFFINITY GROUPS VIEW & USE SCRIPTURE



The SBC was founded on the premise that Scripture alone (the square) would be our "creed" regarding acceptance among us.

1. Is trying to use a non-SBC test of appealing to historic creeds to "preserve our SBC distinctives" blindly ironic or wisely valid?
2. Are we a SBC culture drifting to leftist liberalism, or simply enduring another periodic season of diverse, internal, tribal strife?
3. Should the test of **Friendly Cooperation** be the **Core Truths of Scripture alone**, or the **BF&M with additional interpretations**?