

## Hermeneutics 2 Lesson 10

### The Christo-Centric Principle

**Theme:** As I have stated many times throughout this study the Bible is the revelation of God's plan for the redemption of man. The focal point of this revelation is Jesus.

There are certain questions that vital to us understanding the correct interpretation of Scripture. One question as we approach a passage is, "How does this Scripture fit into plan of redemption", or "What does it reveal about God's plan"? To correctly answer these questions we must see what is being said, revealed, or what the role of Jesus is in the passage. To ignore the revelation of Christ in a passage is a terrible mistake and may very well be the most grievous mistake in hermeneutics.

I remember the approach of many of the great preachers in my lifetime often made the comment that they would start in a passage but sooner or later they would end up at the cross. While I have found that this is often the case in Scripture it is not always the case but it is always the case that Scripture in some form or fashion is going to point us in the direction of Christ. This is the great error of the pop-psychology preaching and teaching that we have been overwhelmed with today. While the focus of this preaching and teaching is good it too often misses the most important point. This approach is always trying to make an individual better by encouraging the hearer to be the best you, with the promise of wealth, success, happy relationships, and good health. These things are attractive to people because we all want these things. I have never met a person who did not want satisfaction or success in life. These are natural to our humanity but a diet of this type of teaching is detrimental because it puts the attention on the hearer and ignores the role of Christ. I once heard a well known Bible teacher, who was known as being conservative in his theology, speak glowingly about a tele-evangelist that was of this mindset. He revealed in a sermon that they were friends and that he had great respect for him. I was immediately torn because I had no respect for the man that he had mentioned. I felt and still feel that this man had done a disservice to the Gospel and had harmed the cause for Christ. I later asked this man privately about a certain issue that the man he had mentioned was spreading that was heretical. I will never forget his answer. He closed his eyes and wrinkled his face up and said, "I don't know all about that, but I sure do love it when he preaches Jesus?" If you know me then you know that there are times that I cannot let it go. This was one of those times, even though I could tell that he was hoping that I would. I said to him, "The problem is though he is on television every day, I have never heard him preach Jesus."

The Christo-Centric Principle means that we will keep Christ as the focal point of Scripture. We should always remember what Jesus said in **John 12:32**, "*And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.*" We should always make much of Jesus and make Him the focus in our approach to Scripture.

#### I. Defining the Christo-Centric Principle.

- A. It is that principle by which God shows:
  1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Deity is eternally centered in Christ.
  2. All \_\_\_\_\_ thought and ministry are centered in Christ.

3. All \_\_\_\_\_ hatred and subtlety are centered at Christ.
  4. All \_\_\_\_\_ hopes are, and human occupations should be, centered in Christ.
  5. The \_\_\_\_\_ material universe in creation is centered in Christ.
  6. The \_\_\_\_\_ written Word is centered in Christ.
- B. It is that principle of \_\_\_\_\_ Revelation in which God reveals that all things in Creation and Redemption are centered in Christ.
  - C. Centered on Jesus Christ; having Jesus Christ as the \_\_\_\_\_ point, as in a theology or a hermeneutical method.
  - D. Christology/Christological. That part of \_\_\_\_\_ study or confession relating to the person and work of Christ, especially the union in him of the human and the divine.

**II. The mind of Deity is eternally centered in Christ.**

- A. This is seen in the \_\_\_\_\_ that Christ was in the form of God; the mind of God was in Him.
- B. God was unseen by men before the Incarnation except in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Old Testament.
- C. He is the \_\_\_\_\_ of all things.

**III. All angelic thought and ministry are centered in Christ.**

- A. Isaiah 6: with John 12:41.
- B. Luke 1:—angels \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. After \_\_\_\_\_—angels came and ministered to Him.
- D. He will return \_\_\_\_\_ by angels.
- E. Angels are \_\_\_\_\_ to Him.
- F. All the angels of God \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

**IV. All Satanic hatred and subtlety are centered at Christ.**

**V. All human hopes are, and human occupations should be, centered in Christ.**

**VI. The whole material universe in creation is centered in Christ.**

**VII. The entire written Word is centered in Christ.**