

# O'Malley Family Bible Study Feb 27, 2011

**Purpose:** To show the Bible is relevant to all age and knowledge groups. As you grow (2 Pt 3:18) in your knowledge of the Bible then you'll find that the same verse becomes more descriptive and more informational. This also helps to define the WWJD (what would Jesus do) by understanding WJD (what Jesus did).

Disclaimer: I am not a Middle East custom expert. I listened to a Focus on the Family series that was very revealing in getting to understand some of the customs that Jesus would have lived under. The new found knowledge has helped give me better insights to many scripture verses. I disagreed with some of the viewpoints of the presenter in the series however from a custom vantage point. it was most valuable.

# Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Matthew 10:16

The above verse frames this bible study. It says that there are wolves and serpents ready to kill and maim Jesus' flock (Christians... ergo you) and you must guard your actions and speech lest they use that against you.

Matthew 12:37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Jesus and the apostles were very aware of the plots against them such as...

The religious rulers sought to kill Jesus:

KJV John 8:37 I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you.

The religious rulers sought to kill Paul:

KJV Acts 26:21 For these causes the Jews caught me in the temple, and went about to kill me.

In order to kill Jesus and the apostles they had to get them into their corrupt legal system somehow. The Jews then conspired among themselves to get Jesus and the apostles to say something that was against the law...

KJV Matthew 22:15 Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk.

The Jews tried to get Jesus to be a tax-protestor and to make people rise up and stone a woman caught in adultery.

RSV Matthew 22:17-21

17 Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"

RSV John 8:3-11

- 3 The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst
- 4 they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery.
- 5 Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such. What do you say about her?"

Jesus and the apostles used a speech technique called Remez in order to preach in the open. Remez is 1 of the 4 methods that Jesus and the Apostles used when preaching to the people. The 4 methods bring additional clarity to the verse not a contradictory meaning. The four teaching methods are:

P'Shat – the simple or plain meaning Remez – a hint or clue, an alluded meaning Derasha – a story or interpretive meaning Sod – a hidden or esoteric meaning

Remez is a hint to a greater meaning of the message. To use this technique Jesus would say part of a verse from an old testament scripture with the intent that the person listening knew what scripture verse Jesus was speaking about and the person knew the verses before and after the verse Jesus mentioned. In this way Jesus could be speaking to a crowd in a plain way but yet telling the "learned elders" another message. This is why in many places in the scriptures that the religious rulers wanted to arrest him for speaking an innocent text. The innocent/plain part was for the common folk while the deeper meaning was for the ruling party.

We'll see a few examples.

Jesus, on the cross, ties Psalms 22:1 to his agony as mentioned in verses 13 thru 18 by using the phrase "My God, My God why hast thou forsaken me?" The deeper meaning was in verse 13-18 which describes Jesus' crucifixion.

RSV Matthew 27:46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lama sabach-thani?" that is, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

RSV Psalms 22:1 **MY GOD, my God, why has thou forsaken me**? Why art thou so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

#### RSV Psalms 22:13-18

- 13 they open wide their mouths at me, like a ravening and roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax, it is melted within my breast;
- 15 my strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue cleaves to my jaws; thou dost lay me in the dust of death.
- 16 Yea, dogs are round about me; a company of evildoers encircle me; they have pierced my hands and feet--
- 17 I can count all my bones-- they stare and gloat over me;
- 18 they divide my garments among them, and for my raiment they cast lots.

Another one, Jesus mentions part of Psalms 8:2 "out of mouths of babes and sucklings" in order to hint that the chief priests and the scribes were the enemies of God at the end of verse 8:2

## RSV Matthew 21:15-16

- 15 But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant;
- 16 and they said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast brought perfect praise'?"

RSV Psalms 8:2 by **the mouth of babes and infants**, thou hast founded a bulwark because of thy foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

The Father used the technique at Jesus' baptism by calling Jesus his Son in reference to Psalms 2:7-11 which indicate what Jesus mission was.

RSV Luke 3:22 and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form, as a dove, and a voice came from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased."

#### RSV Psalms 2:7-11

- 7 I will tell of the decree of the Lord: He said to me, "You are my son, today I have begotten you.
- 8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.
- 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron, and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."
- 10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.
- 11 Serve the Lord with fear, with trembling

Jesus calls himself "Son of Man" many times to the ire of the religious leaders. 26 times Jesus used the term in the book of Matthew. Son of Man refers back to Daniel 7:13-14. Jesus refers to verse 13 however verse 14 was the deeper meaning.

**Son of Man** Mt 8:20, 9:6, 10:23, 11:19, 12:8, 12:32, 12:40, 13:37, 16:13, 16:27, 16:28, 17:9, 17:22, 19:28, 20:18, 20:28, 24:27, 24:30 24:37, 24:39, 24:44, 25:31, 26:2, 26:24, 26:45, 26:64,

#### RSV Daniel 7:13-14

- 13 I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a **son of man**, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him.
- 14 And to him was given dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

John the Baptist used a remez in a question to Jesus and Jesus responded back to John with one. John asks Jesus if he was the one to come. John already knew that Jesus was the anointed when he saw the Spirit descending like a dove onto Jesus.

RSV John 1:33 I myself did not know him; but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'

John's question was if he was going to be getting out of prison by referring to the coming one in Zechariah 9:9 but hinting at verse 11 which mentions the captives would be set free.

RSV Matthew 11:3 and said to him, "Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?"

#### RSV Zechariah 9:9-11

- 9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Lo, **your king comes to you;** triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on an ass, on a colt the foal of an ass.
- 10 I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.
- 11 As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your captives free from the waterless pit.

## RSV Matthew 11:4-6

- 4 And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see:
- 5 the **blind receive their sight** and the **lame walk**, lepers are cleansed and the **deaf hear**, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.
- 6 And blessed is he who takes no offense at me."

Jesus responded back to John with a remez mentioning Isaiah 35:4-6 to be strong and leaves out any mention of getting out of jail. This tells John to be strong, you are going to die in jail. This coincides with verse 6 of Matthew 11 "And blessed is he who takes no offense at me". Jesus was telling John a difficult message.

RSV Isaiah 35:4-6

- 4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."
- 5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
- 6 then shall the **lame man leap like a hart**, and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

There are many other remez examples in the Bible. The main point is that reading the Bible will give you a understanding of Jesus' teaching. Knowing remez will get you what the deeper meaning of what Jesus was hinting at.

The only way to know this technique to get a deeper understanding what Jesus and the Apostles are referring to... you need to read the entire bible.

RSV Luke 24:27 And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

RSV John 5:46 If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote of me.

There are 30-50+ Remezes used Jesus and his apostles (according to different websites). As you read a passage, reflect on what the corresponding Old Testament verse is and read above/below the verse to see what the deeper meaning is.

To say that Jesus wouldn't hide a meaning would go against:

RSV Proverbs 25:2 It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out.

It's your job to study the Bible

Best Regards, David O'Malley

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1/8/2011 - God exists
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1/15/2011 - Moses: The Untold Years

1/29/2011 - The Biblical Timeline: From Adam to 2011 2/12/2011 - Jesus: Going to the  $4^{\rm th}$  level part 1

2/28/2011 - Jesus: Going to the  $4^{th}$  level part 2

- Future O'Malley Family Bible studies (not in order) - Abraham sentenced Jesus to death
- How to act when visited by an angel
- from divorcee to conquistador
- The fall of Babylon
- Indiana Jones vs the Bible: Location of the Ark
- Passover: from Sodom and Ghemorra to Jesus
- The Biblical Calendar: two confusing or two simple?
- The Trinity: 1 in 3, 3 in 1 or ... 4 by 2 from 1???
- pt 1 The Salvation Cycle: From hearing to preaching
- pt 2 Snake Survival Manual: Their Anatomy & Characteristics
- pt 3 Dress Code Strictly Enforced: What you should & should not be wearing
- pt 4 Spiritual Warfare Academy: repair the breeches & deploy counter offenses
- Book of Enoch summary
- Fall of Jerusalem: departure of the King of Kings
- Feast days then and now
- Psalms 69 Jesus' troubled life
- 5 stones for 5 giants: Peace in the land at last
- Fear of the Lord
- To forgive or not to forgive that is the question
- Caesarea Philippi: Portal to the underworld