

From the Mouth of God

Lesson Nine

1. According to Ferguson, what are the six “*big points*” made in the Westminster Confession of Faith concerning the study of God’s word?

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

f.

2. As the author notes, “...a passage may have various applications, and indeed apply in different ways to different contexts. In addition a statement may relate to something that takes place beyond the time period in which it was spoken or written, and thus may have both an immediate and a longer term function.” What are some Scriptural examples of this?

3. What does it mean to read and interpret Scripture according to its *natural sense*?

4. Historically, it was quite commonplace to look for several meanings in any given passage of Scripture. Elaborate on each of the classifications of meanings below.

- a. *The literal or historical meaning.*

- b. *The moral (sometimes called the tropological) meaning.*

- c. *The allegorical meaning.*

- d. *The anagogical meaning.*

5. What is wrong with at least three of these four classifications of Scriptural meaning?

6. Note the encounter with a friend that Ferguson describes on page 69. How would you describe your own Bible study? Is it focused primarily on your own spiritual condition or do you truly seek to know and understand what the author is actually saying and then seek to apply it personally?

Next: *Chapter 5 - Keys*