

- a. the influence of Philo
- b. Origen
- c. Augustine
- d. Theodore of Mopsuestia and John Chrysostom

4. A general note on the progress of hermeneutics historically

D. Conditioning factors for the hermeneuticist to consider:

1. Societal concepts

- a. Culture
- b. Personal experience
- c. Theological idealism
- d. Linguistic understanding

2. Study data:

- a. The language used and the language in use  
(I will illustrate with the English preterite)
- b. The setting
- c. The harmonistic pattern of Scripture
- d. Observable linguistic phenomena
- e. The application of the text in its time and implications  
for later times

3. Thus we have some hermeneutical advice:

- a. Read and reread carefully
- b. Understand
- c. Comprehend the historical sense and setting
- d. Use a grammatical/historical approach
- e. Meet allegory when it is clearly intended...do not  
manufacture it when it is not (and this is part of my  
bias in this subject)
- f. Make your findings applicable to your situation

4. And some key points to remember:

- a. God is the author
- b. Scripture is one (unity)
- c. No doctrine is fully expounded until....
- d. Content and Culture are important
- e. Do not decide the meaning until the study is done
- f. Apply the lessons faithfully to yourself...and others!

E. Conclusion: It is easy to get lost in hermeneutics but it is hard to be a Bible expositor without it.