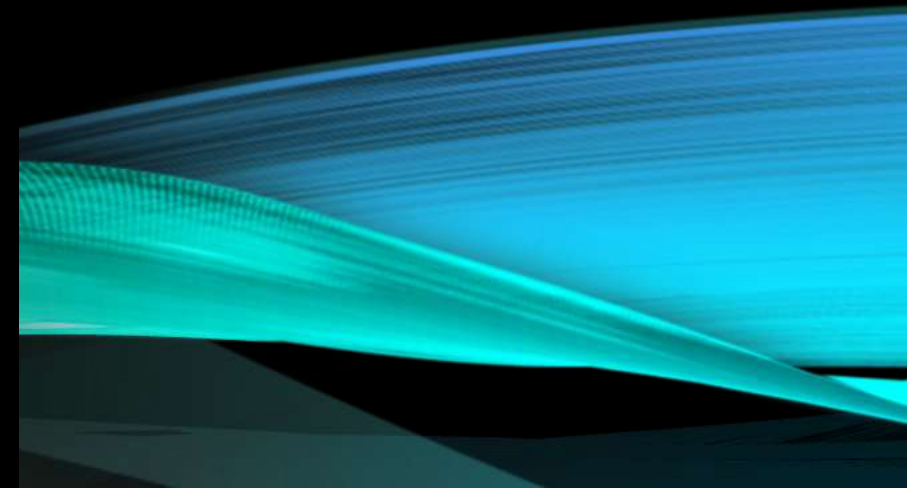




HELPING GOD!

ESTHER 4:13-17



GOD DOES NOT **NEED** OUR HELP

- He is omniscient – Psalm 139:1-6
- He is omnipotent – Gen. 17:1;
Rev. 19:6
- He is omnipresent
Psalm 139:8-12
- He is immutable – Mal. 3:6;
Heb. 13:8
- He is sovereign – Daniel 4:35



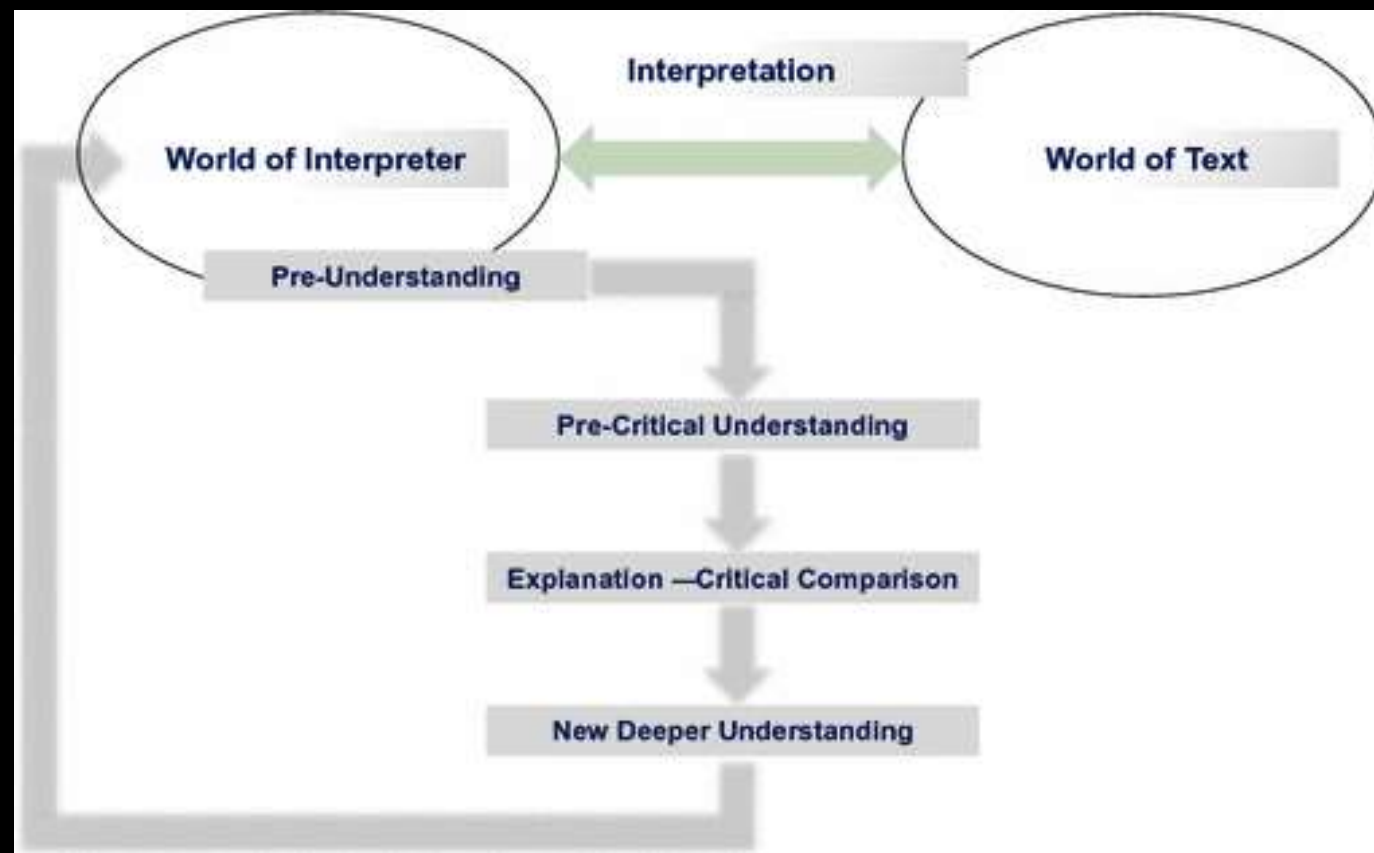
EXAMPLES OF “HELPING GOD”

- Old Testament Examples
 - Abraham and Sarah
Genesis 16:1-4
 - Mordecai and Esther
Esther 4:13-14
- Modern Day Examples
 - Missionary Societies
 - Instrumental Music
 - Institutional Innovations
 - Co-operative Church Arrangement



AUTHORITY AND LOGIC

- These are not “church of Christ” rules; they are rules of logic and apply to any field of study.
- Most instructions include general and specific authority.
- General authority approves all *subordinates*.
- Inference is authorized by implication.
- Expedience is authorized within general authority.
- Specific authority prohibits all *coordinates*.
- Examples authorize but do not limit.





GOD'S INSTRUCTION



- Prohibited
- Does not fulfill

Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.’ “
(1 Samuel 15:3 NKJV)

Any action that does not fully obeys God's instruction.

GOD'S INSTRUCTION



- Prohibited
- Goes beyond

You shall go down before me to Gilgal; and surely I will come down to you to offer burnt offerings *and* make sacrifices of peace offerings. Seven days you shall wait, till I come to you and show you what you should do.“ (1 Samuel 10:8 NKJV)

Any action that goes beyond God's instruction.

GOD'S INSTRUCTION

On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come. (1 Corinthians 16:2 ESV)

ACTION	STATUS
1. Collecting by ushers	Authorized
2. Collecting in the morning	Authorized
3. Collection in the evening	Authorized
4. Public collection	Authorized
5. Private collection	Authorized

Any action that fulfills the Lord's command but does not exceed it.

HOW CAN WE “HELP” GOD?

- By sharing the gospel with others – Matthew 28:19,20
- By being lights to the world
Matthew 5:13-16
- By transforming from the world – Romans 12:1-2
- By contributing to the collection – 1 Cor. 16:1-2
- By respecting God’s authority – Colossians 3:17



HELPING GOD

- God does not NEED our help! – Genesis 17:1
- Biblical Examples of “Helping” God
1 Samuel 13
- Authority and Logic
- Fulfilling and going beyond - 1 John 8
- How we can help God
Romans 12:1-2

