

# **Moving from the Text to the Talk – Part 1**

## **COMA (Prophetic Literature, Apocalyptic Literature)**

### *Speaking God's Truth, Week 4*

#### **A “Last” Word About Understanding**

- Word Study Tools
  - Various resources to explore how words and themes occur in Scripture
  - An Exhaustive Concordance (Strong's, Strongest, etc.)
    - Listing of the occurrences of a particular word in Scripture (exhaustive = lists all occurrences)
  - *Nave's Topical Bible*
    - Collection of Scripture passages by topic
  - *The Treasury of Scripture Knowledge*
    - Collection of cross-references
- Bible Dictionaries
  - Contains articles about important people, places, things, themes, etc. in the Bible
  - *The New Bible Dictionary* by IVP (ISBN: 978-0830814398)
  - *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary* by Holman Reference (ISBN: 978-0805428360)
- Bible Handbooks
  - Summaries of chapters, sections, and books of the Bible. Also includes some background material
  - *Holman Bible Handbook* by Holman Research (ISBN: 978-1558193321)
  - *Zondervan Handbook to the Bible* by Zondervan (ISBN: 978-0310331186)
- Biblical Backgrounds Resources
  - Articles about lifestyles and customs of the people and periods in which the biblical accounts take place and in which the bible was written
  - *The New Manners and Customs of Bible Times* by Moody Publishers (ISBN: 978-0802459657)
  - *Wycliffe Historical Geography of Bible Lands* by Hendrickson Publishers (ISBN: 978-1565633490)
- Atlases
  - Maps and articles related to biblical geography and history
  - *ESV Bible Atlas* by Crossway (ISBN: 978-1433501920)
  - *Holman Bible Atlas* by Holman Research (ISBN: 978-1558197091)
    - Good, helpful, colorful maps, but some articles (esp. OT before David) leave much to be desired

- Commentaries
  - Whole Bible, Testament, or Book commentaries provide varying levels of background details, observation, explanation, and application of biblical texts
  - *New Bible Commentary* by IVP (ISBN: 978-0830814428)
    - Chapters provided for each book of the Bible and written by various authors. Some early dates (OT before David) are suspect.
  - *New American Commentary* series by Broadman and Holman
    - Multi-volume, conservative commentaries that provide a fair balance between scholarship and readability. Different volumes are written by different authors, so some volumes are more helpful than others. To date, not all books of the Bible have been addressed
- Systematic Theologies
  - Treatment of major Christian doctrines, including biblical defense and historical development of Christian beliefs
  - *Systematic Theology* by Wayne Grudem (ISBN: 978-0310286707)
    - Conservative, even-handed, generally thorough treatment of doctrines. Written for a wide audience. Warning: you'll never find a ST with which you agree 100%. Guaranteed.

### **Selecting Your Text**

- Potential Scenarios
  - Someone gives you a passage
  - Someone gives you a topic
  - Someone gives you a blank check
- Focus on a single passage
- Let the text be your guide

### **Let the Text Be Your Guide**

- What is the author's primary point(s)?

- How does the author make this point? What supporting points does he make?
- So what (for the original audience)?
- So what (for you and your audience)?
- Take the author's primary point(s) and craft your main point from his
- Take the author's supporting points and build your case similarly
- Refine your outline
- Philippians 2:1-11