

Letter 577
Eisegesis OR Exegesis
Flashlight OR Suntan
 2017-03-12

Dear **Jesus**,

A long while ago I was exposed to two divergent views on how to study the Bible.

One view was described using the Greek word "Eisegesis", while the other view used the Greek word "Exegesis".

According to Wikipedia.com,

*"...**Eisegesis** ... is the process of interpreting a text or portion of text in such a way that the process introduces one's own presuppositions, agendas, or biases into and onto the text. This is commonly referred to as reading into the text..."*

AND

*"... **Eisegesis** is best understood when contrasted with **exegesis**. While **exegesis** is the process of drawing out the meaning from a text in accordance with the context and discoverable meaning of its author, eisegesis occurs when a reader imposes his or her interpretation into and onto the text. As a result, exegesis tends to be objective when employed effectively while eisegesis is regarded as highly subjective..."*

I had been thinking off and on for all those years on the meaning of the two positions. Then, about two years ago, the Lord shed some light on the best way to understand both words in their respective context.

Eisegesis, or one who practices it, can be likened to a Man who goes outside on a bright sunny day with a flashlight. Thinking he can add light to the sun, he turns on the flashlight and points it upward to the sky.

Exegesis, or one who practices it, can be likened to a Hot Babe going to a private, secluded beach on Maui on a bright sunny day, and while laying completely naked on nice soft towel, and with the appropriate protection of sunblock and suntan lotions, proceeds to get a Full Body Suntan.

According to the Lord Holy Spirit:

*"The former is a practice of foolish hubris.
 The latter will turn heads and produce many compliments."**

This is what happens when we read the Bible. We can either point the flashlight of our own personal knowledge and experience into the text in a feeble attempt to find it's meaning, or

we can relax, and with the protective assistance of the Holy Spirit, be changed into a Bride who is altogether attractive to the Bridegroom, by being transformed by clear understanding of the Word Himself.

I am grateful for the clarification for understanding the difference between Eisegesis and Exegesis. This helps a whole lot. Thank You.

*According to the editorial staff, by this He means that many heads will be turned to the Lord and compliment, or glorify, Jesus, on account of it's the Hot Son Who makes the Hot Babe even Hotter.

Blessings...

R. C. Theophilus