

Model for Doing Real Theology
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M = person/minister

A = Audience

B – Bible

Traditional way

Bible to Minister to Audience

Jon suggests the way to be

Bible is in a historical, cultural context

“Greet one another with a holy kiss” does not allow the teenage boy to kiss every girl he sees.

Then, the audience has a culture and must realize.

(Some say, “We take the Bible just as it reads.” Which means that we take the Bible as I read it.)

Lastly, the minister is interpreting the cultural context.

Then, the final step is to transform the final step to have the Bible, Minister, and Audience all dialoging with each other.

Possible that the audience may have insights which can contribute to the total understanding.

One of the problems was that 100 years ago the missionaries operated in stage 1 where the Bible is first, the minister interpreted next, and the audience then understood.

Jon: I learned a whole lot about theology from folks in Asia that I never saw before.

Education does help to give understanding on scripture for the minister.

People from different cultures enriched what the Bible has to say.

Important for the audience to have access to scripture like the Reformation proclaimed.

What can happen is that the minister and audience can fit in the same audience.

For some, there may be a cross-culture between the minister and the audience.

Out of this process comes real theology where there is dialog with Bible and Audience and Minister.

Missionaries have gone to share and also gone to listen.