



GOD'S USE OF SIMILITUDES – 2 TIMOTHY 2:15a

God desires to communicate to mankind. At this time in human history we interact with him by _____ not sight, yet his desire to reveal himself remains. Therefore, God meticulously preserved his words in a completed book, the *Holy Bible*, for us to read and _____ so we can know for a certainty his plans and purposes. It is a big book containing books with tens of thousands of words and divisions. It is a book that is *forever settled in heaven*. It is no ordinary book—it is *The Book* of books. Therefore, it requires our full attention. Today and in the weeks ahead we will examine _____ and rules that will help us understand what God has clearly written.

1. The most common form of teaching and learning

a. God's use of _____ – Hos. 12:10; Heb. 7:15-17

- The most common form of teaching is by association, contrast, and comparison
- A good teacher or parent understands this method of teaching
- The use of a similitude is teaching something that is _____ known by drawing a comparison or contrast to something that is already known and understood

b. God desires our _____ to grow stronger – Heb. 11:1, 6; 5:14

- God's truth is spiritual, heavenly, and eternal. Man's understanding is carnal, earthly, and temporal
- God communicates to mankind by starting with things we already know and making a comparison or contrast with things we do _____ know

2. The two most important words in the Bible

a. _____ and _____

- In similes, these prepositions function to express that something is _____ to something else, rather than directly equating one to the other

Like appears in 581 verses throughout scripture

As appears in 2,872 verses throughout scripture

b. Common examples:

- Matthew 24:37-39 – The times and events concerning the second coming of Christ...
“_____” *the days of Noe – Genesis 5-9*

- Luke 17:28-30 – The times and events concerning the second coming of Christ... “_____” *it was in the days of Lot*

- Ephesians 5:22-33 – The perfect pattern of a marriage found in the relationship between Christ and his church... wives: “as *unto the Lord*” ... husbands: “as *Christ loved the church*”
This gives a plethora of both doctrinal and devotional applications, opening up the entire Bible

- Isaiah 53:7 – Christ when he was before his accusers ... “_____” *a* _____ ...

- Revelation 2:18 – Christ’s attributes... eyes “_____” *unto a flame of fire... his feet are*
“_____” *fine brass*

- Philippians 3:21; 1 John 3:2 (*compared to* 1 Corinthians 15:51-57) – The glorified bodies of raptured saints [from the church age]

NEXT WEEK: METHODS OF BIBLE *STUDY* – PART TWO
God’s use of types and word pictures