

III. THE UTILIZATION OF CERTAIN SOUND PRINCIPLES OF INTERPRETATION

A. Negatively: Some Unsound Principles of Interpretation:

1. The meaning of a particular scripture is ultimately determined by

- a. Tradition
- b. The Church
- c. Unaided human reason
- d. Experience
- e. Some other previously-accepted Authority

(of course, tradition, the Church, reason, experience, or some competent authority may be ^{of} great assistance when they are used properly. The proper use of these aids to interpretation is not that of initiating or finally controlling our beliefs, but in confirming our beliefs once they are based upon the Scriptures.)

2. A second unsound principle of interpretation is that a word must always have the same meaning wherever it is used in the Bible.

3. A third unsound principle of interpretation is that which holds that when two different words are used, two different things are intended.

4. A fourth unsound principle of interpretation is that any scripture may have as many different interpretations as the number of different ways in which it can be applied.

5. A fifth unsound principle of interpretation is that all Old Testament scriptures must be spiritualized (i.e., translated into New Testament ideas) in such a way as to make them useful, meaningful, and profitable for the New Testament Church.