

## **How to Use the Sermon Study Notes**

The sermon notes provide a suggested method to study Scripture. The method itself is similar but not exactly the same as Bernard Ramm's literal-historical-grammatical hermeneutic in his book *Protestant Biblical Interpretation*. This method is commended to the Christian as a guide toward both sane and Spirit-filled biblical interpretation.

### **Sermon Title**

The title usually provides a mental picture of the big idea or overview of the sermon's main point.

### **Verses**

The verses reveal the Biblical content considered.

### **The Context**

The context locates the biblical content of the sermon first, in the larger flow of the book's idea; second, in the local thought surrounding the text; and third, in the grand scheme of the book being studied.

### **Life Principle**

The principle is intended to be a pithy saying that encapsulates a life truth gained from the study of the text.

### **Exposition**

The front of the sermon notes contains an informed reader-response and explanation of the text that is as close as the interpreter can get to the textual idea of the author in study and Spirit.

### **Exegesis**

On the back of the sermon notes you will find bulleted study notes that disclose just how the interpreter (that's me) got to 'the leading out of the meaning of the text.' Also, further study questions for your personal educational and spiritual enrichment can be found there. These bulleted notes go along with the exposition in the front. They usually contain: (1) a Bible study method, (2) an in-depth study, and (3) a doctrinal reflection which considers how to apply our 'living' doctrinal statement to a principle revealed in the text.

### **Transformation Exercise**

The transformation exercise comes from the interpreter's attempt to live out what the Spirit tried to teach him in the week. It is commended to the reader for the Spirit's application of the text to their lives.