

## Eight Rules of Interpretation (Part 2)

### 5. *Rule of Logic*

Interpretation is merely logical reasoning. (*Encyclopedia Americana*, V. 15, p. 267. 1953)

What is the control we use to weed out false theological speculation? Certainly the control is logic and evidence . . . interpreters who have not had the sharpening experience of logic . . . may have improper notions of implication and evidence. Too frequently such a person uses a basis of appeal that is a notorious violation of the laws of logic and evidence. (*Protestant Biblical Interpretation*, Ramm, Bernard, pp. 151-153, W. A. Wilde Co., 1956)

### 6. *Rule of Precedent*

We must not violate the known usage of a word and invent another for which there is no precedent. (*The Greek New Testament for English Readers*, Dean Alford, p. 1098, Moody Press)

### 7. *Rule of Unity*

[It is] fundamental to a true interpretation of the Scripture, viz., that the parts of a document, law, or instrument are to be construed with reference to the significance of the whole. (Dean Abbot, *Commentary on Matthew*, Interpretation, p. 31)

### 8. *Rule of Inference*

In the law of evidence, an inference is a fact reasonably implied from another fact. It is a logical consequence. It is a process of reasoning. It derives a conclusion from a given fact or premise... (Jesus proved the resurrection of the dead to the unbelieving Sadducees by this rule—Matt. 22:31, 32. See *Encyclopedia Britannica*, V. 6, p. 615 (1952) and *Black's Law Dictionary*, p. 436, Fourth Edition, West Pub. Co., 1951.)

(Excerpt from *God's Covenants and Our Time* by Guy Duty, Minneapolis, Minnesota: Bethany Fellowship, Inc., 1965, 152-155; from Chapter Seventeen, Appendix: Eight Rules of Interpretation)