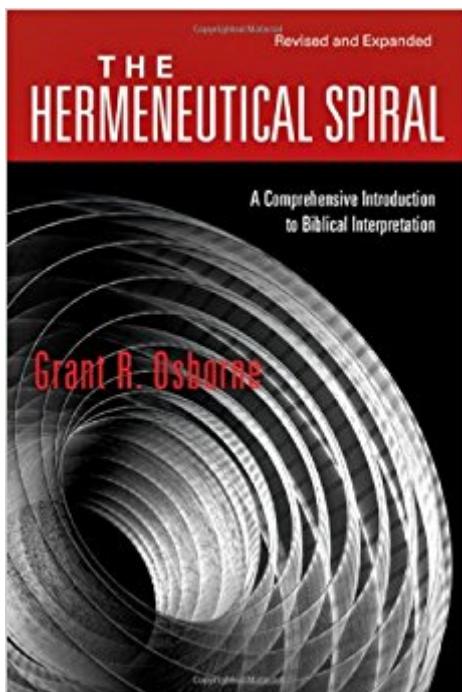


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# The Hermeneutical Spiral: A Comprehensive Introduction To Biblical Interpretation



## **Synopsis**

Recipient of a Christianity Today 1993 Critics Choice Award! In this newly revised and expanded edition, Grant Osborne provides seminary students and working pastors with the full set of tools they need to move from sound exegesis to the development of biblical and systematic theologies and to the preparation of sound, biblical sermons. Osborne contends that hermeneutics is a spiral from text to context--a movement between the horizon of the text and the horizon of the reader that spirals nearer and nearer toward the intended meaning of the text and its significance for today. Well-established as the standard evangelical work in the field since its first publication in 1991, The Hermeneutical Spiral has been updated to meet the needs of a new generation of students and pastors. General revisions have been made throughout, new chapters have been added on Old Testament law and the use of the Old Testament in the New, and the bibliography has been thoroughly updated. A 1993 Christianity Today Critics' Choice Award winner in theology and biblical studies.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Postmodernism and its common denial of any objective meaning is a major challenge to the church. This is a resource for that battle. (PJC for Liturgy, Hymnody, & Pulpit Quarterly Book Review, Christmastide 2007)

Grant R. Osborne (Ph.D., University of Aberdeen) is professor of New Testament at Trinity

Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Illinois. He also serves as series editor for the IVP New Testament Commentary Series, for which he contributed the volume on Romans. He has also written on Revelation for the Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament.

The Hermeneutical Spiral is packed with solid and necessary principles needed for properly interpreting Scripture. Overall this text should be of great value to communicators of the Word of God. The principles elucidated in the book, if properly utilized, should keep one firmly grounded in the original meaning of the text in his or her application of the text. Then and only then will the communicators proclaim the Word of God rather than their own subjective religious opinions. While the book did have its difficulties, Osborne still established his thesis. The reader is left with no doubt that *biblical interpretation entails a spiral from text to context, from its original meaning to its contextualization or significance for the church today.* An example of the difficulties of the book is the chapter on syntax. Although necessary to the interpretive process, the chapter on syntax was too technical and overly academic. Its interaction with communication theory made the chapter a labyrinth of dull scholastic philosophy. The overwhelming information in the chapter has the effect of submerging the reader under a tsunami of translation principles. This is why I consider The Hermeneutical Spiral a category four stars.

This was my first technical (meaty!) introduction to exegesis and hermeneutics, and it has proven invaluable. The various ways in which Osborne presents the steps of hermeneutics (in which he includes exegesis) are sometimes difficult to distinguish from each other, but this is all part of the ambiguity involved in the hermeneutical process.

Many years ago I had Dr. Osborne for a couple classes at TEDS. He is as good as they come in his field. The book reflects his level of scholarship. A great textbook but no casual read. However, if you're serious about interpreting the biblical text correctly, the tools in this particular toolbox will get you well on your way.

Every Bible student needs Hermeneutical help and this is a thorough source from a scholar at the top of NT exegesis. No wild, untested theories, no speculation. Tried and true Bible study processes designed for the advance Bible student but also helpful for those without a Bible or Seminary degree.

Love this book!!! Bought it for the first class I am taking towards getting my Masters in theology. I thought it would be dry reading but it is not at all. It has so much info to. Well worth the price.

This book is great for my study, thanks for getting it to me so fast

a classic, completely thorough. Treats other theological traditions with respect and fairness. Very helpful suggestions on how to interpret the difference genres of biblical literature.

The Hermeneutical Spiral . . . is an excellent book for pastors and theological students.

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