

## Interprets Itself: In the Context

In the previous Artios, we studied how God's Word interprets itself 'In the Context.' In this article, we shall continue with this subject of In the Context.

### Seven Golden Candlesticks

*(Rev 1:12 KJV) And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;*

What are the seven golden candlesticks? What are they? Can you guess? Guessing is how you'll end up with so many divergent opinions. People don't allow the Word to interpret itself. We must apply the keys to the Word's interpretation all the time.

*(Rev 1:16 KJV) And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.*



What are the seven stars? It doesn't tell you, so you keep on reading.

*(Rev 1:20 KJV) The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.*

There it is. Was that difficult? It's as simple as falling off a log backwards.

### Used Elsewhere

If it doesn't interpret itself in the verse, or in the context, then it must interpret itself when it was used elsewhere. If I have an apple today, what was it yesterday? An apple. This is also true with the Word. You must study where it was used elsewhere. If God does change it from the first usage or when it was used elsewhere, He will explain it again.

### Pure from the blood of all men

*(Acts 20:26 KJV) Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men.*

What does the phrase 'pure from the blood of all men' mean? It is not explained in this verse, or in the context. You can read the entire rest of the Bible, but it is not explained. In this case, you must go to where it was used elsewhere. The phrase can

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be interpreted many ways, but what does the Word say about this subject? –for the Word is not open to any private interpretation.

No man has the right to hash the Word to pieces. If you are in a situation where someone is doing this, just get up and walk out. Men teach that the Word is a bunch of fables, a bunch of stories. They think that they are right, when they are so wrong. When you hear this kind of thing, take a stand. Let them know that they are wrong. They simply don't believe in its integrity. Man's basic spiritual problem is believing the integrity of God's Word. Others have said that healing was good for them, but say now that it isn't available. That's private interpretation.

(Ezek 33:1-6 KJV) Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, {2} Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman: {3} If when he seeth the sword come upon the

land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people; {4} Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head. {5} He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul. {6} But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.

As we read this, we can see that 'the blood' is talking about a responsibility to warn others about an attack. If Paul was pure from the blood of all men, what has he done? He has provided a warning. He has prepared people with the greatness of God's Word and done his job as a minister in delivering what God gave him by revelation.

## To know

What does it mean biblically 'to know' someone?

(Mat 1:25 KJV) And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

What does 'to know' mean? If it doesn't explain it, then we can't guess at it. We must go to where it was used elsewhere, and allow the Word to speak for itself.

(Gen 4:1 KJV) And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.

(Gen 4:17 KJV) And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch: and he builded a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch.

(Gen 4:25 KJV) And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another

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seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

We can see that ‘to know’ means, ‘to have sexual intercourse with.’

One verse from the Word of God, when it is used elsewhere, is enough because it will always give us the same accuracy when it is used again.

## Prophet

(Gen 20:7 KJV) Now therefore restore the man *his* wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore *her* not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that *are* thine.

What is a Prophet? The Word uses this word, but it is not explained in this verse. This is the first usage of this word and it’s an interesting example because the meaning isn’t explained. We actually have to go forward in the Word to determine what a prophet is because it is not explained in this context either. We see this word ‘prophet’ in the Epistles. To understand what a prophet is, we have to go to where it

was used elsewhere. We can’t privately interpret it; we must read on until we find the answer.

(Exo 7:1 KJV) And the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet.

We are told that Aaron will be a prophet for Moses, he will speak for him. What does this mean? We can’t guess; we must continue studying to find the answer.

(Exo 4:16 KJV) And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, *even* he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God.

From this, we learn that a prophet of God speaks for God. Aaron was a prophet for Moses. Moses was a prophet for God. Literally, a prophet is a mouthpiece for God. He is a spokesman for God.

To learn how the Word interprets itself is absolutely tremendous. We must allow the Word to do this, for the

prophecy of the scripture is of no private interpretation.

Much love in Christ,

Jerry D. Brown