


MOST = hoi polloi

the masses, the common people,
the populace, the public, the people,
the multitude, the crowd, **most**

2 Timothy 3:16-4:4

16. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,
 17. (so) that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.
1. I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:
 2. preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.
 3. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves (one teacher after another to a considerable number) to suit their own passions,
 4. and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into **myths** 

MYTH

- **Stories that are made up** and which are contrary to right doctrine or holy living. (*Bible Themes Dictionary*)
- A story or narrative that conveys the **fundamental structure of knowledge upon which the ideologies and customs of a particular culture rest.** (*Eerdmann's Bible Dictionary*)



**came FROM
an hebraic perspective**

**written TO
an hebraic perspective**

Hebraic Culture

relationship with God – worldview – mindsets – religion – traditions
customs – concepts – idioms – understanding of truth
understanding of prophecy – way of interpreting Scripture

Truth from a Greco-Roman Mindset

- Greek thinking in early New Testament times, had been formulated from studying the mythological texts of Greek mythology. **Understanding was seen as being 75% creative imagination and only 25% truth.**
- Greek culture was based on understanding through metaphors and stories which were highly interpretative, with any number of meanings.
- Reality exists in the realm of ideas and opinions and truth is obtained through the intellectual exercise of philosophy. God is NOT seen as the Source of truth
- Mystical and spiritual experiences are elevated above truth because, in Greek thinking, truth is relative and interpretable.

Greco-Roman Mindset

- Greek thought processes information as a body of coherent facts bound together in a logical (lineal) sequence. If something doesn't fit that lineal sequence, the whole line of thinking is discounted or the "non-fitting" fact is ignored and left out. Truth therefore becomes only what can be understood within a rational framework or what we choose to believe.
- Greek thinking says that interpretation exists at only two levels - allegorical or literal - and never both at the same time. Therefore, something is to be understood **firstly** from an **allegorical** perspective and if that doesn't work, then it is **secondly**, to be interpreted **literally**. Comments like: "that passage should be taken spiritually and not literally" reflects that approach.

Allegorical Interpretation

Allegorical Interpretation searches for a hidden or secret (spiritualised, figurative) meaning underlying but remote from, and unrelated in reality to, the more obvious meaning of a text. In other words, allegorical interpretation sees the literal text as a sort of code which needs to be deciphered to determine the “more significant and hidden meaning.” In this approach, the literal meaning is superficial; the allegorical is the true meaning.

Hebraic Mindset

- Scripture is 100% true, exactly as written and God is the Source. The goal is to recognise and understand that truth, wherever that may lead.
- Hebrew Hermeneutics required a strict moral standard that meant that nothing could be added to or taken away.
- The Bible is a meticulously detailed, historically accurate, compilation of prophetically inspired Hebrew writings.
- Truth is founded in God and in His Word and truth is to be interpreted in the light of God's Word. Truth exists because of God and His Word.

Hebraic Mindset

- Hebrew thought assembles facts in “blocks” of thought which don’t have to fit neatly together in human logic.
- Reality perceived from God’s point of view (and revealed in the Scriptures) might appear as contradictory to that same reality viewed from mankind’s limited perspective. To the Hebrew mind, that’s OK, because recognising and affirming the infinite wisdom and knowledge of God presupposes and affirms the finite knowledge of man.



**WHEN THE PLAIN SENSE OF
SCRIPTURE MAKES SENSE,
LOOK FOR NO OTHER SENSE!**

Hebraic Mindset

The Words of Scripture are fundamentally, although not exclusively, understood according to their plain, ordinary meaning, in consideration of the literary and historical context in which they were originally written. Simply put, **biblical text should be understood in context. Words should be given their plain sense or straight forward meaning before any deeper meanings are sought out and assigned to them.**

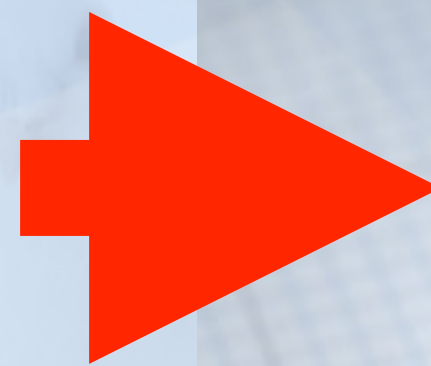
Hebraic Mindset

- The purpose is to understand what the text said to its original hearers or readers – without reading anything else into it.
- Symbolic or allegorical interpretation **never replaces** the plain, contextual, first meaning of a text unless the text cannot first be understood literally and contextually.

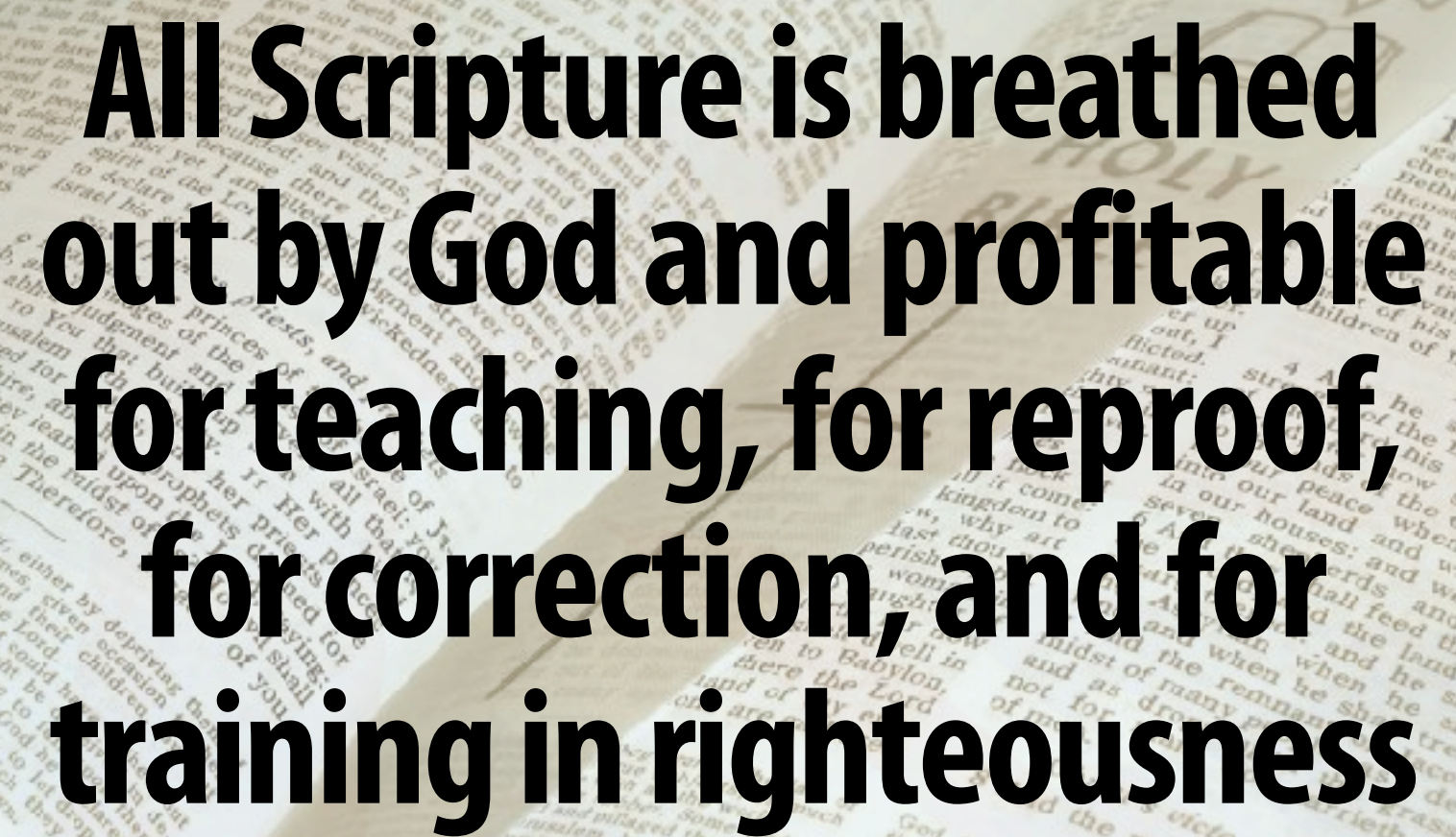
The Law of Context

The law of the context states: **a text apart from its context is a pretext (a fabrication)**. This means that a verse can only mean what it means within its context and must not be taken out of its context. When it is taken out of its context, it is often presented as meaning something that it cannot mean within the context that it is written in. The common saying: "you can prove anything by the Bible" is only true when this law is violated.

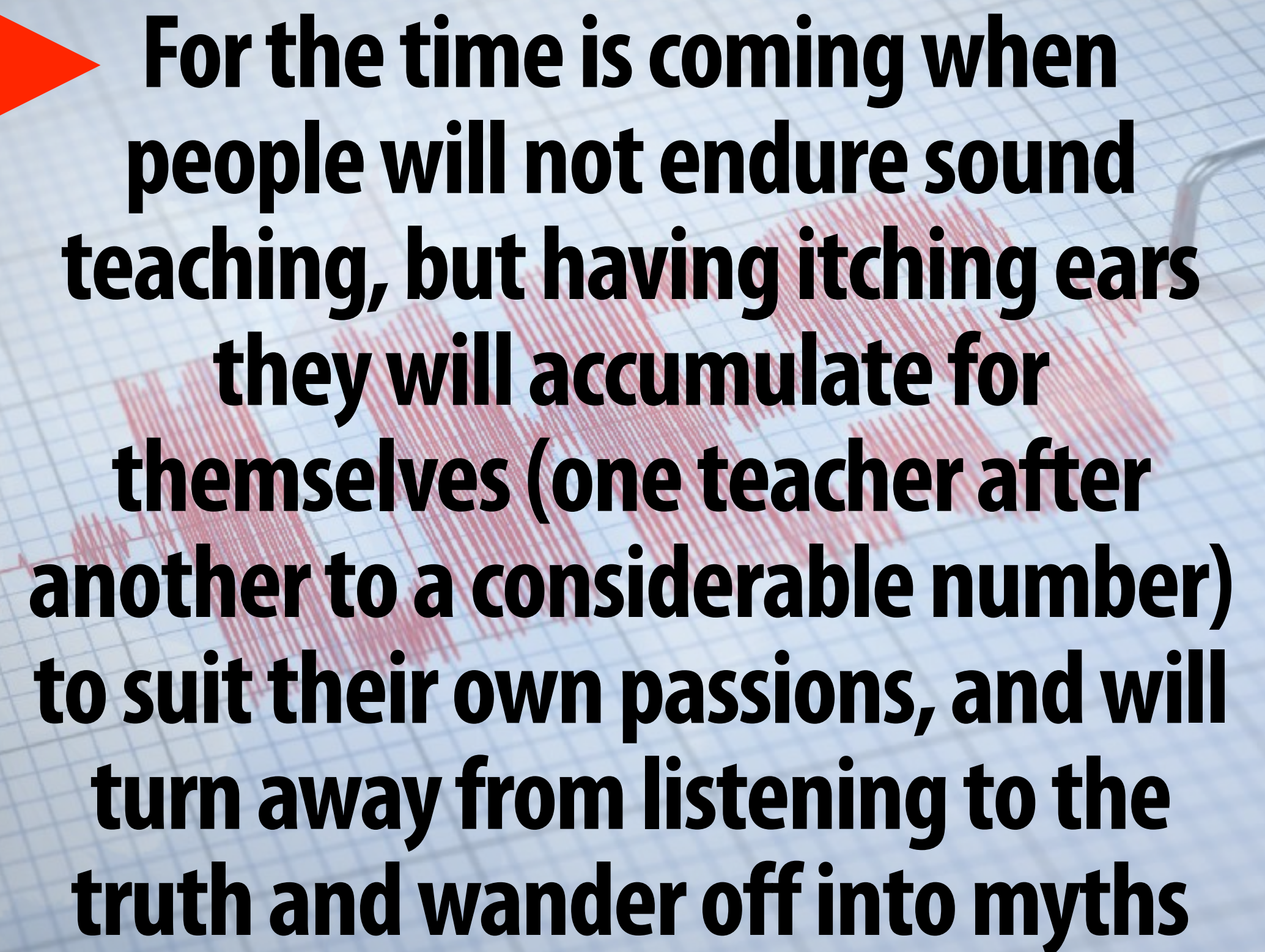
Understanding of truth, prophecy and the interpretation of Scripture founded in the HEBREW culture ■ ■ ■



The fundamental structure of knowledge, perspectives on truth, understanding of prophecy and methods of interpretation founded in the GREEK culture with roots in Greek mythology



All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness



For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves (one teacher after another to a considerable number) to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths