

Letting the Words Speak!

Sunday February 4, 2022

Series: Knowing the Unknown—Confidence in God's Plan

“And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.”

1 Thessalonians 2:13 ESV

Three to Real Life Change

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

I. Why Use _____ ?

“The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” *John 1:29 ESV*

- **Figurative Language is not the _____ of Literal Interpretation**
- **Figurative language is part of a _____ interpretation of the Bible**

Five Reasons the Bible Uses Figurative Language

1. Adds Color and _____

“The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.” *Psalms 18:2 ESV*

2. Attracts _____

“And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.” *James 3:6 ESV*

3. Aids in _____

“Like a stubborn heifer, Israel is stubborn; can the LORD now feed them like a lamb in a broad pasture?” *Hosea 4:16 ESV*

4. Abbreviates an _____

“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.” *Psalms 23:1 ESV*

5. Encourages _____

“He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.” *Psalms 1:3 ESV*

II. If An Expression is _____ or _____ ?

Six Guidelines for Interpreting Figures of Speech

1. Always take the passage in its literal sense unless there is a _____ for doing otherwise.

“After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,” *Revelation 7:9 ESV*

2. The figurative sense is intended if the literal would involve _____.

“Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul takes refuge; in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, till the storms of destruction pass by.” *Psalms 57:1 ESV*

3. The figurative is intended if the literal meaning is an _____.

“For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.” *Isaiah 55:12 ESV*

4. Take the figurative sense is the literal would demand _____.

“So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.”
John 6:53 ESV

5. Note whether the figurative expression is followed by an explanatory _____.

“And you were dead in the trespasses and sins” Ephesians 2:1 ESV

6. Sometimes a figurative expression is marked by a _____,

“Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.”
1 Timothy 6:12 ESV

III. Six Different Types of Figures of Speech (See Insert)

1. _____

A. **Simile** a comparison in which one thing explicitly resembles another. (1 Peter 1:24)

B. **Metaphor** a comparison in which one thing is, acts like, or represents another. (Jeremiah 50:6)

C. **Hypocatastasis** a lesser know figure of speech is the comparison in which the likeness is implied by direct meaning. (Philippians 3:2)

2. _____

A. **Metonymy** is the substituting of one word for another. (1 Corinthians 10:21)

B. **Synecdoche** is the substituting a part of something for the whole or the whole for part. (Romans 20:15)

C. **Personification** is the ascribing of human characteristics or actions to inanimate objects or ideas to animals. (Isaiah 55:12)

D. **Anthropomorphism** is the ascribing of human characteristics or actions to God. (1 Peter 3:12)

E. **Euphemism** is the substituting of an inoffensive or mild expression for an offensive or personal one. (1 Samuel 24:3 KJV)

3. _____

A. **Ellipsis** is the omission of a word or words that must be supplies to complete the sentence grammatically. (1 Corinthians 15:5)

4. _____

A. **Hyperbole** is a deliberate exaggeration in which more is said than is literally meant, in order to add emphasis. (Luke 6:42)

5. _____

A. **Oxymoron** is a combining together of terms that are opposite or contradictory. (Romans 12:1)

6. _____

A. **Onomatopoeia** is the occurrence of a word which by its very sound suggests its meaning. (Jeremiah 19:1)

How Am I Missing What God Want to Say to Me?

“And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.”

1 Thessalonians 2:13 ESV

Six Types of Figures of Speech

1. Comparison

A) **Simile**- a comparison in which one thing explicitly resembles another. (i.e. like or as)

“for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls,”
1 Peter 1:24 ESV

B) **Metaphor** - a comparison in which one thing is, acts like, or represents another (in which the two are basically unlike).

“My people have been lost sheep. Their shepherds have led them astray, turning them away on the mountains. From mountain to hill they have gone. They have forgotten their fold.” Jeremiah 50:6 ESV

C) **Hypocatastasis**- a lesser known figure of speech is the comparison in which the likeness is implied by direct meaning.”

“Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh.”

Philippians 3:2 ESV

Contrast Figures of Speech

(i) *Simile: “You wicked people are like dogs.”*

(ii) *Metaphor: “You wicked people are dogs.”*

(iii) *Hypocatastasis: “You dogs.”*

2. Substitution

A) **Metonymy** is the substituting of one word for another.

“You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.”
1 Corinthians 10:21 ESV

B) **Synecdoche**- is the substituting a part of something for the whole or the whole for part.

“As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”” Romans 10:15b ESV

C) **Personification** – is the ascribing of human characteristics or actions to inanimate objects or ideas to animals.

“and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.”

Isaiah 55:12 ESV

D) **Anthropomorphism** - is the ascribing of human characteristics or actions to God.

“For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”
1 Peter 3:12 ESV

E) **Euphemism** – is the substituting of an inoffensive or mild expression for an offensive or personal one.

“And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave.”
1 Samuel 24:3 KJV

3. Omission or Suppression

A) **Ellipsis** is the omission of a word or words that must be supplied to complete the sentence grammatically.

“and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.”

1 Corinthians 15:5 ESV

4. Overstatement or Understatement

A) **Hyperbole** is a deliberate exaggeration in which more is said than is literally meant, in order to add emphasis.

“How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother’s eye.”
Luke 6:42 ESV

5. Inconsistency

A) **Oxymoron** is a combining together of terms that are opposite or contradictory.

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”
Romans 12:1 ESV

6. Involving Sounds

A) **Onomatopoeia** is the occurrence of a word which by its very sound suggests its meaning.

“Thus says the LORD, “Go, buy a potter’s earthenware flask, and take some of the elders of the people and some of the elders of the priests,”
Jeremiah 19:1 ESV

II INDEX OF FIGURES ENGLISH EQUIVALENTS

A

Abating, 463
Abecedarian, 180
Accommodation, 786
Acrostic, 180
Actions. Description of, 452
Adjournment, 689
Adjuration, 941
Admission, 972
Affirmation, 487, 960
Allegory, 748
Alliteration, 171
Amplification, 462
Animated Dialogue, 959
Anticipation, 914, 979
Anti-personification, 870
Apostrophe, 901
Apparent refusal, 962
Arraignment, 699
Association, 900
Assumption, 485

B

Beginning and middle
 repetition, 260
Be-littleing. A, 155
Blessing, 919
Bye-leading. A, 482

C

Candour, 932
Cause shown, 963
Change in Concord, 701
Change of noun, 538
Changing over. A, 681
Character, Description of, 448
Circular Repetition, 342
Circumlocution, 419
Circumstances, Description of, 456
Co-habitation, 294
Combination, 296, 442
Combined Repetition, 345
Common cause, 968
Concession, 970
Conciliation, 975
Concluding summary, 468
Conclusion, Omission of, 165
Condescension, 871

Confession, 974
Connected yoke, 135
Contempt, 939
Continued Metaphor and
 Hypocatastasis, 748
Continued Simile, 751
Contraries, 719
Contrast, 714
Correction, 909
Correspondence, 363
Counter-blame, 967
Counter-change, 301
Counter-question, 964

D

Dark-saying, 772
Definition, 443
Demeaning. A, 159
Deprecation, 936
Derivation, 304
Description of Actions, 452
Description of Character, 448
Description of Feelings, 450
Description of Manners, 449
Description of Persons, 446
Description of Place, 453
Description of Sayings, 451
Description of Time, 453
Detailing, 394
Detestation, 935
Detraction, 481
Dialogue, 898, 957
Dialogue. Animated, 959
Digression, 906
Distribution, 435
Double correction, 912
Double meaning, 804
Double *Metonymy*, 609
Doubt, 929
Duplication, 189

E

Eithers and Ors, 238
Ejaculation, 479
Ellipsis, 1
Encircling, 245
End-cut, 149
End-yoke, 134
Enigma, 772
Enumeration, 436
Epithet, 440
Euphemy, 684
Exaggeration, 423

Example, 467
Exchange, 490
Exchange of Accidence, 510
Exchange of Cases, 507
Exchange of Parts of speech, 491
Exclamation (by way of Conclusion), 464
Exclamation (expression of feeling), 927
Exhortation, 921
Exultation, 924

F

Fable, 754
Feelings, Description of, 450
First-Last, 705
Foreign *Paronomasia*, 321
Front-cut, 149
Fuller explaining, 398

G

Gradation, 256
Gradual Ascent, 429
Gradual Descent, 432

I

Idiom, 819
Implication, 744
Imprecation, 940
Inclusion, 900
Incongruity, 674
Indicating, 926
Indignation, 934
Insertion, Historical, 714
Insertion, Parenthetical, 476
Insinuation, 486
Interchange, 535
Interjection, 478
Interposition, 469
Interpretation, 402
Interrogating, 943
Intertwining, 297
Introversion, 374
Introverted Repetition, 348
Inversion, 299
Irony, 807

J

Judgment, 459
Justification, 465

L

Last-First, 703
Like Endings, 176
Like Inflections, 177
Like sentence-beginnings, 199
Like sentence endings, 241

Like sentence endings and
 beginnings, 251
Like sounding Inflections, 178
Lingering, 401

M

Manners, Description of, 449
Many-Ands, 208
Many Inflections, 267
Many Names, 775
Many Noes, 339
Menace, 938
Metonymy, Double, 609
Mid-cut, 702
Middle Repetition, 261
Middle and end Repetition, 262
Middle-Yoke, 131
Mocking, 942

N

Name-change, 682
Narration, Subsequent, 709
Negation, 961
Neithers and Nors, 238
New name for Old thing, 691
No-Ands, 137
Non-sequence, 720

O

Old name for New thing, 689
Overlaid Repetition, 346

P

Parable, 751
Parallelism, 349
Parallel lines, 349
Parenthesis, 470
Passing by. A, 484
Pathos, 916
Permutation, 691
Personification, 861
Persons, Description of, 446
Place, Description of, 453
Politeness, 488
Prayer, 920
Premiss, Omission of, 167
Proverb, 755

Q

Qualification, 466
Quotation, 778

R

Raillery, 937

Reasoning, 482
Recalling, 918
Redundancy, 405
Refrain, 343
Refusal, Apparent, 962
Regression, 913
Repeated Negation, 339
Repeated *Simile*, 734
Repetition, 263
Representation, 735
Reprimand, 930
Re-statement, 397
Resumption, 206
Retort, 965
Retracting, 978
Rhyming words, 307
Running along, 472

S

Subsequent Narration, 709
Sudden Exclamation, 475
Sudden silence, 151
Summarising, 438
Suspense, 483
Symbol, 769
Synonymous words, 324

T

Three for one, 673
Time, description of, 455
Transfer, 613
Transition, 908
Transposition, 692
Two for one, 657
Type, 768

U

Under-estimating, 480
Unequal yoke, 131
Urbanity, 917

V

Vain Repetition, 404

W

Warning, 977
Wise-foolly, 816
Wishing, 922
Wondering, 923
Word-clashing, 286
Word-folding, 286
Word-picture, 444, 447
Word-portrait, 447