

writers. By these we mean the order, the title, the author, the date, and place of writing.

The consideration of the scope or design of any author will especially facilitate the study of the Bible.

The scope of an author is either general or special; that is, it either refers to the entire book, or to particular sections of it.

This general or special scope is sometimes mentioned by the writer. Thus Solomon, Prov. i. 1-6; St. John, chap. xx. 31; and St. Paul, of the Bible collectively, 2 Tim. iii. 16, 17.

Another important assistance is the consideration of the context, or the comparison of the preceding and subsequent parts of a discourse.

The context may comprise either one verse, a few verses, entire periods or sections, entire chapters, or whole books.

The comparison of parallel passages is another great help for interpreting Scripture. By these are meant those passages which bear some degree of resemblance in sentiment, language, or idiom.

Whenever a doctrine is manifest, either from the whole tenor of Scripture or from its scope, it must not be weakened or set aside by a few passages.

Of what benefit are they? What is meant by the scope of an author? Is a knowledge of this important? Is the scope ever mentioned by the author? Give some instances. What is said of the context? What of parallel passages? When a doctrine is manifest from the whole tenor of Scripture?