

INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY METHODS

<i>1. The Synthetic Study</i>	<i>2. The Analytic Study</i>	<i>3. The Categorical Study</i>
<p>I. VIEWS BOOK IN ITS ENTIRETY</p> <p>A. IT DOES AN OVERVIEW OF THE BOOK</p> <p>B. ITS APPROACH IS GENERAL RATHER THAN SPECIFIC.</p> <p>C. IT SEEKS TO DEVELOP QUESTIONS RATHER THAN TO PROVIDE ANSWERS</p> <p>II. SEEKS TO UNDERSTAND:</p> <p>A. THE THEME OF THE BOOK</p> <p>1. THE THEME IS NOT BASED ON THE CONTENT OF SPECIFIC PASSAGES</p> <p>2. THE THEME IS BASED ON THE PURPOSE OF THE AUTHOR</p> <p>B. THE OVERALL STRUCTURE (OUTLINE) OF THE BOOK</p> <p>C. THE MAJOR THEOLOGICAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE BOOK BASED ON SEVERAL READINGS OF THE ENTIRE BOOK</p> <p>D. READING ONE - GENERAL CONTENT</p> <p>E. READING TWO - KEYS</p> <p>F. READING THREE - CHAPTER OR PARAGRAPH TITLES</p> <p>G. READING FOUR - STRUCTURE (OUTLINE) & THEME (PURPOSE)</p> <p>H. READING FIVE (OPTIONAL) - THEME, IF NOT DISCOVERED IN PREVIOUS READINGS</p>	<p>I. DIVIDES BOOK INTO ITS PARTS</p> <p>II. SEEKS TO UNDERSTAND:</p> <p>A. THE MEANING OF INDIVIDUAL</p> <p>1. SENTENCES</p> <p>2. PARAGRAPHS</p> <p>3. MINOR SECTIONS</p> <p>4. MAJOR SECTIONS</p> <p>5. MINOR DIVISIONS (LARGER BOOKS)</p> <p>6. MAJOR DIVISIONS (LARGER BOOKS)</p> <p>B. THE MEANING OF WORDS IN THEIR LOCAL CONTEXT</p> <p>III. BASED ON SOUND EXEGETICAL APPROACHES</p> <p>A. AN UNDERSTANDING OF INTERPRETIVE PRINCIPLES</p> <p>B. THE APPLICATION OF LANGUAGE SKILLS</p> <p>1. BIBLICAL LANGUAGES SKILLS IF POSSIBLE</p> <p>2. BIBLICAL LANGUAGE HELPS IF NECESSARY</p> <p>IV. MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH PREVIOUS SYNTHESIS</p>	<p>I. COLLATES DATA FROM SEVERAL BOOKS</p> <p>II. SEEKS TO UNDERSTAND:</p> <p>A. THE MAJOR CATEGORICAL (DOCTRINAL) THEMES OF SCRIPTURE</p> <p>B. THE INDIVIDUAL DOCTRINES OF THE BIBLE THROUGH STUDY OF MAJOR DOCTRINAL WORDS OF SCRIPTURE.</p> <p>C. HOW TO CONSISTENTLY APPLY THE CONTENT OF SCRIPTURE</p> <p>III. BASED ON SOUND EXEGETICAL APPROACHES</p> <p>A. AN UNDERSTANDING OF INTERPRETIVE PRINCIPLES</p> <p>B. THE APPLICATION OF LANGUAGE SKILLS</p> <p>1. BIBLICAL LANGUAGES SKILLS IF POSSIBLE</p> <p>2. BIBLICAL LANGUAGE HELPS IF NECESSARY</p> <p>IV. PRECEDED BY SYNTHESIS AND ANALYSIS OF ALL BOOKS INVOLVED IN THE DOCTRINE BEING STUDIED</p> <p>V. ALL BOOKS OF SCRIPTURE MUST HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO A PRELIMINARY SYNTHESIS BEFORE THEOLOGICAL CONCLUSIONS CAN BE DRAWN</p> <p>VI. IN LIEU OF COMPLETE ANALYSIS OF ENTIRE BOOKS, A THOROUGH EXEGESIS OF THE IMMEDIATE CONTEXT MUST BE DONE</p>

THE THREE MAJOR METHODS OF BIBLE STUDY

PREPARED BY G. H. SHINN