

introducing that verse, But will you object ~~to~~ saying, Why does He do so and so? I said, This is an objection. Oh, yes he said, but it summarizes the thought of the passage! Now I don't think that's very good proof! To interpret a verse given as an objection to the answer as a summary of the passage. The proof text method of proving is not a good method. Any verse is to be examined in its context and its words compared with other similar Greek or Hebrew words in other parts of the Scripture to find out exactly what it means.

You can take a superficial understanding of many many verses and put them together and what you've got it only superficial. We need to examine the verses carefully in the original to know what they mean. A verse, any verse, may be a wonderful summary of Scripture truth, but a verse alone is not a proof of anything.

Yet with children, with people who don't know a great deal. Fine! Give them a verse to quote, to memorize if this verse summarizes a great Scriptural truth. But to be sanctified as God wants us to be, to proceed as He wants us to, we need to examine the verse to see what it means. As I said, gathering together that which is clearly taught in Scripture and systematizing it that is excellent. We certainly need a certain amount of Systematic Theology for that purpose.

But Systematic Theology as it is taught in most schools, a great part of the time is spent in seeing what various human beings have thought. This man says ~~this~~ this, and this man has a beautiful theory which contradicts it. And this man has a different theory. We compare all these theories, and what have we got. We have the theory of a human being and every human being is fallible. The Lord says, "Sanctify them by the truth, Your Word is truth."

The instrument God has given us for our sanctification is the Word of God--66 books of it, not just in one or in two or in half of it, but the whole Scripture is given us by God for our sanctification. So the progress that we can make in learning to interpret the verses of Scripture and get the truth that He wants (us to get) from them, is the most important element in our making progress in our own sanctification. So I say if you never need any Christian work after you graduate, if ~~y~~ the Lord cuts you off and took you away as soon as you graduated, if you have learn to understand His Word in the original your time would have been well-spent. His instrument for our sanctification is His Word.

The learning of the Greek and Hebrew may seem like a difficult hard progress of learning forms and things, but you get this so you can compare Scripture with Scripture and see exactly what these words mean and compare them in context because no verse is complete in itself. There are various possibilities of meaning. God in His Word has given us His truth for the conduct and progress of his people all through the long centuries ahead. There is many a verse here that people 500 years ago may have studied and thought about and wondered exactly what it meant, that in view of our present situation in the world, we should be able to see that God