



# READING RESPONSIBLY

Correctly Handling the Word of Truth

## LESSON 01: INTRODUCTION

Simple Gospel, Complex Book

### I. Introduction

How are you applying 2 Timothy 4:13 to your life?

→ [Read 2 Tim 4:13](#)

*When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.*

Class Title: “Responsibly”

→ [Read 2 Tim 2:15](#)

*Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.*

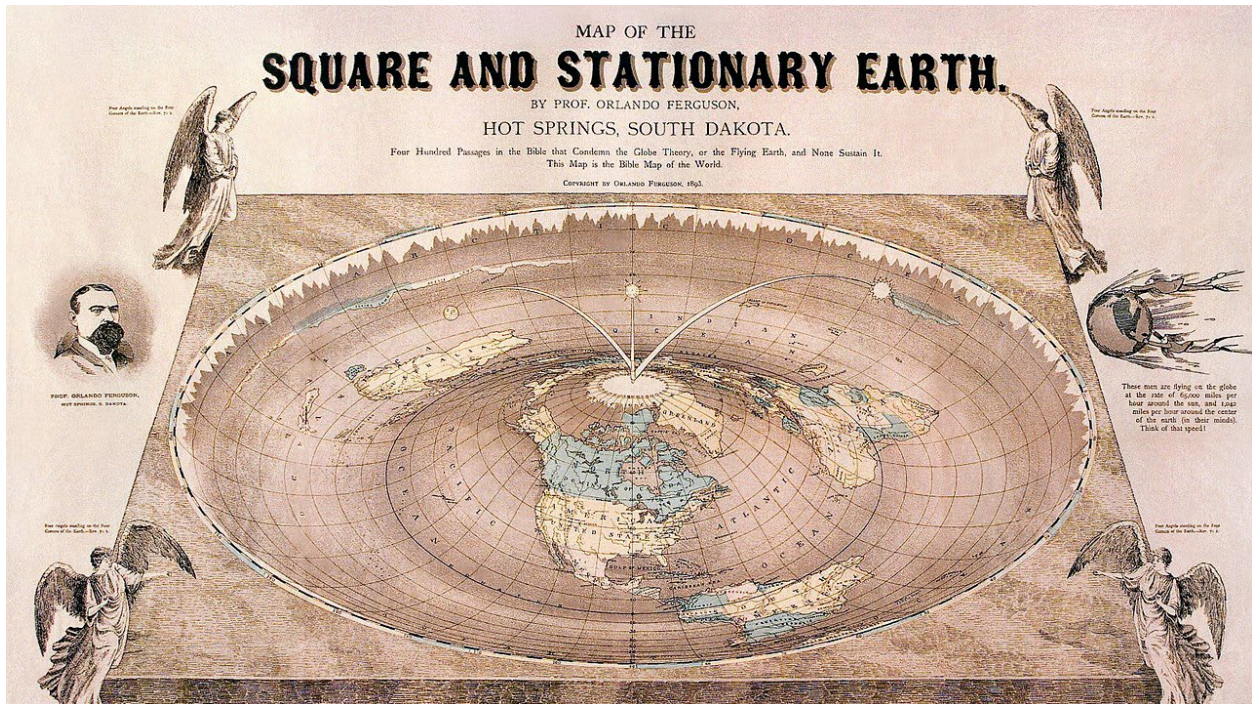
### II. Why?

A. Slavery

→ [Read Eph 6:5](#)

*Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ.*

## B. Square Earth



## C. Creation Care

→ [Read 2 Pet 3:10](#)

*But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare (burned up).*

## D. Parenting

→ [Read Prov 22:6 KJV](#)

*Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.*

## E. Poverty

→ [Read Matt 26:11](#)

*The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me.*

Irresponsible reading has consequences

- For us
- For others

### III. Reading and Interpreting

### IV. Tools

#### A. Genre

- Law
- History
- Poetry
- Wisdom
- Prophecy
- Gospel
- Letter
- Apocalypse

#### B. Context

- Within its immediate paragraph?
- Within the larger unit of text?
- Within its book?
- Within the rest of scripture?
- Within its historical setting?
  - Author
  - Audience

### V. Examples

#### A. Genre: Psalm 51 and original sin

→ Read Ps 51:5

*Surely I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.*

→ [Read Ps 51:6-7](#)

<sup>6</sup> Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;  
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

<sup>7</sup> Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;  
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

## B. Context within Bible: Matthew 26 and poverty

→ [Read Matt 26:11](#)

*The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me.*

→ [Read Deut 15:11](#)

*There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your fellow Israelites who are poor and needy in your land.*

## C. Context within history: Exod 22 and eye for eye

→ [Read Deut 19:21](#)

*Show no pity: life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.*

→ [Read Exod 21:23-25](#)

<sup>23</sup> ...if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, <sup>24</sup> eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, <sup>25</sup> burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.

→ [Read Hammurabi's code excerpt](#)

*If a man put out the eye of another man, [only] his eye shall be put out. If he break another man's bone, his bone shall be broken.*

→ [Read Lev 24:19-20](#)

*Anyone who injures their neighbor is to be injured in the same manner: <sup>20</sup> fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth. The one who has inflicted the injury must suffer the same injury.*

## VI. Next Lesson: Wisdom Literature

Question: Is Proverbs 26:4-5 true?