

**Summer Road Trip: A Journey into the Bible**  
**Sundays Part 8 – ‘Danger Zone: Dealing with Bible Difficulties**

We must admit that there are some seemingly difficult issues in the Bible that we must deal with:

- The difficulty of the Issue of Slavery
- The difficulty of Outdated Laws and Practices
- The difficulty of Divine Violence
- The difficulty of the Problem of Suffering and Evil
- The difficulty of Patriarchy and the Treatment of Women
- The difficulty of Seeming Contradictions and Difficult Teachings

There are various apologetic answers that have been presented as ways to handle these subjects:

- The Appeal to God’s Sovereignty
- The Appeal to God’s Righteous Justice and Judgment
- The Appeal to the Bible’s Ancient Voice
- The Appeal to Mystery
- The Appeal to Unfair Critical Attacks

**Three Principles to Interpreting Bible Difficulties**

1. Understanding the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible

- Understand that the Mosaic Law was actually progressive compared to other pagan nations.
- Understand that the Bible uses ancient war literature that makes use of hyperbolic language.
- Understand that we must differentiate between timeless principles and cultural practices.

2. Recognize the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible

- Recognize that God didn’t reveal everything about himself at one time.
- Recognize that God works within human limitations to bring us to a place of maturity.
- Recognize that many Old Testament laws were given as concessions to the hardness of human hearts yet are progressive in the Bible leading toward a more moral outcome.

3. Look at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible

- Look at difficult passages through the Revelation of Jesus Christ.
- Look at difficult passages through the Message of the Gospel.
- Look at difficult passages through the Overall Character of God.