

Hermeneutics Quick-Reference

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." — Jeremiah 29:13

- **Author's intent:** What did the original author mean to communicate to their original audience?
- **Genre:** Is this narrative, poetry, law, prophecy, or letter? Genre shapes how literally or figuratively to read it.
- **Context:** Always read a verse in light of its paragraph, book, and the whole of Scripture.
- **Historical/cultural background:** What would this have meant in its original setting?
- **Application principle:** Move from "what it meant then" to "what it means now" — don't skip straight to application without understanding meaning first.