

Harvey's Principles of Biblical Interpretation
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1. The Bible is like a chorus rather than a solo voice. It consists of 66 books written over a period of 1000 years. There are different perspectives within those 66 books and there are variances.
2. The Bible is a book of theology and not geology. It is most valuable when answering questions of "Why?" rather than questions of "How?" For instance, why are we here? What is our purpose? rather than, How did that big fish swallow Jonah? or How did the universe come into being?
3. The Bible was written by people with an Eastern mindset rather than a Western/logical mindset. They weren't concerned with putting stories together that did not quite match up such as chapters one and two of Genesis
4. The Bible does not tell us everything about everything.
5. The Bible contains history but it also contains prehistory, poetry, and symbolic story. The story of the man and woman in the Garden does not have the same historical evidence as the story of Moses or of David.
6. The Bible contains the word of God and the word of culture. The Bible was written in a time when women were treated as inferior to men and when it was the norm to own slaves. Those cultural norms are reflected in Scripture along with other more revolutionary attitudes.
7. Christ is the benchmark for us to use to discern the difference between the Word of God and the words of culture. His life, teaching, and ministry can help us know what in the Bible is eternal and what is temporary.

Resources on the Bible and Homosexuality

Marcus Borg "Convictions" especially chapters 5 and 6

Adam Hamilton, "Making Sense of the Bible"-particularly chapter 29 on Homosexuality

Rev Joe Miller, "Homosexuality: A Scriptural Way Forward" in Kindle edition only

"The Bible Tells Me So", in video from Amazon.