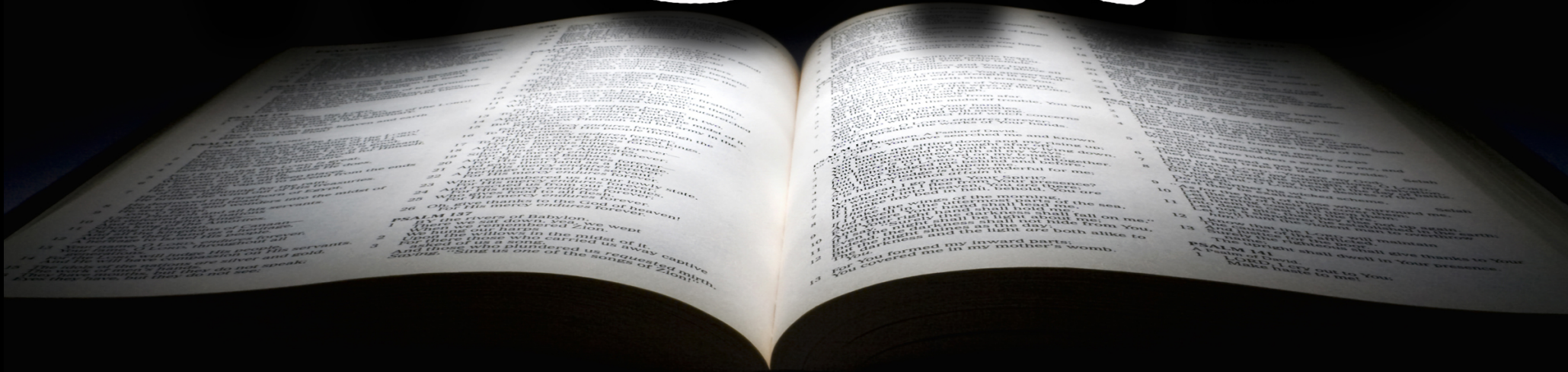
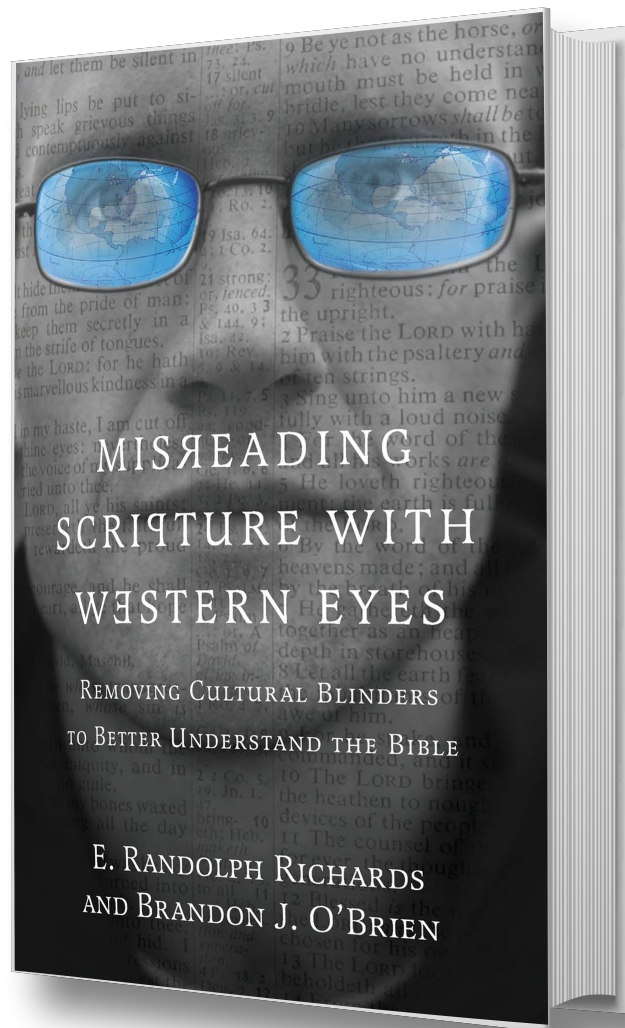


The FIRST & the last

WORD



EXAMINING THE PURPOSE & POWER OF GOD'S WORD

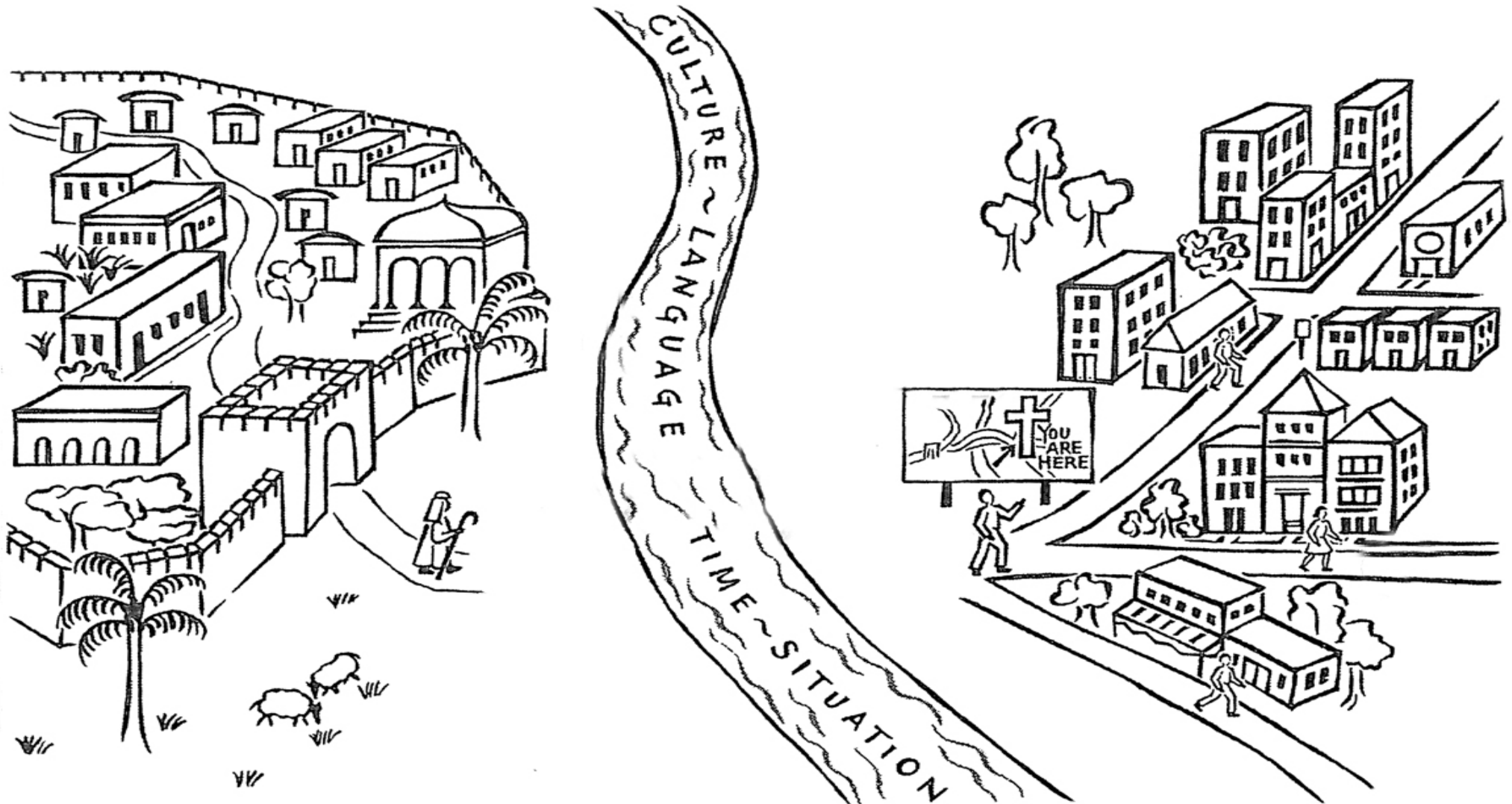


*Misreading Scripture with
Western Eyes* page 11

To open the Word of God is to step into a strange world where things are very unlike ours. Most of us don't speak the languages. We don't know the geography or the customs or what behavior are considered rude or polite.

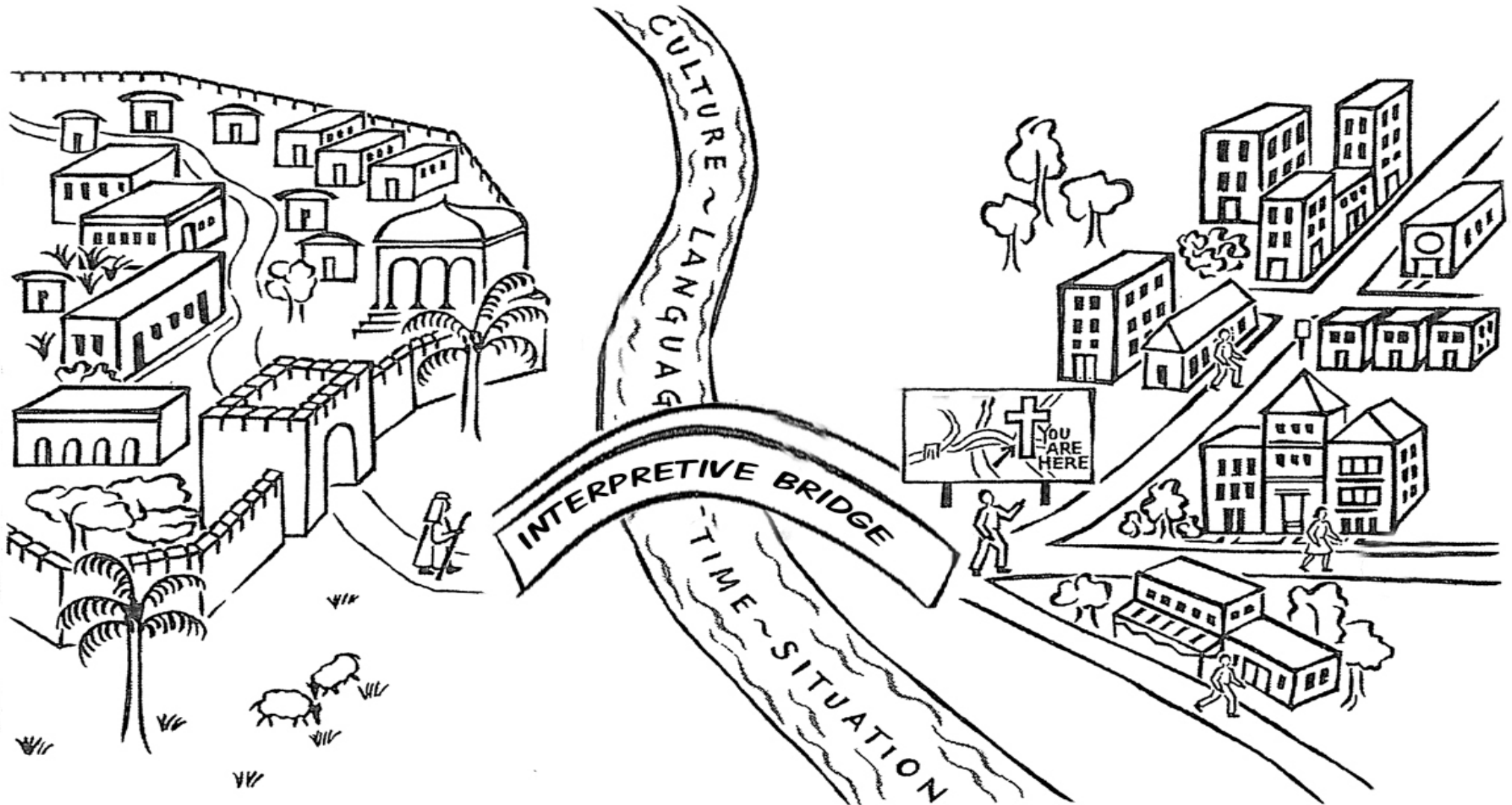
Interpretive Journey

Grasping God's Word pgs. 42-46



Interpretive Journey

Grasping God's Word pgs. 42-46



Interpretive Journey

1. Observation - *Gathering Facts*

Who is writing?

Who is the audience(s)?

When does this take place?

How does this passage fit in with the context? (What goes before and after?)

Is it poetic, literal or illustrative?

Is there a correlating passage?

What are the repeated words and ideas?

What do I learn about God the Father, Jesus, The Holy Spirit?

Interpretive Journey

2. Interpretation - *What's it all mean?*

Is there one over-arching teaching?

What is the original cultural meaning? (*That is, what did it mean to those to whom it was originally addressed?*)

What are the meanings of the words?

What does the immediate context suggest?

What does the broader context suggest?

What do cross-references suggest?

What do commentaries suggest?

Interpretive Journey

3. Application - *How do I respond?*

How does this change the way we live?

Think / Talk / Act?

Make it stick:

1. Write it down
2. Tell someone

John 15:1-4

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I

John 15:1-4

³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

Galatians 5:22-23 *the
fruit of the Spirit is love,
joy, peace, patience,
kindness. Goodness,
faithfulness,²³ gentleness,
and self-control*

**Studying the Bible
is among the best
investments you'll
make!**

You Want a Firm Foundation

Matthew 7:24-25 “everyone who **hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.** ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its **foundation** on the rock.”

2 More tools to use than ever before!

- Bible Project Videos*
- Commentaries*
- Read with others!*
- Come to church and
continue the discussion.*

Words of Life

John 6:68-69 *“you have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.”*

Words of Life

The Bible tells us all that we need to know about, WHO God is, WHAT God has done for us and WHAT it looks like to follow Him.

It's a gift from a God who loves us and created to bear fruit!

communion

do this in remembrance of me

