

# Israel and Hermeneutics

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## Study Questions

1. How can we know when to interpret a text literally or figuratively?
2. Give some examples of misinterpretation from everyday life. Can you identify the problem in each example?
3. When is allegory a legitimate—or an illegitimate—method of interpretation?
4. List the categories, principles, and methods that characterize evangelical biblical interpretation today. Can you detect a movement from individual words to larger levels of context in these methods?
5. How do supersessionists read the movement from promise to fulfillment in the biblical story?
6. Explain briefly the four criteria for evaluating broad interpretative systems.
7. What must an interpretative system do to claim to be comprehensive? What are some texts that should not be ignored in considering how God's promises to Israel will be fulfilled?
8. How does performative language, or speech-act analysis help to evaluate the congruence of supersessionist and non-supersessionist approaches to Scripture?
9. What is a common mistake in reading the relation between God's purpose for Israel and God's purpose for all people in the movement from Old Testament to New Testament? How should that mistake be corrected?
10. What are some problems of consistency and coherence with supersessionist readings of Scripture? How does a holistic reading of Scripture answer these problems?