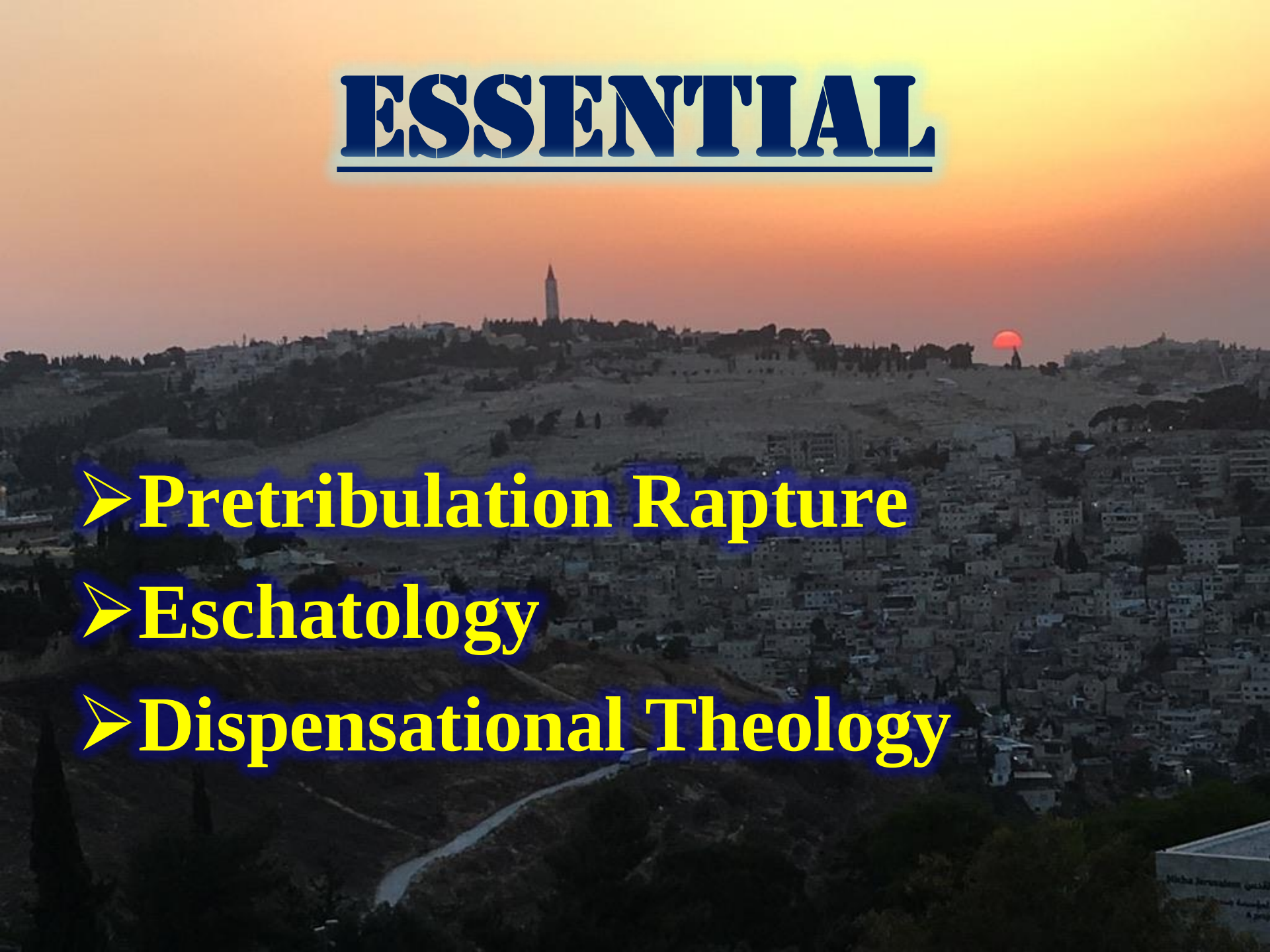
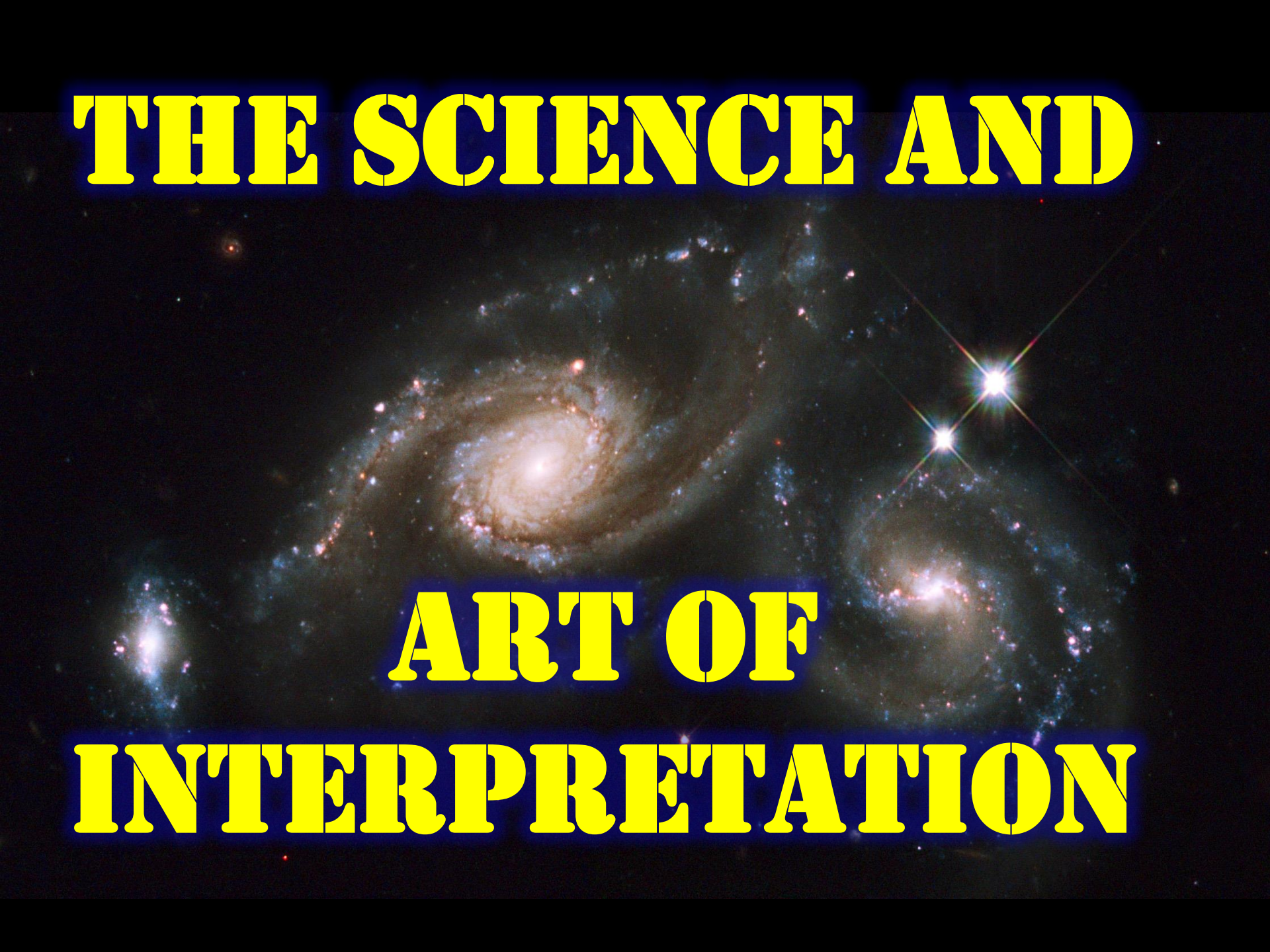
HERMENEUTICS

Ray Mondragon


ESSENTIAL
Pretribulation Rapture
Eschatology
Dispensational Theology


THE SCIENCE AND
ART OF
INTERPRETATION

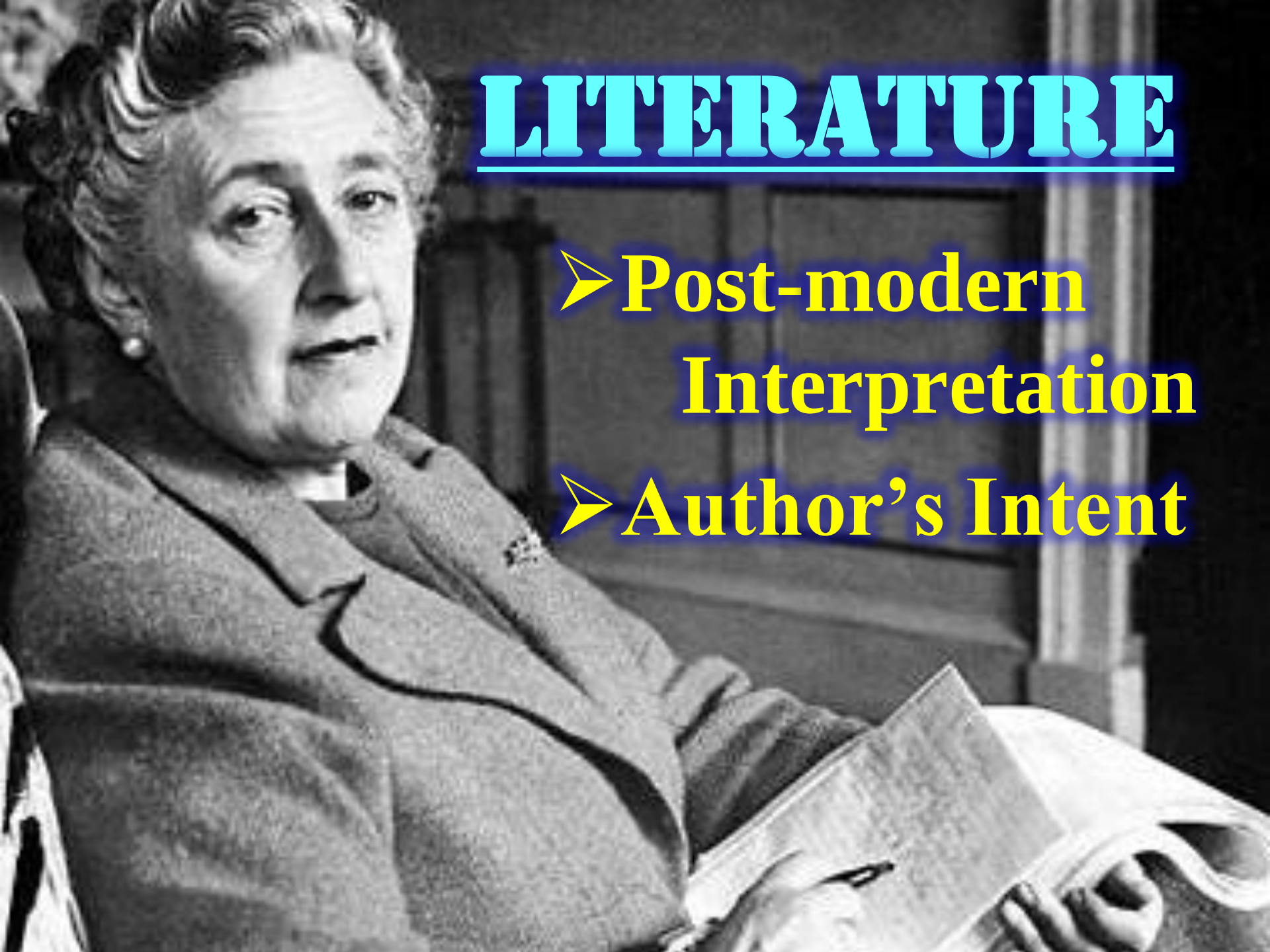
1. **Universal Nature**
2. **In Theology**
3. **Essential Principles**

LITERATURE

- Agatha Christie (d.1976)
- Mystery novels - 2 billion
- Management of daughter
- Management of grandson

“If Agatha Christie is to be as popular in the 21st century as she was in the 20th, we have to be open-minded about interpreting stories in modern ways.”

Matthew Prichard


LITERATURE
Post-modern Interpretation
Author's Intent

GOVERNMENT & LAW

- Living Document
- Framer's Intent

"Let me put it this way; there are really only two ways to interpret the Constitution — try to discern as best we can what the framers intended or make it up. No matter how ingenious, imaginative or artfully put, unless interpretive methodologies are tied to the original intent of the framers, they have no more basis in the Constitution than the latest football scores. ..."

Clarence Thomas's Wriston Lectures to Manhattan Institute

HISTORY
Data = Traces of Events
Interpretation of Events
Robinson's Arch

✧DATA =

Traces left by Event

✧HISTORICAL FACT =

Data + Interpretation

SCIENCE

Andromeda

✧**OBSERVATIONAL SCIENCE** →

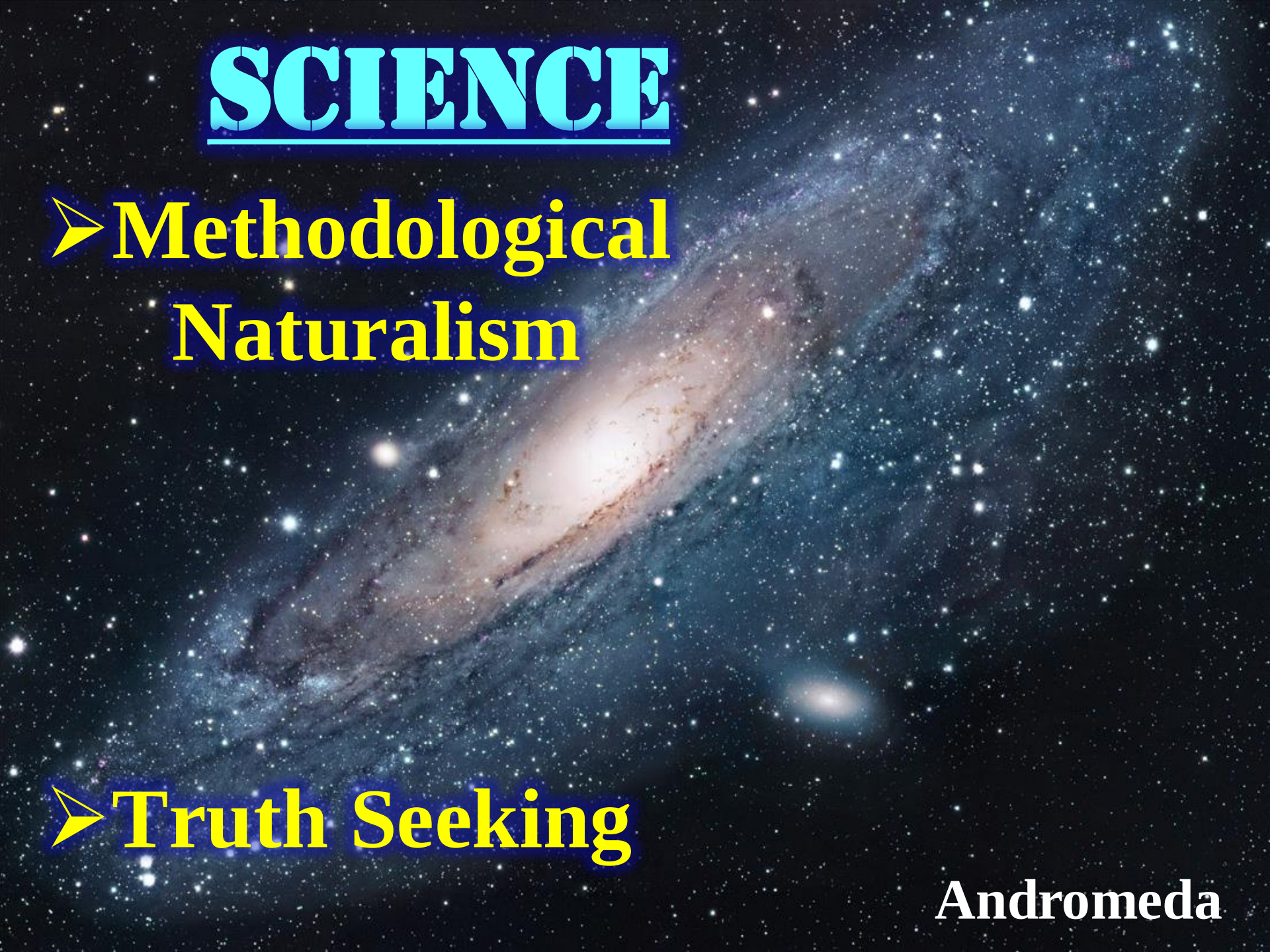
Observations in **Present**

✧**HISTORICAL SCIENCE** →

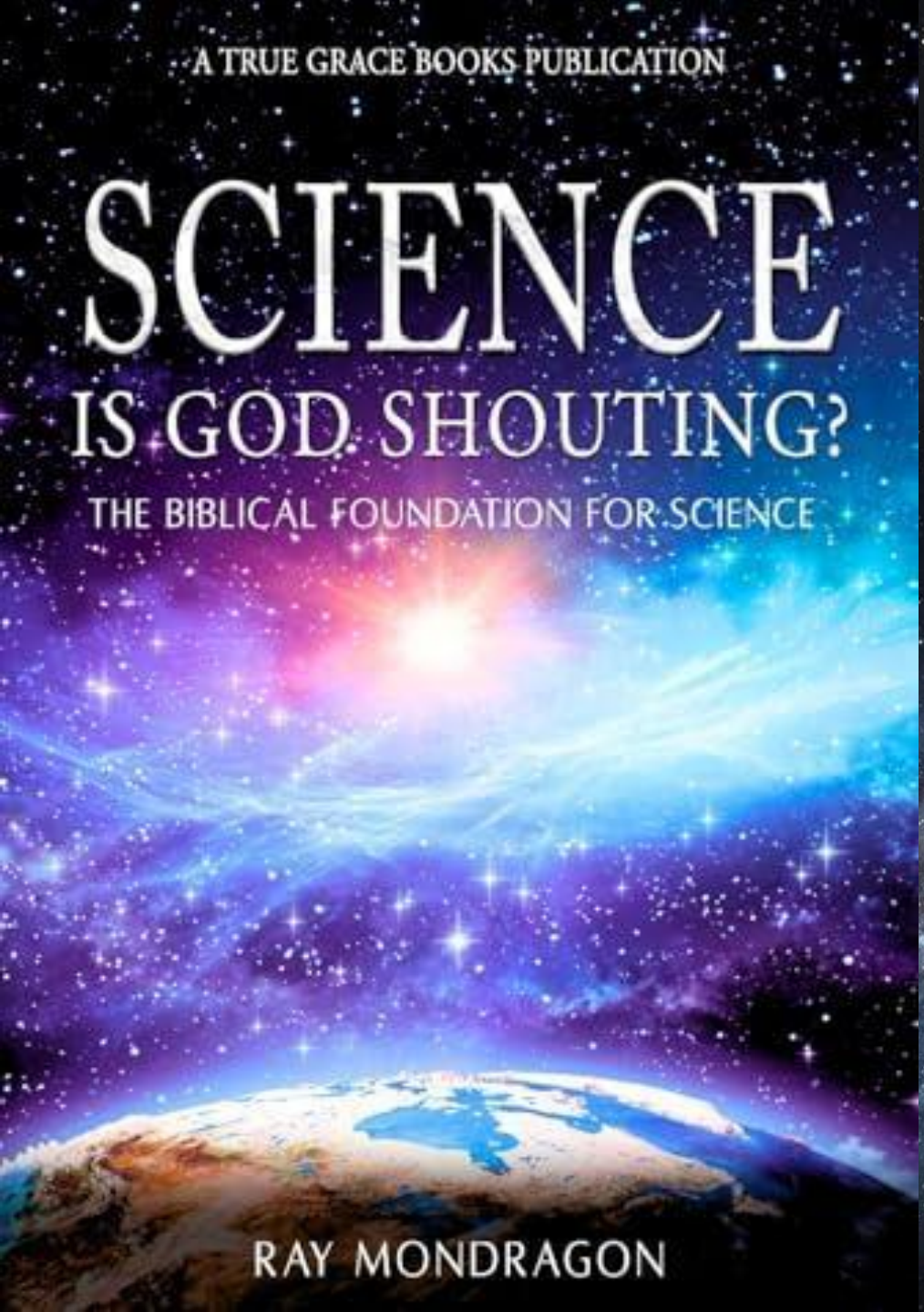
Traces of Past

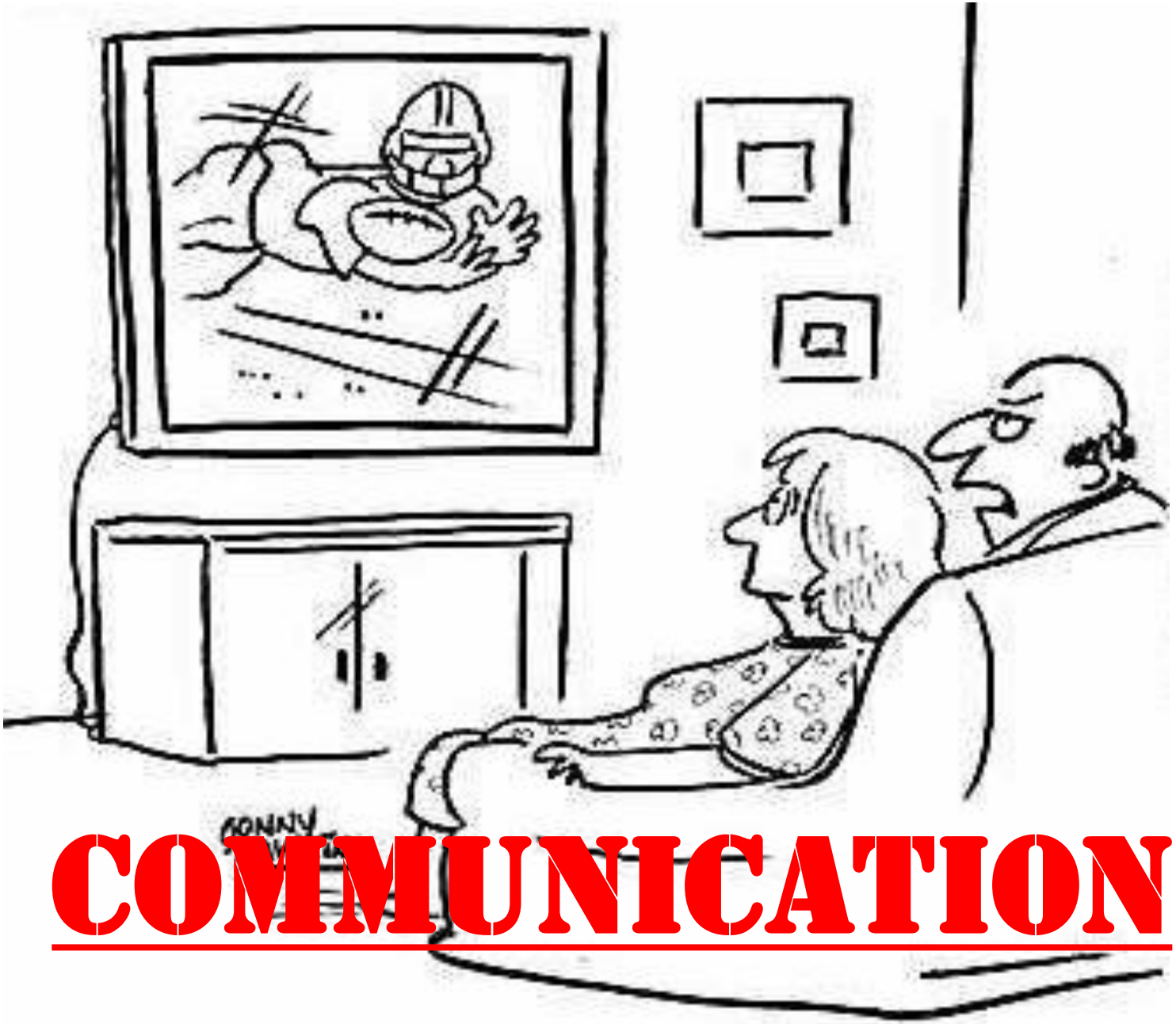
SCIENCE

- Methodological Naturalism
- Truth Seeking



Andromeda


A TRUE GRACE BOOKS PUBLICATION
SCIENCE
IS GOD SHOUTING?
THE BIBLICAL FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE
RAY MONDRAGON



COMMUNICATION

"He's the 'receiver', not the 'receptionist'."

MARRIAGE

Will this talk Save your Marriage?

1. **Universal Nature**
2. **In Theology**

G-H-C ESSENTIAL

- **Beginnings**
  1. Universe created by our Creator God
  2. Universe ~6,000 years young
  3. Worldwide Flood
- **Endings**
  1. Pretribulation rapture of Church
  2. Premillennial coming of Christ
  3. Distinction between Israel and Church

“The basic difference between the premillennial and amillennial schools and between the pretribulation and posttribulation rapturists are hermeneutical, arising from the adoption of divergent and irreconcilable methods of interpretation.”

JD Pentecost

SPIRITUAL

- Fall of Man - Gen 3:1

  "Indeed, has God said …"

- Peacemakers - Mt 5:9

  "Blessed are the peacemakers …"

“.... to find out the meaning of a statement for the author and for the 1st hearers or readers, and thereupon to transmit that meaning to modern readers.”

Mickelsen

The Author's Willed Meaning

1. **Universal Nature**
2. **In Theology**
3. **Essential Principles**

GRAMMATICAL-HISTORICAL-CONTEXTUAL METHOD

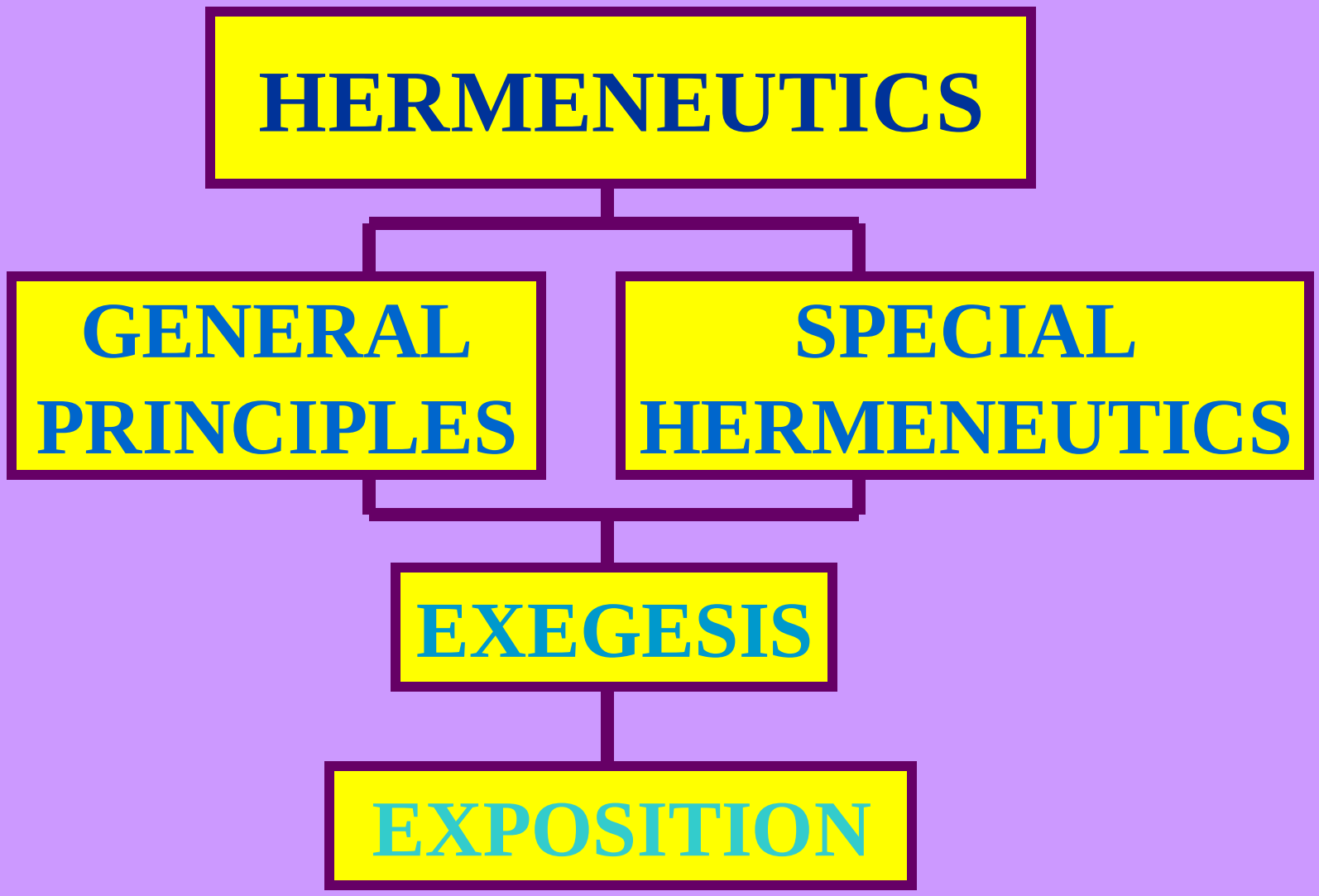
Or

“Literal Method”

DETERMINE MEANING:

- Laws of Grammar
- Facts of History
- Framework of Context

BIBLE HERMENEUTICS



ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES

1. Linguistic

LINGUISTIC

Determine meaning by conventions of language

BASIS

- Omniscient God & Intellect
- Origin of Language
- Image of God & language
- Verbal Inspiration
- God communicates with language
- Goal of Exegesis

LINGUISTIC

- ✓Language
- ✓Text
- ✓Lexicography
- ✓Syntax
- ✓Phonology
- ✓Morphology
- ✓Literary Devices

ESSENTIAL
PRINCIPLES
1. Linguistic
2. Metaphorical

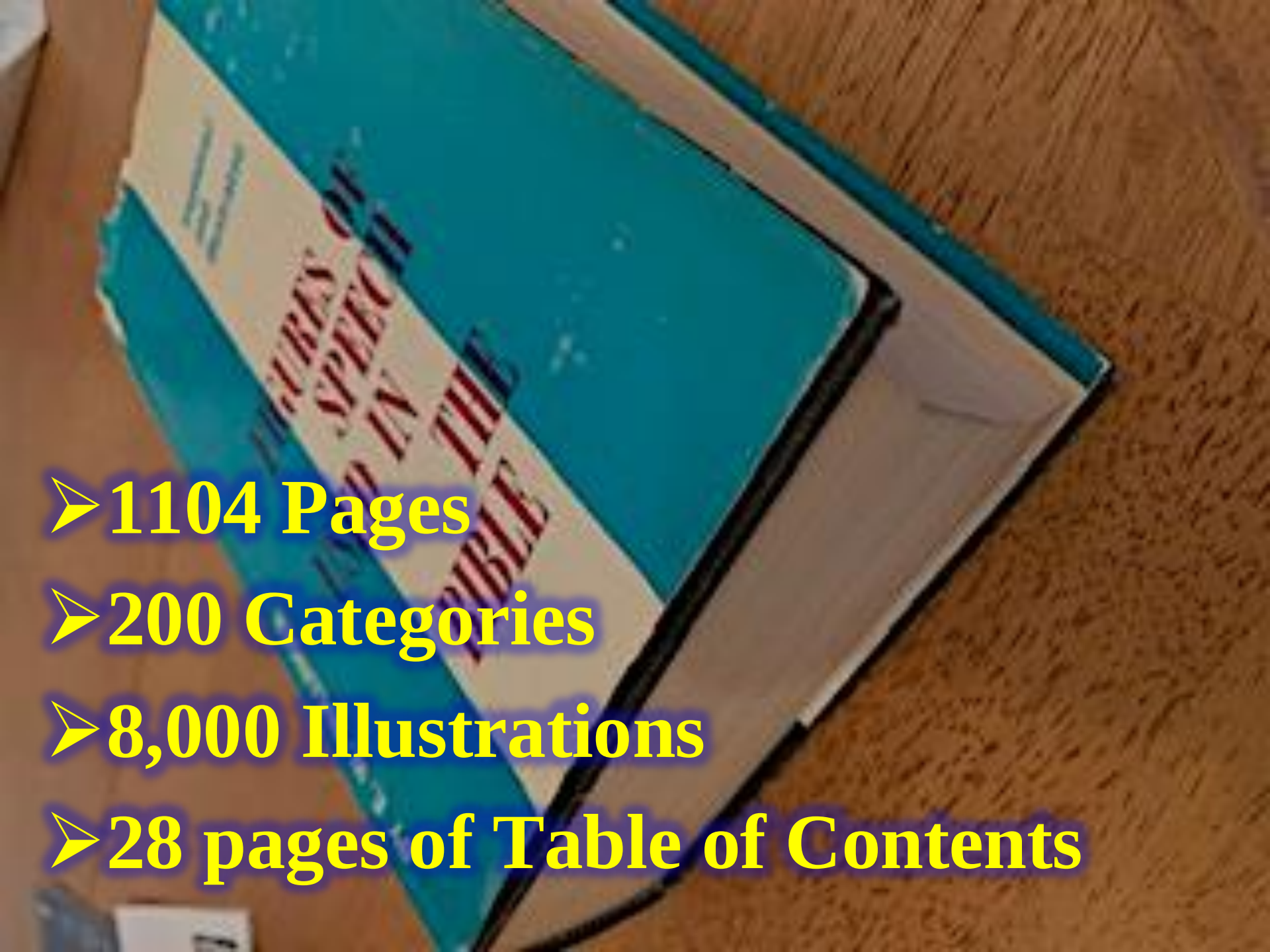
METAPHORICAL
Interpret according to appropriate metaphorical conventions

BASIS

- Complex Image of God
- Aesthetics, Emotion, Imagination
- Non-literal Language

"If asked what has been the most powerful force in the making of history ... I should have answered ... figurative expression. It is by imagination that men have lived; imagination rules all our lives. The human mind is not, as philosophers would have you think, a debating hall, but a picture gallery ... Remove the metaphors (i.e. figurative expressions) from the Bible and its living spirit vanishes ... The prophets, the poets, the leaders of men are all of them masters of imagery, and by imagery they capture the human soul."

W. M. Dixon


➢1104 Pages
➢200 Categories
➢8,000 Illustrations
➢28 pages of Table of Contents

SYMBOLS

$E = MC^2$

$V = d/t$

$A = pr^2$

$A = v/t$

H_2O

$\text{Tan } q = y/x$

ESSENTIAL
PRINCIPLES
1. Linguistic
2. Metaphorical
3. Historical

HISTORICAL
Historical setting
contributes to meaning

BASIS

- Purpose & Plan of God
- From Eternity to Eternity

ESSENTIAL
PRINCIPLES
1. Linguistic
2. Metaphorical
3. Historical
4. Cultural

CULTURAL
Cultural setting
contributes to meaning

BASIS

- Origin of Relationships
- Divine Institutions
- Expressed in Cultures

CULTURE

1. Geography
2. Politics
3. Sociology
4. Economy
5. Agriculture
6. Religion
7. Legal
8. Architecture
9. Military

ESSENTIAL
PRINCIPLES
1. Linguistic
2. Metaphorical
3. Historical
4. Cultural
5. Contextual

CONTEXTUAL
Context is the final determiner of meaning

BASIS

- Structure of the Mind
- Origin of Logic
- God communicated with Logic
- Authors Structured Books

Trunk

1. Car
2. Elephant
3. Tree
4. Communication
5. Attic
6. Swimming

CONTEXT - Types

1. Textual - primary
2. Literary
3. Historical
4. Cultural
5. Theological

IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES

1. Literary
2. Single Meaning
3. Clarity
4. Unity
5. Analogy
6. Progress
7. Logical
8. Supernatural
9. Finite
10. Christological

GRAMMATICAL-METAPHORICAL-HISTORICAL-CULTURAL-CONTEXTUAL METHOD???

GRAMMATICAL-HISTORICAL-CONTEXTUAL METHOD

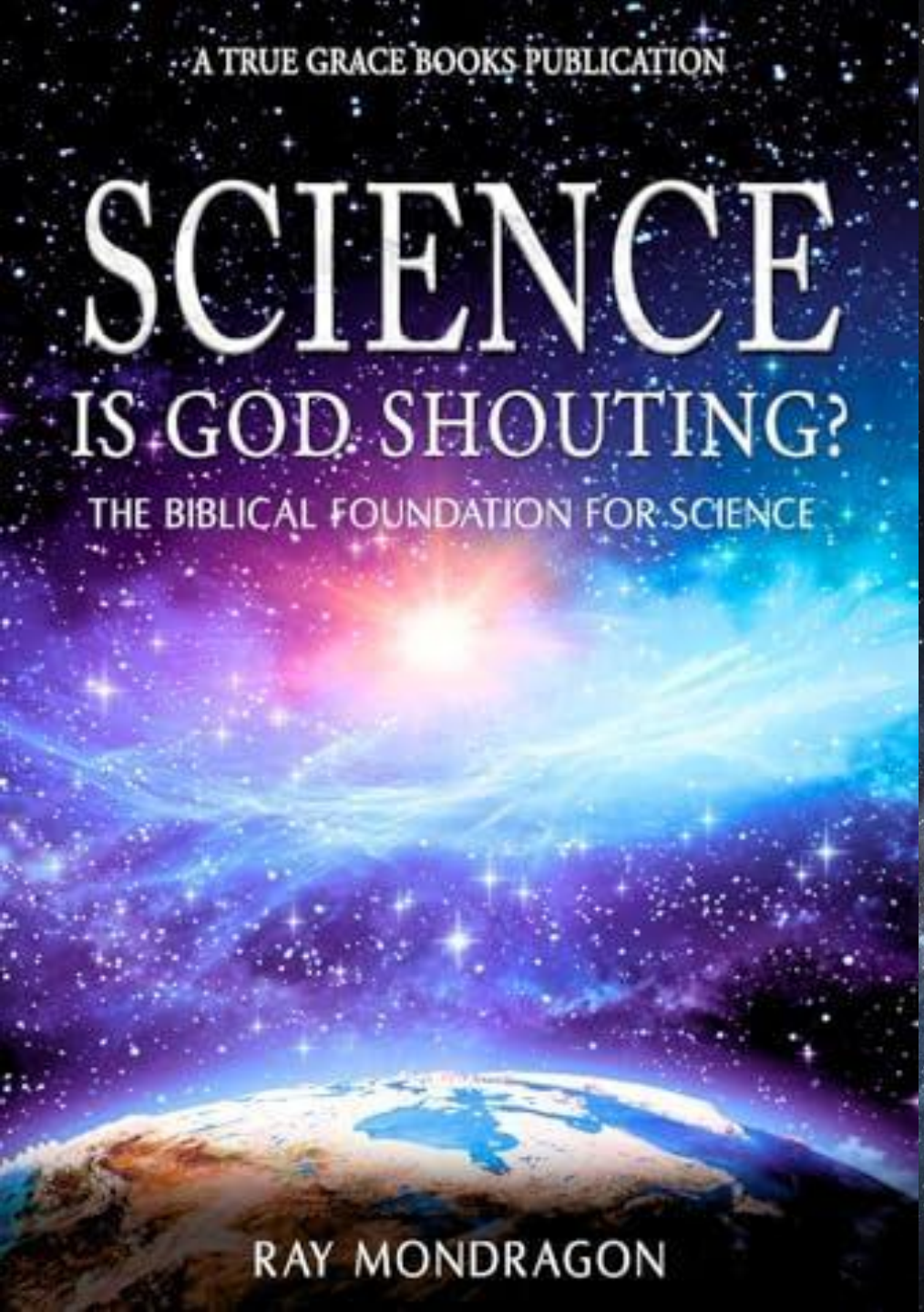
Or

“Literal Method”

HERMENEUTICS

Yes, hermeneutics matters!!!

Ray Mondragon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