



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel  
Special Message: *Out of Context*  
From Sermon 3.26.23

Read *Psalm 91:11-12 & Matthew 4:5-7*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: Even in real courtroom cases, the Judge must occasionally pause the proceedings to give the jury needed instructions in law and boundaries. Before diving into the deep, rich events and doctrines found in the next chapters of John's Gospel, we also need to pause to learn and commit to sound Bible interpretation rules. While there are many critical guidelines we could address, the single focus here will be: Context. Context matters. The teacher and student must get it right.

1. Was the devil accurately quoting Psalm 91 at Jesus' Temptation? Yes.

1a. Then, what was the issue? How come Jesus didn't act on the promise of Psalm 91? Satan was taking it out of context for his own benefit and trying to get Jesus to do the same. 2) Jesus, knowing the whole of Scripture, also knew/knows giving in to this temptation would be putting God to the test.

See also *Deuteronomy 6:16*

2. Besides false visions and justifying their own sin, what fact was stated regarding the pseudo-Christian groups and cults? They all came about thru a mishandling of Scripture—taking text out of context—singling in on one verse or section with a disregard to the whole of scripture and contradictions.

3. What is the principal of "For you vs. To you"? All Scripture is inspired by God and is beneficial in revealing Christ (in some way) and leading us in righteousness. See 2 Timothy 3:16-17. However, not all Scripture was written to us (born again, grace vs. Law, adopted sons and daughters) to act on and carry out.

4. What is the "The Rule of Consistency vs. Contradiction"? God does not change and is timelessly consistent. Therefore, His Word cannot change or contradict itself. If there even appears to be a conflict, it is the reader who is in error, not the Word.

4a. Examples of Contradictions Due to Context: Look up each passage and summarize its teaching. Then, discuss the apparent contradiction and how context clears the confusion.

*Exodus 20:13* = Thou shalt not kill

*Exodus 21:12* = Capital punishment

*Matthew 7:1* = Do not judge

*1 Corinthians 5:12-13* = Judge and remove the person

*John 14:13-14* = In My Name and I will do it

*James 4:3* = Asked with wrong motives and heart

5. Teaching and guidelines on the use of "..." /ellipsis. 1) It is a legal, acceptable tool and practice. But it carries inherent dangers. 1) You can make the Bible say whatever you want. 2) it is the Preacher/teacher's responsibility to explain and justify. 3) it is the student/hearer's responsibility to check all things out in context. See also *Acts 17:11*

6. As a Bible student, what commitments to faithful study can you make today? Various Answers