

Lecture #4

Introduction (4): Making Sense of OT Prophecies

Introduction

I. Understanding in the OT Context

- A. Basic Idea
- B. Originally Not Understood
- C. Originally Understood
- D. Originally Understood and Not Understood

II. Understanding in the NT Context

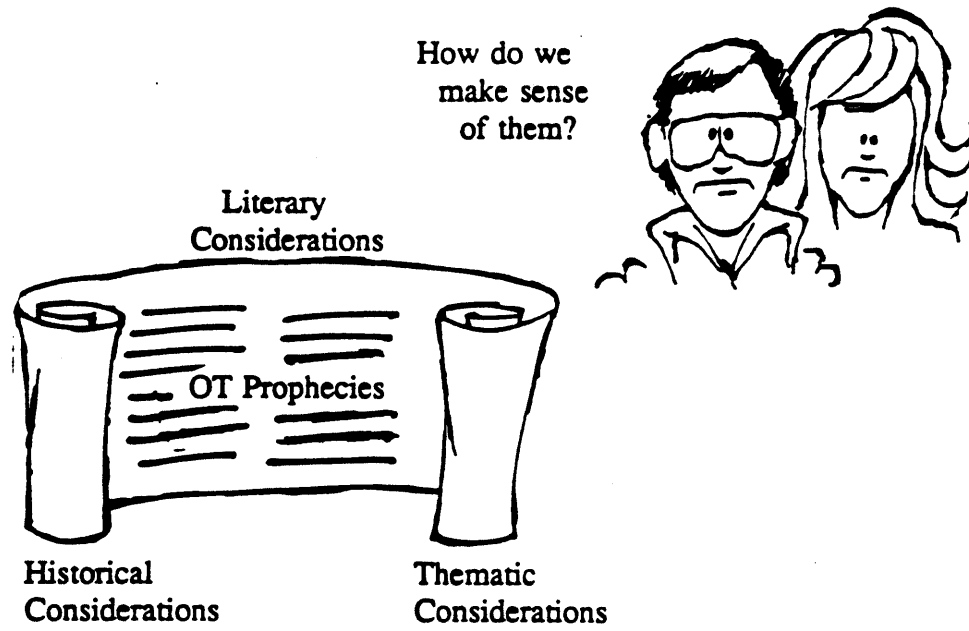
- A. Basic Idea
- B. Free of Original Meaning
- C. Bound to Original Meaning
- D. Elaborations on Original Meaning

III. Understanding in the Modern Context

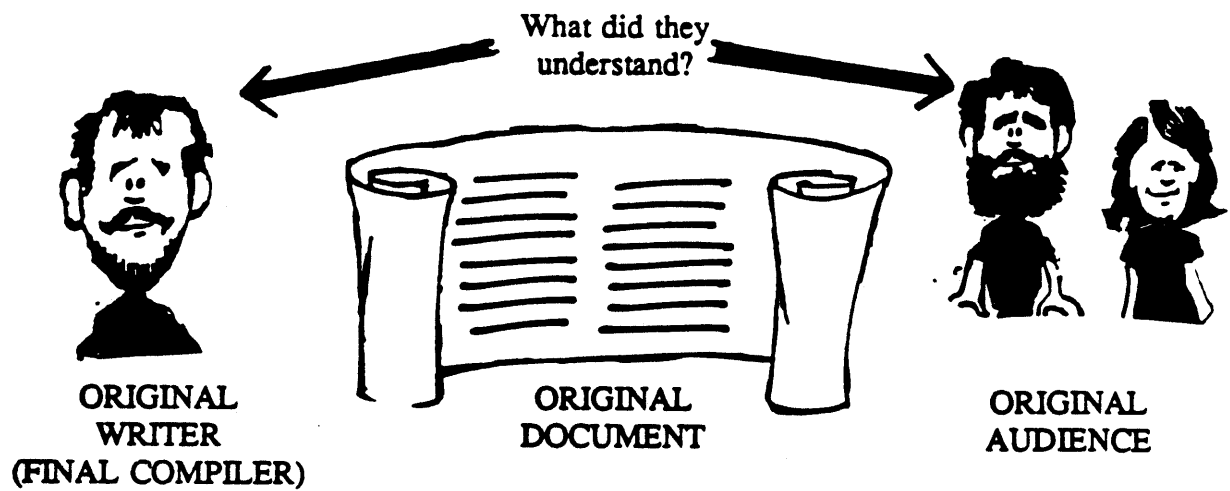
- A. Basic Idea
- B. Original Meaning
- C. Biblical Elaborations
- D. Modern Applications
- E. Example

LECTURE REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What are two extreme views on how well OT prophets understood their prophecies? What is Pratt's view?
2. What are two extreme views on the freedom NT writers exercised as they interpreted OT prophecies? What is Pratt's view?
3. Discuss the steps for understanding OT prophecy through awareness of the original meaning, biblical elaborations and modern applications. What are the chief concerns at each level? Illustrate.

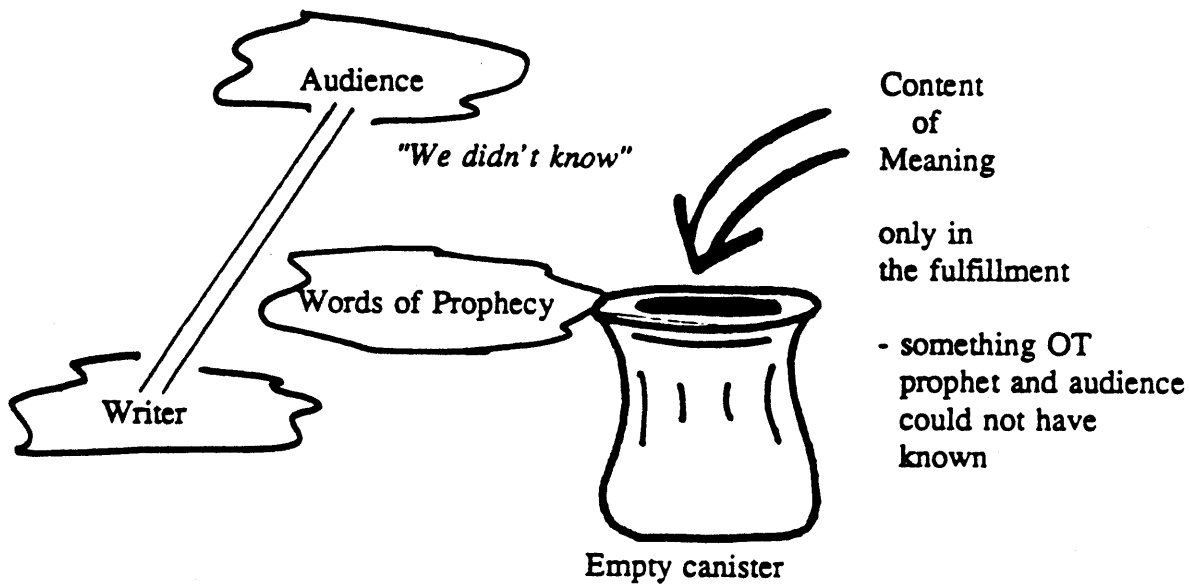


Basic Issue (Fig. 4.1)



Understanding in OT Context (Fig. 4.2)

(1 Pet 1:10-12; Jn 11:49-52; Dn 8:27; 12:8; Zech 4:13)

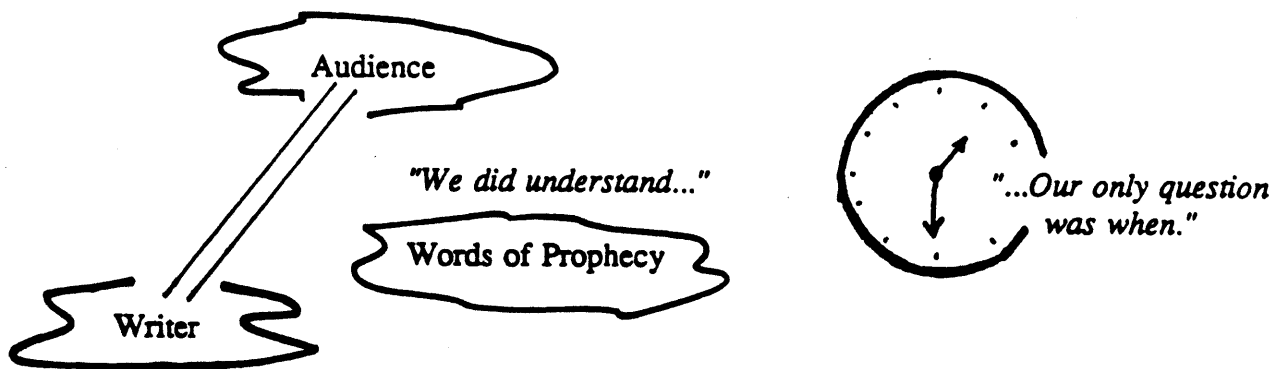


Hos 11:1
Jer 31:15

→ "fulfilled" →

Mt 2:15
Mt 2:18

Originally Not Understood (Fig. 4.3)

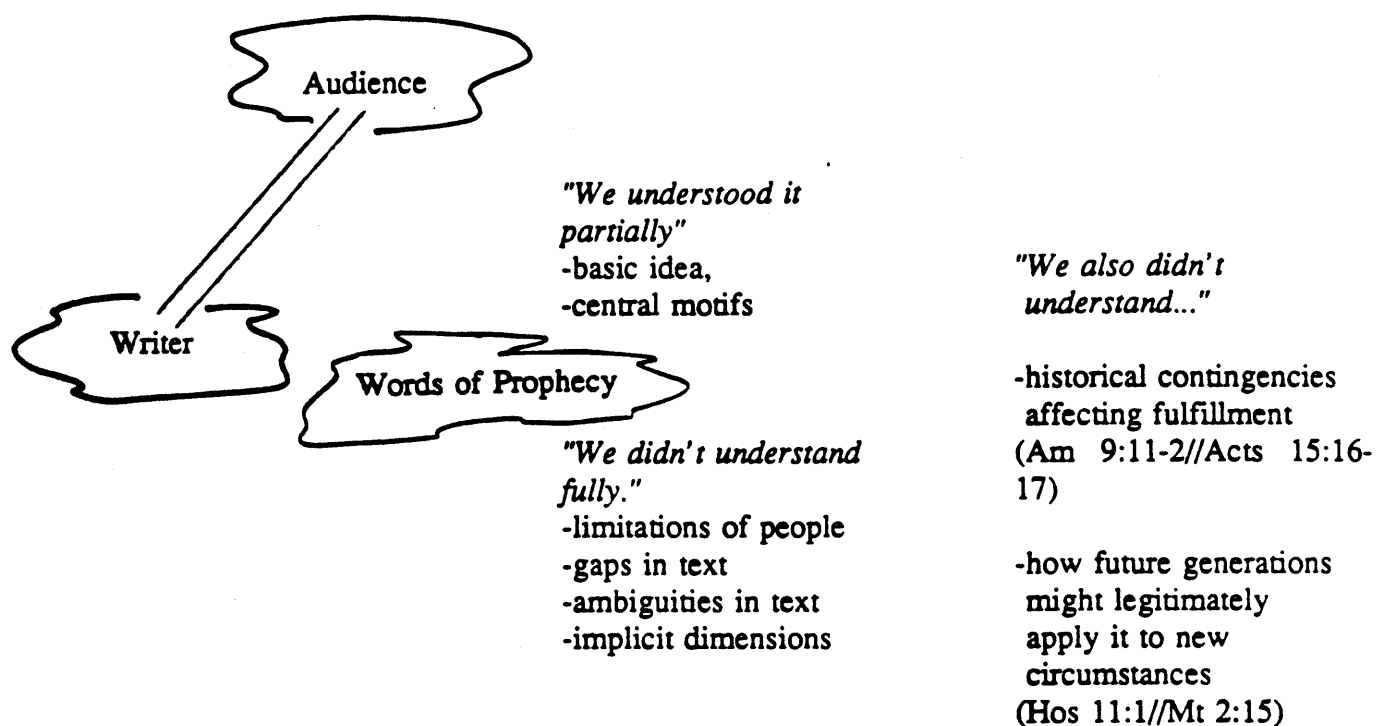


Isa 53:7,8
Am 9:11-12

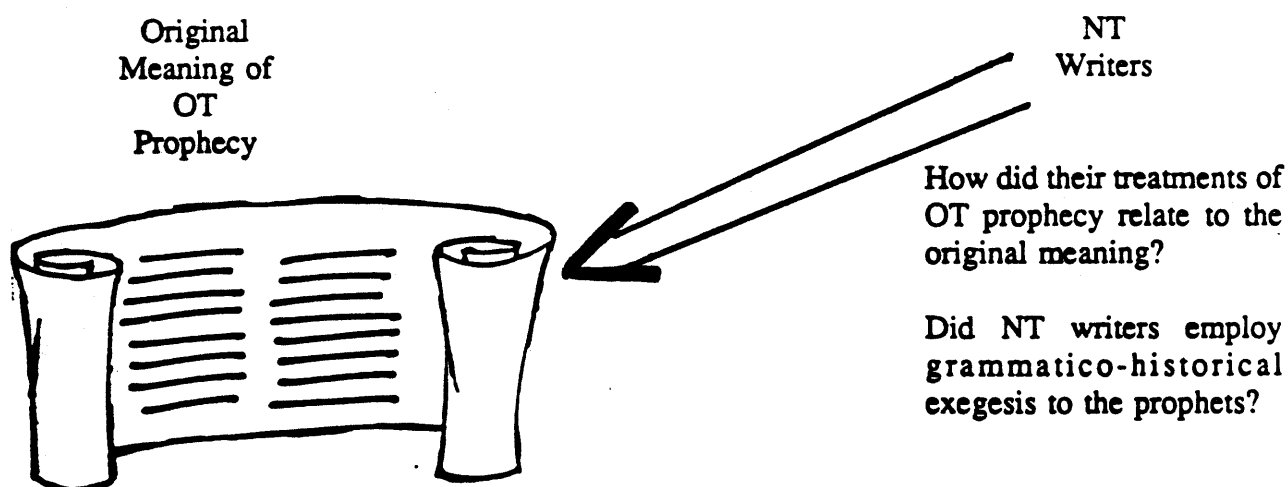
→ "fulfilled" →

Acts 8:32-35
Acts 15:16-17

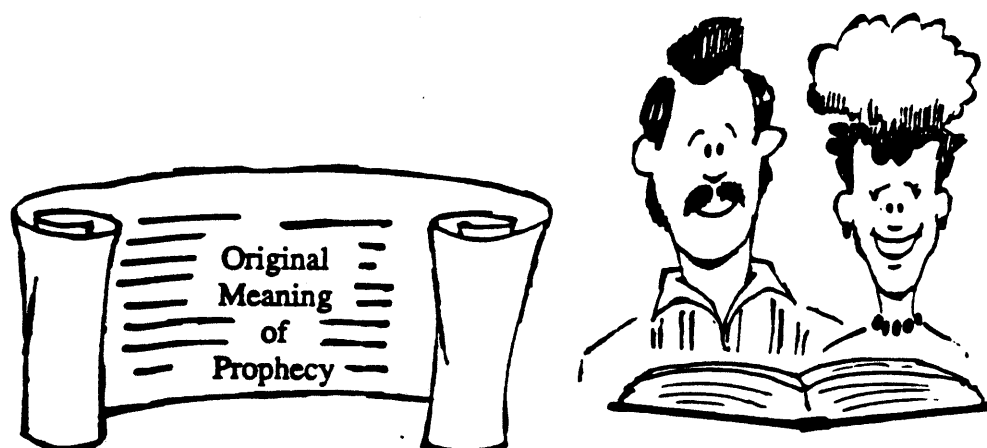
Originally Understood (Fig. 4.4)



Originally Understood and Not Understood (Fig. 4.5)



Understanding in NT Context (Fig. 4.6)



NT interpretation is supernatural, esoteric, gnostic. Free from original meaning.

NT interpretation must simply be taken "by faith" despite the fact that it misrepresents the text.

Hos 11:1 → Mt 2:15
Isa 40:3 → Mt 3:3

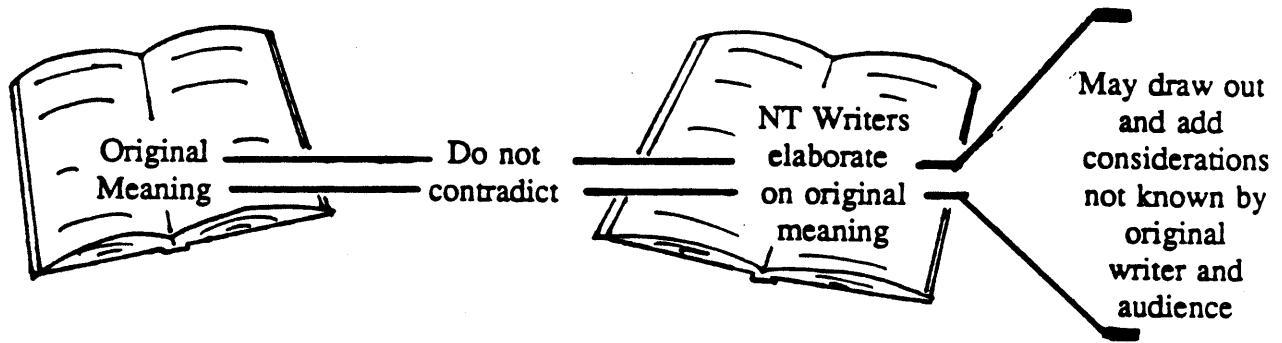
NT Unbound to Meaning (Fig. 4.7)



NT writers
Locked in
only
clarify

Ps 16:8-11 → Acts 2:25-35

NT Bound to Meaning (Fig. 4.8)



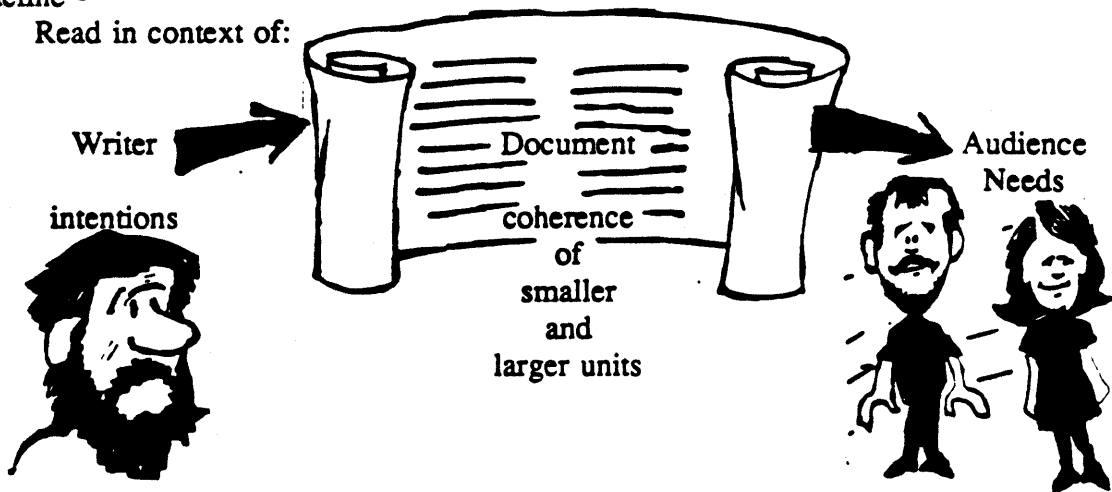
NT Elaborations on Meaning (Fig. 4.9)

Isa 7:14	Mt 1:23	?
What should the author and his readers have understood?	How does the rest of the Bible elaborate on the original meaning?	What proper applications should we make in the light of the original meaning and biblical elaborations.
Original Meaning	Biblical Elaborations	Legitimate (?) applications
[W - D - A]		
Inspired Normative Not exhaustive	Inspired Normative Not exhaustive	Not Inspired Not necessarily normative Not exhaustive

Understanding in Modern Context (Fig. 4.10)

Guideline -

Read in context of:

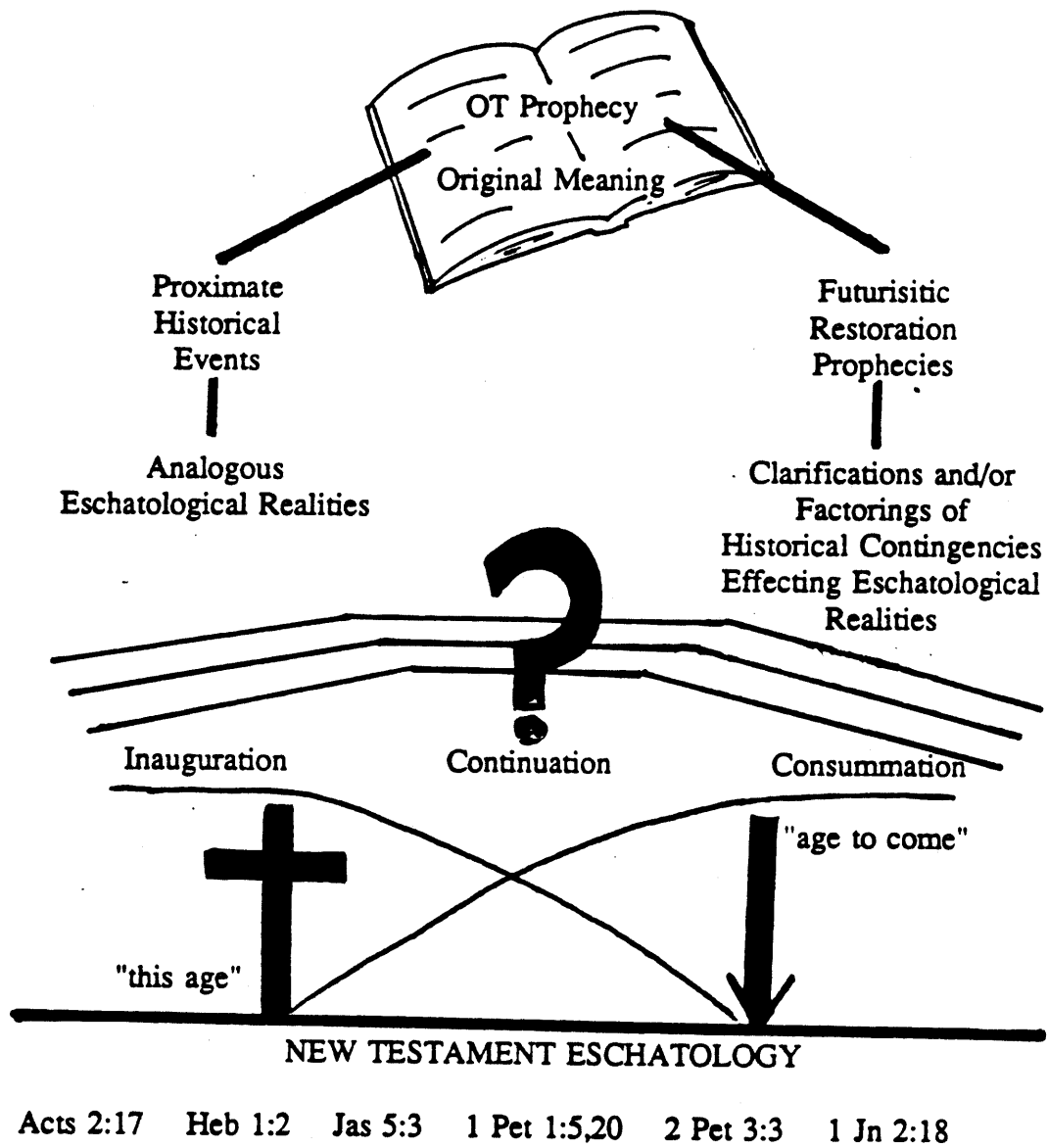


Original Meaning (Fig. 4.11)

Compare these and ask...

Original Meaning	NT Elaborations	... "What kind of elaboration is taking place?"
Isa 53:7,8	Acts 8:32-35	-clarifying original meaning? (specify, add, explicate)
Am 9:11-12	Acts 15:16-17	-explaining effects of intervening historical contingencies
Hos 11:1	Mt 2:15	-applying original meaning to analogous circumstances

Biblical Elaborations (Fig. 4.12)



OT Prophecy and NT Eschatology (Fig. 4.13)

