

Jason White

Title: Is Authorial Intent Obtainable?

IT IS WIDELY ASSUMED WITHIN EVANGELICALISM THAT THE AUTHORS OF SCRIPTURE MEANT SOMETHING IN THEIR RESPECTIVE WRITINGS. ANOTHER ASSUMPTION IS THAT OUR RESPONSIBILITY AS CHRISTIAN SCHOLARS IS TO FIND THIS ONE MEANING AND DESCRIBE IT AS THE AUTHORS INTENDED MEANING. BASED UPON THE PHILOSOPHY OF HANS-GEORG GADAMER, THIS PAPER ARGUES THAT THAT WE CANNOT DESCRIBE THE AUTHOR'S INTENDED MEANING BECAUSE WE CANNOT ESCAPE OUR OWN CULTURAL PRESUPPOSITIONS. THEREFORE, ALL WE CAN DO IS BE FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF THE TEXT, SEEKING TO PROVIDE THE BEST INTERPRETATIONS OF SCRIPTURE BY FIRST SEEKING TO BE SPIRITUALLY DISCIPLINED THROUGH THE PIETY AND PRACTICES OF THE CHURCH.



Bio: Jason is a second year Ph.D. student, emphasizing in theological studies. He moved to MacDiv from Texas (yes, the accent is different but charming) where the food is hot (as well as fantastic) and the weather hotter. He has been married to his extremely supportive but now “Ph.D. widowed” wife Christina for almost 11 years. In our “spare” time, you know when she isn’t working and I’m not schooling, we enjoy cooking and relaxing to a good movie or T.V. show.

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**Theological Research Seminar
Tuesday, February 8 12:30-1:20 PM
Hurlburt Hall**