

Poetry, Proverbs & Parables: *What's The Difference?*

Introduction:

- A. The critical importance of context.
- B. *Genre* – a kind of literary work; a style of expressing yourself in writing.

I. The Bible is not written in the same style throughout; God used different genres

- A. If we read every part of the Bible in exactly the same way, we will misunderstand and misapply.
- B. A very basic look at the Scriptures reveals that God used different styles of writing.

II. What genres did God use and how should we approach them?

- A. **Prose** (*Ephesians 4:25-32*) –
- B. **Narrative** (*Genesis 4:1-8*) –
- C. **Poetry** (*Psalms 140; Psalm 51:7-8*) –
- D. **Proverb** (*Ezekiel 18:1-2; Proverbs 15:1; 22:6*) –
- E. **Parable** (*Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23; Luke 16:1-12*) –
- F. **Prophecy** (*Joel 2:28-29; Isaiah 2:1-3; John 2:13-22*) –
- G. **Apocalyptic** (*Joel 2:28-32; Ezekiel 1*) –

Conclusion:

- A. *2 Timothy 2:15*
- B. *Acts 20:32*