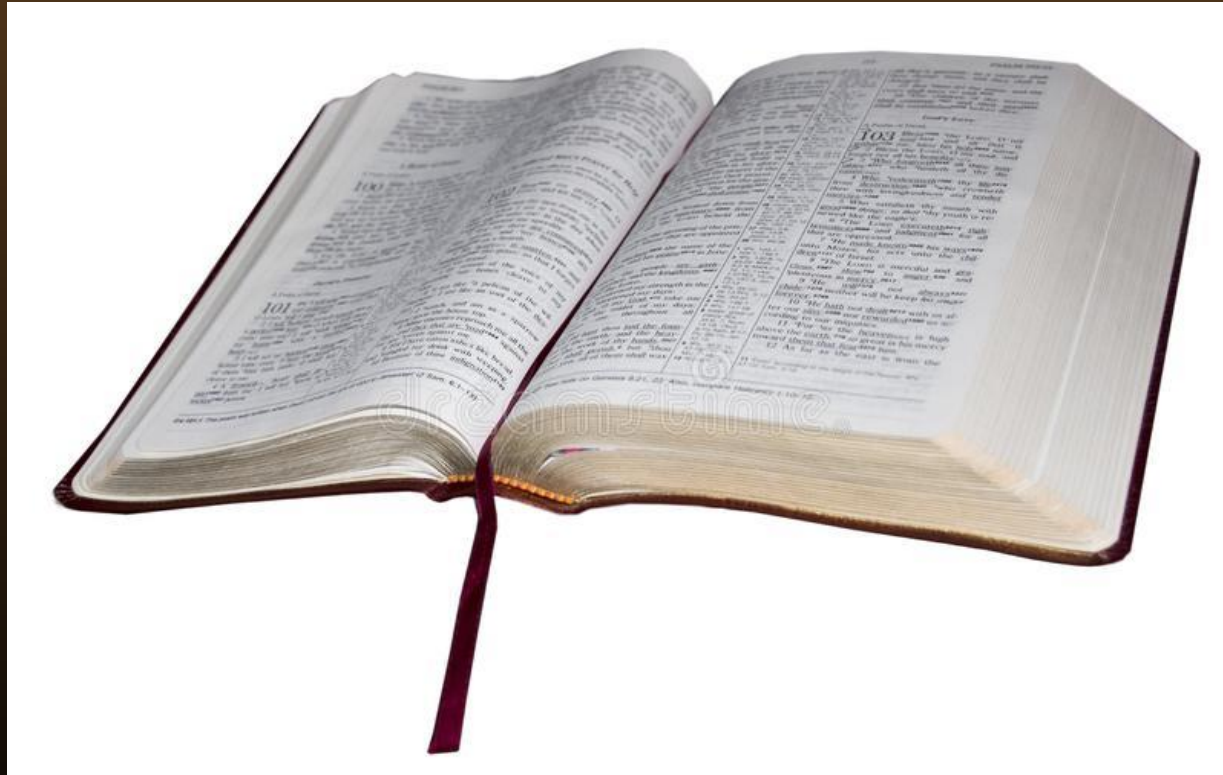
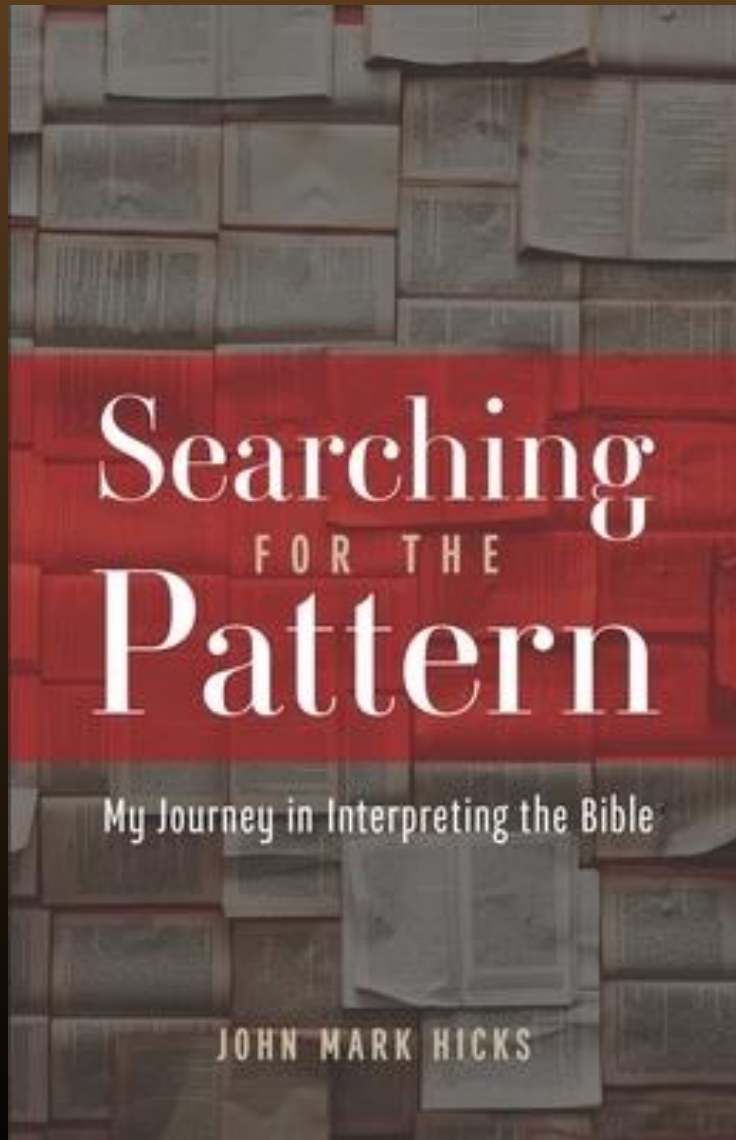


Is Scripture Intended as Our Pattern?



2nd Timothy 1:8-13

Denying Scripture Is Pattern



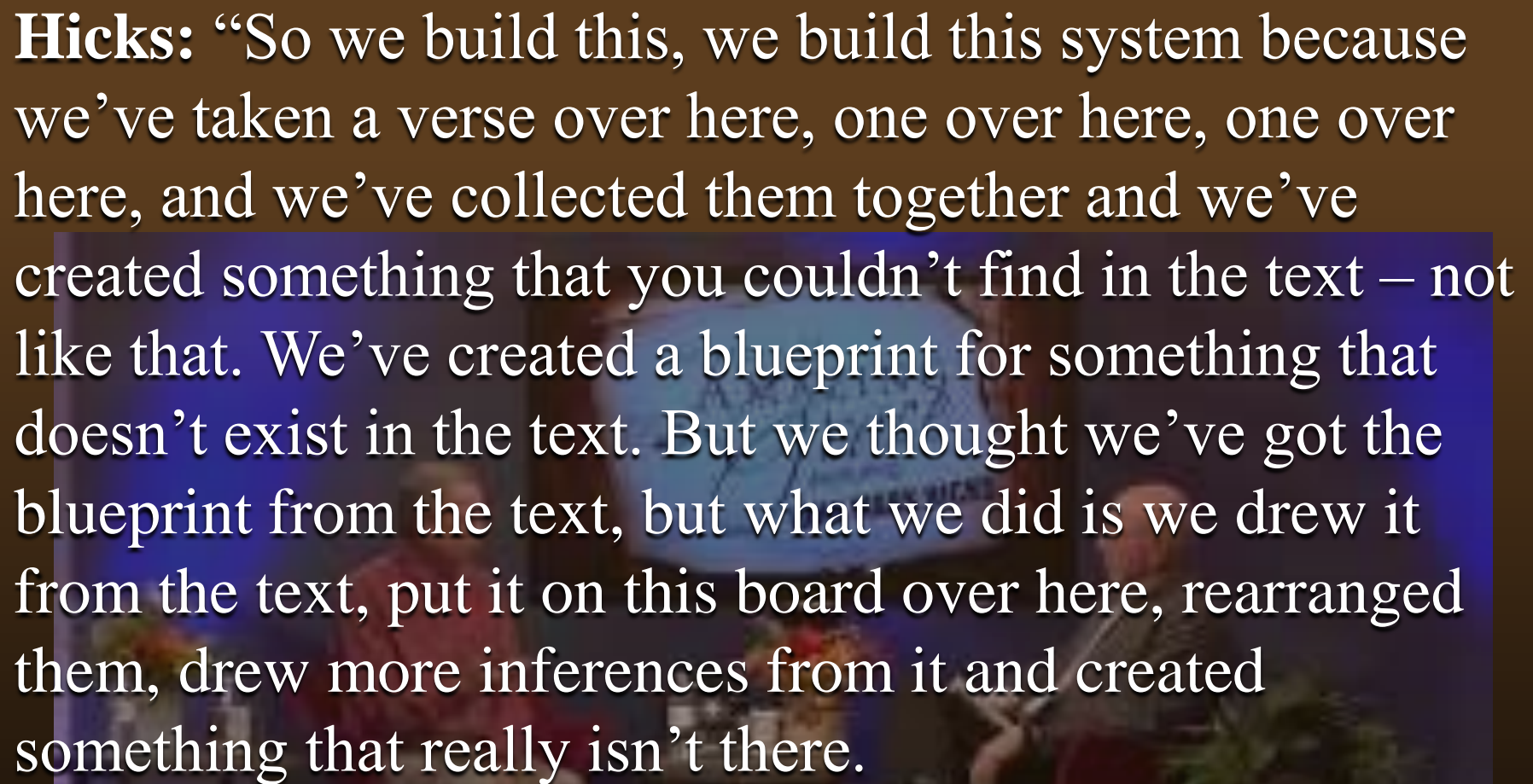
John Mark Hicks

- Professor of Theology at Lipscomb University
- Popular among many brethren
- Denies pattern found in commands, approved examples & necessary inferences (“**CENI**”)

Making the Argument



Hicks: “We look at what God is doing in the text. What is God intending in that text? How is God intending to shape us, form us into the image of Christ? And so, we look for the mystery of Christ that is being articulated in that text and it’s the mystery of Christ that we want to embody and make it a part of our heart and life so that we can live in faithful ways.”



Hicks: “So we build this, we build this system because we’ve taken a verse over here, one over here, one over here, and we’ve collected them together and we’ve created something that you couldn’t find in the text – not like that. We’ve created a blueprint for something that doesn’t exist in the text. But we thought we’ve got the blueprint from the text, but what we did is we drew it from the text, put it on this board over here, rearranged them, drew more inferences from it and created something that really isn’t there.

Souder: “The five steps of salvation. It’s not there in a list, right?”

Hicks: “Not in a list, no.”

Souder: “But it is in our songbook.”

Hicks: [laughs] “Well, we do create lists”

Souder: “In the front of our songbook, there it is.”

Hicks: “We do create lists. We create lists like five steps of salvation or the three purposes of the church or we create all kinds of lists because what we are doing is we are looking for something in the Bible that we can use as a blueprint for how we are to reproduce things today. And we – that makes the Bible into something that it really isn’t intended to be. It’s – the Bible’s more of a story – a narrative, a story about who God is and about what God is doing and how God is calling us into participation in God’s own mission.... The Bible is the temple in that sense that we explore the temple. We explore the story of God and we breathe in the air of the story and we take in the story by osmosis and through reading and through conceptions and we become part of the story itself...”

“The Pattern Is Jesus, Not Scripture”



“Reproduce the MAN, Not the Message”

2 Timothy 1:8-13

⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, ⁹ who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, ¹⁰ but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹ to which I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. ¹² For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day. ¹³ Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 1:8-13

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Why Scripture Is Intended as Pattern

- **It Alone Is Inspired of God**
 - *2 Timothy 3:16-17* All Scripture is inspired – fully furnishes
 - *1 Corinthians 2:12-13* Words not chosen by man, but Spirit
- **It Gives the Proof of Its Divine Origin**
 - *Isaiah 40 – 45* True God challenges false gods (*Isa. 8:19-20*)
 - *Deuteronomy 18:21-22* Challenge is 100% accuracy
 - 332 Messianic prophecies in OT – All fulfilled in Christ
- **It Is Perfect & Complete in Instruction & Delivery**
 - *John 14:25-26* → *Jn. 16:13-14* H.S. guided to all truth
 - *Romans 1:16-17* Gospel is power of God to save (righteous)
 - *1 Peter 1:22-25* Saved through obeying gospel (lives & abides)
- **It Forbids Addition or Subtraction (No Changes)**
 - *2 John 9-11* Not to go beyond the doctrine of Christ
 - *Revelation 22:18-19* No addition & no subtraction (*Deut. 4:2*)

If Scripture Is Not Intended as Pattern, What Does This Mean? (*John 12:48*)

“He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him – the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.”

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