**"Analogy of Faith" Defined**

The "analogy of faith" is a hermeneutical principle that has existed since the days of the early church—often simplified as "Scripture interprets Scripture." The “analogy of faith” states that the unclear passages of Scripture must be interpreted in light of the clear passages. In other words, the Bible teaches one message, it does not contradict itself. Knowing this, we can safely deduce that one portion of Scripture will not contradict another portion. As faithful interpreters of the Bible, we must allow the Bible to teach us and not allow ourselves to reinterpret the Bible to fit our own preconceived ideas about what it teaches.

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**Analogy** (n. a•nal•o•gy [ - n l - j ])

Similarity in some respects between things that are otherwise dissimilar.

A comparison based on such similarity. See Synonyms at likeness.

[Middle English analogie, from Old French, from Latin analogia, from Greek analogi, from analogos, proportionate; see analogous.]

**Faith** (n. f th)

A strong belief in a supernatural power or powers that control human destiny; "he lost his faith but not his morality."

Christianity trust in God and in his actions and promises.

[Middle English, from Anglo-Norman fed, from Latin fid s; see bheidh- in Indo-European roots.]

**Hermeneutics** (n. her•me•neu•tics [hûr m - n t ks])

The branch of theology that deals with principles of exegesis [from Greek hermēneutikos expert in interpretation, from hermēneuein to interpret, from hermēneus interpreter, of uncertain origin].

**Theology** (n. the•ol•o•gy [th - l - j ])

The rational and systematic study of religion and its influences and of the nature of religious truth.

[Middle English theologie, from Old French, from Latin theologia, from Greek theologi: theo-, theo- + -log, - logy.]

**Exegesis** (n. ex•e•ge•sis [k s - j s s])

Critical explication or interpretation of Scripture [from Greek, from exēgeisthai to interpret, from EX-1 + hēgeisthai to guide].

**Interpretation** (n. in•ter•pre•ta•tion [n-tûr pr - t sh n])

A part of the analysis and production phase in the intelligence process in which the significance of information is judged in relation to the current body of knowledge.

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“The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.” ([Deuteronomy 29:29](http://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Deuteronomy+29.29&t=NKJV))