

ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN

Hebrews 8:5



GOD \$ PATTERNS

- There are several different words translated pattern in the Bible.
- We first see the word used in reference to the tabernacle (Ex. 25:9, 40).
- The Apostles gave patterns in less tangible areas (Phil. 3:17; 2 Thess. 3:9).
- In this we see that pattern is not just something we make up, but something God intended to communicate (Deut. 29:29; Eph. 3:4).
- God means us to find that pattern even in the midst of narrative (Deut. 8:3; Matt. 4:1-4).

SIMPLE OR COMPLEX

- Hermeneutics is the study of interpretation.
- The hermeneutics of our brethren have often been criticized as too complex.
- This is like saying the rules of grammar are complex (Mk. 12:26).
- Not all questions of interpretation are of equal difficulty (Heb. 6:1-2).

MORE OR LESS

- Another accusation is that the Bible isn't just a list of propositions.
- In many cases, the propositions add up to greater propositions (Rom. 13:9).
- The patterns are more important than the details (Heb. 8:5; Zech. 4:10).
- This doesn't reduce the importance of patterns, it increases it.