



Basic Lesson 4

Context in Biblical Meditation

The Invitation to Overcome
Revelation 3:20

Basic Principle: Context is necessary in meditation.

Read Revelation 3:18-21; you will see the necessity of context in meditation. Verse 20 is well known, but the context less so.

Revelation 3:20

“Behold, I (Jesus) stand at the door, and knock: If any man hear My voice and open the door, I will come in to him (meet you where you are) and will dine with him and he with Me.”

In context, Jesus is inviting lukewarm believers for a time of fellowship with Him as the remedy for a dangerously lax spiritual condition.

God speaks through the Word; believers can hear Him.

Jesus says believers can hear His voice as He calls them, all they have to do is open the door; take time for Him, sit with the Word and believe He will speak.

Consistency in the Word is important.

Sup is used for dine in the King James Version. Sup is the **main meal** of the day, showing the need of this daily time with Jesus in the Word.

“He sups with us and we with Him” v20

This speaks of personal interaction, as you **respond** to the Word He has for you.

Before you respond you need to see this text in context, to see what Jesus is actually saying to you.

Adding just the two verses surrounding v20 gives clarity.

Revelation 3:19

“As many as I love, I rebuke (tell a fault) and chasten (discipline, train), therefore be zealous and repent (change).”

Response: This seems harsh, but God’s rebuke brings a **benefit**.

“Turn at My rebuke; (repent and change your thinking and behavior) Surely I will pour out My Spirit on you; I will make My Words known to you” (Proverbs 1:23)

Purpose: God’s rebuke is to result in **chasteness**, holiness, a restoration to spiritual vibrancy; therefore, it is wisdom to repent thoroughly and quickly.

Benefit: v21

“To him who overcomes (gets the victory over sin, here lukewarmness), **I will grant to sit with Me on My throne...**”

This is a place of privileged intimacy and delegated authority in prayer.

Response: Biblical Meditation requires a response. Apply the Word personally.

- What do you think about this invitation to have supper with Jesus?
- Is it something you want to do? Are you hesitant?
- Will you make the time necessary to spend with the Lord?

Answer honestly; the Lord knows where you are. He wants to know if you know where you are and are willing to make changes.

Maybe your **response** is in v19 about the rebuke, or in v21 about the over-comer who sits with Jesus in a place of delegated authority.

Benefit: Your response brings both depth and breadth to your prayer.

As an intercessor, you represent the Body of Christ, the Church. (1 Corinthians 12:27)

Depth: Prayers of this kind bring depth and growth to the Church as you are willing to change, mature, one person at a time.

Breadth: Your prayer will touch others in the Church who are at the same place you are spiritually.

Application: In a prayer group, share briefly to get the full prayer picture, what God is saying at this time, then pray out what was received. If by yourself, simply pray out what you received.