

## Figures of Speech.

### An important part of biblical interpretation.

1. SIMILE: “LIKE” “AS” Comparing two things.
2. METAPHOR: a comparison by direct assertion. Describes one thing in terms of another.
  - a. John 10: Little flock describes congregation
  - b. Other sheep, one flock, these are my mothers and sisters.
3. METONYMA: Association by figures. Substituting one thing for another.
  - a. White house= president
  - b. Circumcision =r Jews
4. SYNECDOCHE: A part is used for a whole or a whole for a part.
  - a. Singular for plural and plural for singular
5. PERSONIFICATION: Thing, quality, idea represented as a person.
  - a. Herod the old fox
  - b. Red Sea fleeing
  - c. Earth trembles in presence of Lord
  - d. Trees clapping their hands
6. APOSTROPHE: Akin to personification. Word addressed in exclamatory tone as a thing regarded as a person.
7. ELLIPSIS: Figures demanding additions to complete a thought. A word added to complete thoughts. Often in *italics* in some Bibles.
8. ZEUGMA: Special form of ellipsis. Supplying some form of the verb to complete the meaning. I.e. 1 Cor. 3:2
9. APOSIOPESIS: When a part of a sentence is suppressed because writer is emotionally moved or because he wants to achieve a rhetorical effect.
10. EUPHEMISM: An understatement. Judas to his own place rather than saying he went to hell.
11. LITOTES: Affirmative truth, but milder form. Diplomatic talk. See 1 Thess 2:15-16  
Jew “not pleasing God.”
12. HYPERBOLE: Conscious exaggeration to gain effect. John 21:25
13. Irony: Exact opposite of what language declares. Easier for camel to go thru a needle than for a rich man to enter heaven.

14. PLEONASM: Fullness of thought. Repeats idea already expressed. Redundancy.  
Householder is master of the house.
15. EPANDIPLOSSIS: Important word repeated for emphasis. Verily, Verily, Holy, Holy
16. CLIMAX: Series of qualities, characteristic, actions listed. See Rom 5
17. INTERROGATION: Questions that are answered. How does faith come? Faith cometh by...
18. ALLEGORY: plural meaning. Spiritualizing. This can be dangerous since most any biblical principle can be allegorized.
19. PARABLE: Placing something alongside for comparison.
20. RIDDLES: such as 666. Fables, fictitious story teaching, moral or enigmatic sayings filled with pregnant meaning, a dark saying. Jn. 16:25