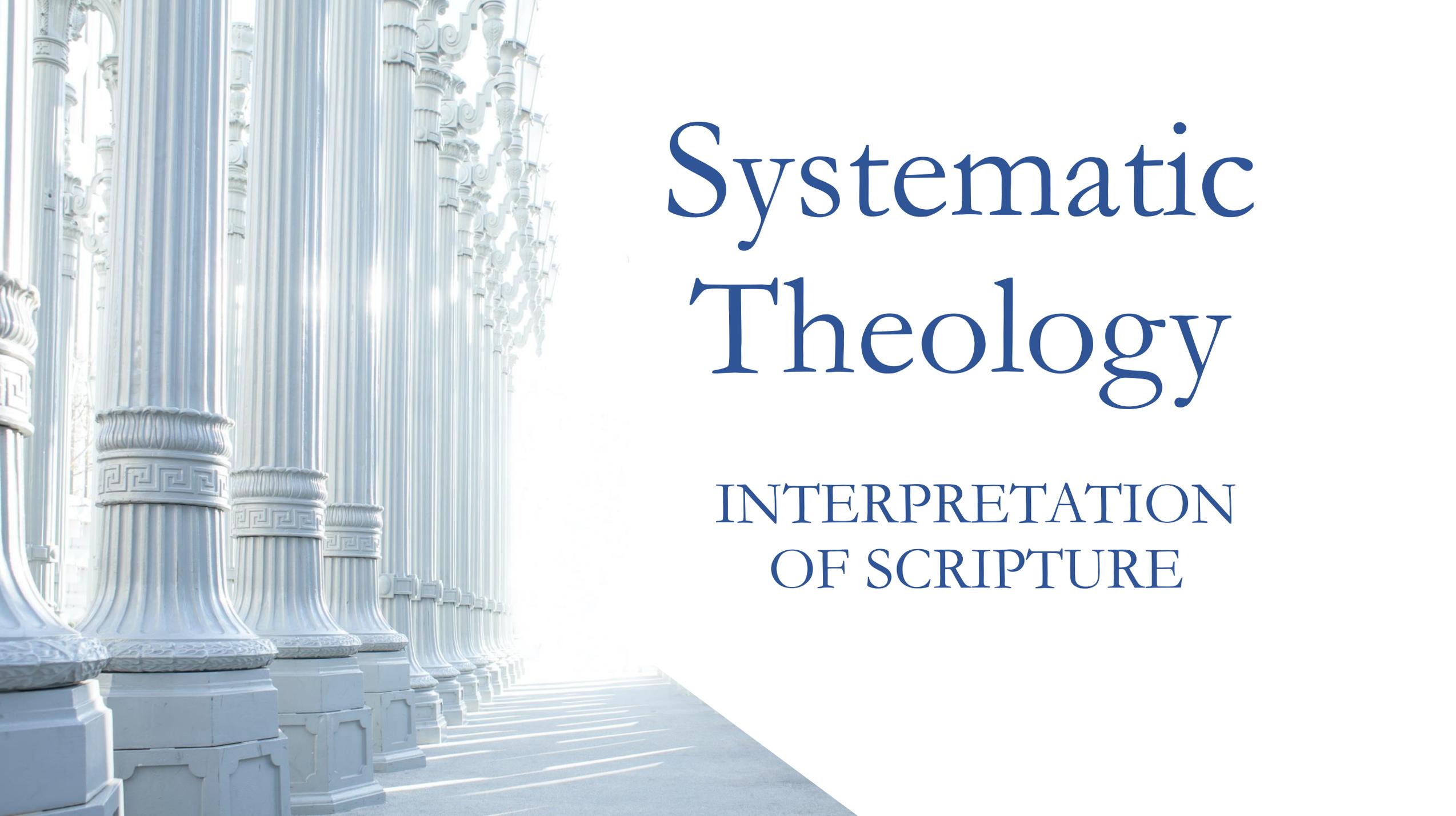




# Systematic Theology

A row of white classical columns receding into the distance under a bright sky. The columns are fluted and have decorative capitals. The scene is brightly lit, with long shadows cast on the ground.

# Systematic Theology

INTERPRETATION  
OF SCRIPTURE



# The Necessity of Interpretation

- We cannot tell people to “stay away” from interpretation
- Every reader of scripture is an interpreter
  - We are Commanded to Read
  - We are Commanded to Study
  - We are Commanded to Meditate
- Is there a right and wrong way to interpret scripture? (2 Timothy 2:15)



# 2 Timothy 2:15

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.



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- Is there a right and wrong way to interpret scripture? (2 Timothy 2:15; c.f Mk 7:1-8 & Matt. 15:1-9)
- Can there be multiple “correct” interpretations? (Luke 10:25-28)

A decorative background on the left side of the page featuring several classical columns with ornate capitals and bases, set against a light, airy background.

# Luke 10:25-28

And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?”

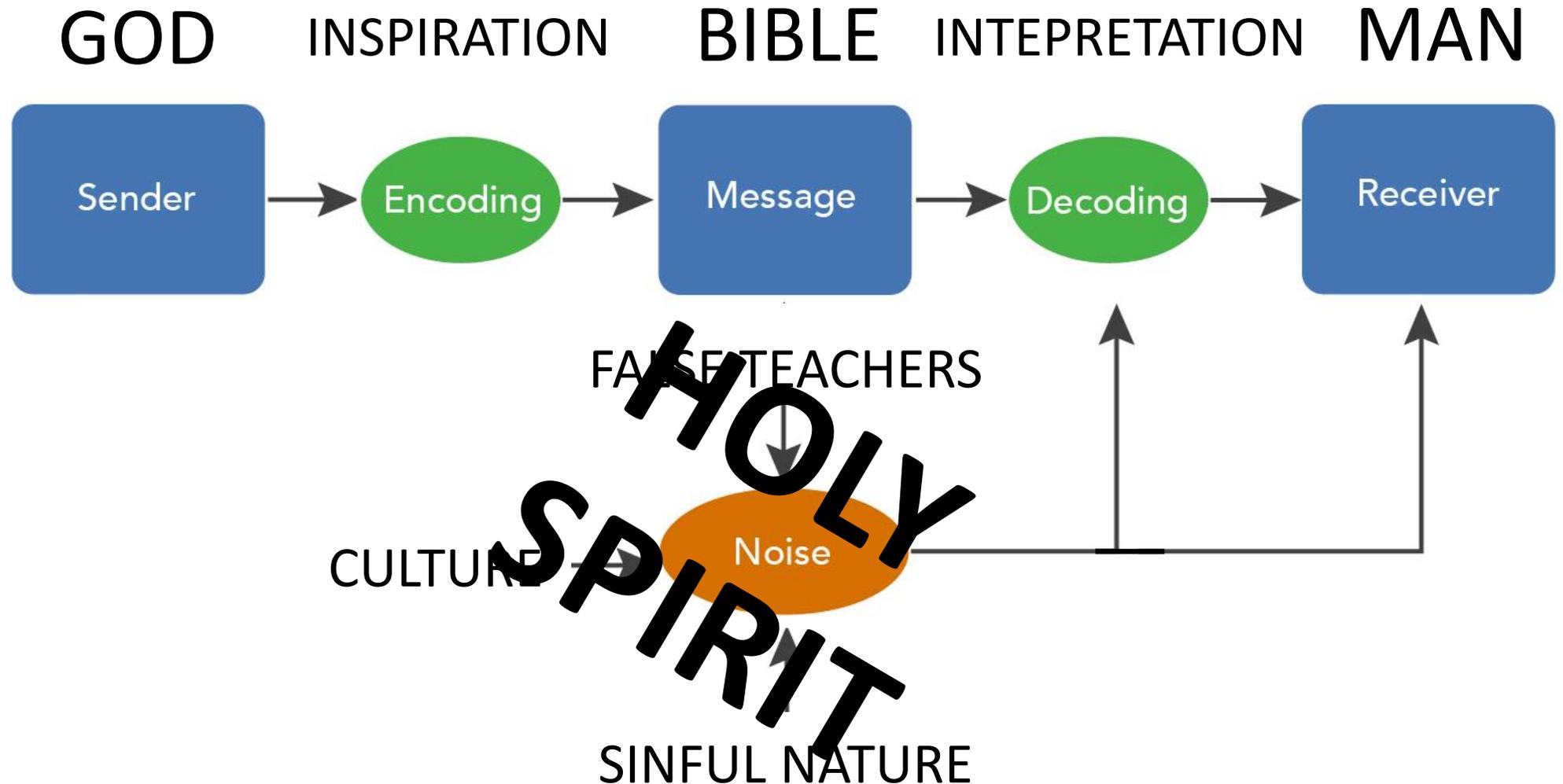
And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”



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# Principles of Human Communication





# 1 Corinthians 2:16

“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.



# Exegesis vs. Eisegesis

- Exegesis seeks to draw “out of” the text both meaning, principles, and applications
  - Exegesis asks “what does this passage mean?”
- Eisegesis seeks to read “into” the text a particular viewpoint.
  - Eisegesis asks what does this passage mean to me?



# Major Approaches

- Allegorical/Spiritual
- Authoritarian
- Liberation Theology
- Reader-Response/Post-modern
- Historical-Grammatical
  - Influence of Systematic Theology
  - Understanding Genre



# Interpretative Red Flags

- Contradiction of “Plain Meaning”
- Contradiction of Biblical Teaching
- Contradiction of Historical Theology



# Systematic Theology