

k. Psa. 32:9 After receiving this promise, David turns and now warns other pious people.

"Don't you be like the horse or the mule, ^{with nothing of} whose understanding ~~does not exist, who requires~~ ^{with} bridle and halter to curb it." *with trapping*

- "You" is plural, implying general audience.

- See idea that God uses pain to produce obedience in his saints if reasoning will not work.

- Picture: Don't reduce yourself from a rational being with a conscience to an irrational being who must experience pain in order to make him obey.

- If you want to act irrational, God will treat you that way. You can choose the easy or the hard way.

2. Ideas can sometimes be expressed with more clarity by means of figurative language than they can by means of literal language.

A person can hear something in literal language, but not understand it until it is expressed by means of a word picture.

- comparing the known with unknown.

3. Figurative language is used in almost every type of writing.

- Used in newspapers, magazines, books.

- We should take the Bible as literally as we would a newspaper.

4. Literal language constitutes the bulk of every writing while figurative language constitutes a comparatively small part.

- A little figure clarifies, too much obscures.

- Figurative language is like salt. Just as too much salt ruins an egg, so too much figurative language ruins a writing. On the other hand, just as the proper amount of salt makes an egg tasty, so the proper amount of figurative language makes a writing very clear.

5. Figurative language can usually be determined by the context.

a. Psa. 32:7a "You are my hiding place", refers to God.

b. Psa. 32:8b God's eye.

c. Psa. 32:9 "Don't be like a horse or mule".