IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN READING THE BIBLE
Yay! OLG is getting a new foreign exchange student!
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Здравствуйте!

Vladimir
When Vladimir hears...

...he thinks:
When Vladimir hears...

“It's raining cats and dogs!”

...he thinks:
When Vladimir hears...

“It’s raining cats and dogs!”

...he thinks:
“It’s raining cats and dogs!”

But what we actually mean is...
“It’s raining cats and dogs!”

But what we actually mean is...
When Vladimir hears...

...he thinks:
When Vladimir hears...

“Go break a leg!”

...he thinks:
When Vladimir hears...

“Go break a leg!”

... he thinks:
“Go break a leg!”

But what we actually mean is...
“Go break a leg!”

But what we actually mean is...

good
luck,
Buddy!
When Vladimir hears...

...he thinks:
When Vladimir hears...

“I’m so hungry I could eat a horse!”

...he thinks:
When Vladimir hears...

“I’m so hungry I could eat a horse!”

...he thinks:
“I’m so hungry I could eat a horse!”

But what we actually mean is...
“I’m so hungry I could eat a horse!”

But what we actually mean is...
When Vladimir hears...

...he thinks:
When Vladimir hears...

“I laughed my butt off!”

...he thinks:
When Vladimir hears...

“*I laughed my butt off!*”

...he thinks:
“I laughed my butt off!”

But what we actually mean is...
“I laughed my butt off!”

But what we actually mean is...
Distinguishing between what should be understood literally vs. metaphorically is pretty important! Especially when it comes to reading the Bible...
If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed than with two hands to go into Gehenna, into the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life crippled than with two feet to be thrown into Gehenna. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. Better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into Gehenna, where ‘their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.

Mark 9:43-48
Should this be understood literally OR metaphorically?

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Answer: Metaphorically
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Where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.

Mark 9:43-48

Answer: Metaphorically

*** So what’s the deeper truth here? ***
When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him and the criminals there, one on his right, the other on his left. Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.” They divided his garments by casting lots. The people stood by and watched; the rulers, meanwhile, sneered at him and said, “He saved others, let him save himself if he is the chosen one, the Messiah of God.” Even the soldiers jeered at him. As they approached to offer him wine they called out, “If you are King of the Jews, save yourself.” Above him there was an inscription that read, “This is the King of the Jews.”

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Should this be understood literally OR metaphorically?

Answer: Literally
The sound of my lover! Here he comes springing across the mountains, leaping across the hills!

Song of Songs 2:8
Should this be understood literally OR metaphorically?

The sound of my lover! Here he comes springing across the mountains, leaping across the hills!

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**Answer:** Metaphorically
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**Song of Songs 2:8**

The sound of my lover! Here he comes springing across the mountains, leaping across the hills!

**Answer:** Metaphorically

I’m on my way, my love!
Should this be understood literally OR metaphorically?

Song of Songs 2:8

The sound of my lover! Here he comes springing across the mountains, leaping across the hills!

I'm on my way, my love!

Answer: Metaphorically

*** So what's the deeper truth here? ***
They threw him out of the city, and began to stone him. The witnesses laid down their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul. As they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them”; and when he said this, he fell asleep.

Acts 7:58-60
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**Answer:** Literally
Harold Camping
Over $5,000,000 on advertising!
Harold Camping
Over $5,000,000 on advertising!

FAIL
CONCLUSION:

It’s easier to interpret every verse literally, but doing so can get God’s main message really mixed up.

When reading the Bible one should take their time and always ask, “What is the author really trying to say?”