

Hupotuposis: Cerebral Pattern, Mold, or Die

A. Introduction

We will research this word from our usual collection of lexicons:

Arndt, William F. and F. Wilber Gingrich. A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament. Chicago: (2d. ed.) University of Chicago Press, 1979; pp. 829-30, 848.

Liddell, Henry G. and Robert Scott. A Greek-English Lexicon. New York: (9th ed.) Oxford University Press, 1968; pp. 1835, 1900.

Friedrich, Gerhard (ed.). Theological Dictionary of the New Testament. Vol. 8, T-U. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1972; pp. 246-50.

As we go through the definitions offered by these scholars, a certain image will develop within your conscious mind which will create wheel-tracks further illuminating our doctrine of deposits and caches.

Paul recognizes that Timothy has advanced to his spiritual Santa Fé, achieved experiential sanctification, and enjoys a facilitated neural network. Paul realizes that he is about to die and must pass down the communication of the mystery doctrines of the Christian church to the next generation. Timothy is one of these men. He has the gift of pastor-teacher and functions under its commission. If the Christian church is to survive, Timothy and other second-generation pastors must perform their due diligence by teaching sound doctrine to their congregations.

Paul is concerned that under the intense pressures of the Neronian persecutions, Timothy may fall victim to reversionism. This command is not only an appeal for Timothy to stand fast but to teach his flock. How is this amplified by Paul. This word will develop the image of Paul depositing doctrine into the cache of Timothy's neural network. It will then take Timothy's neural network and use it as a pattern to transfer his doctrinal knowledge into the cache of his congregation's streams of consciousness.

In effect, Paul commands Timothy to blaze wheel-tracks of righteousness within his parishioner's cerebral cortices using his own neural network as the pattern.

B. The Analysis

Our word, *hupotuposis*, originates from the Greek noun: *tupos*, as does our English word "type."

It's basic definition is "to strike a blow," which can easily be visualized when you think of typing on a typewriter. Even better, you can see the application to our passage if you visualize the electronic transfer of data that occurs by striking a computer keyboard. The information electronically goes to short-term memory on the screen, and then, if acceptable, can be permanently saved on the hard disk.

Timothy is being ordered to make that transfer by means of the electrochemical impulses which occur during the didactical process of teaching and learning.

The word can also refer to a mold or a die from which replicas are cast. A mold or a die is a cavity which contains the desired shape or form to be reproduced. When a malleable substance is injected into a mold or die, when it solidifies, it takes the same shape as the original and is an exact replica of it.

For example, coins are formed by pouring certain molten metals into a mold or die. When they harden, they take on the shape of the original mold and become a penny, a nickel, a dime, a quarter. Please also note that the coin's intrinsic value is determined by the content of the deposit, not the mold into which it is injected.

The human brain cannot distinguish between right or wrong thoughts. It dutifully lays down whatever wheel-tracks the soul orders it to.

The proteins which are synthesized by a thought blaze a particular trail within the brain's neurons. In order to retain the content of the thought being circulated the proteins generate a sequence of electrochemical impulses which are carried down axonal fiber to synaptic terminals. At this point the message is sent on to the next neuron by means of neurotransmitters. The message is transmitted across the synaptic cleft creating an action potential at the neighboring neuron's synaptic terminal.

The signal then travels up the neighboring neuron's dendritic fibers to its nucleus where the process is repeated. This can occur millions of times linking neuron after neuron until the wheel-track is completed and the memory is retained. Once completed this wheel-track can become a behavior pattern if it is facilitated.