

Sun 5pm - Aug 10, 2025

Simile

“A figure of speech in which two essentially unlike things are compared, often in a phrase introduced by *like* or *as*, as in *How like the winter hath my absence been*” or *So are you to my thoughts as food to life*” (Shakespeare).” AHD00. (Note for further extensions of definition, see notes in Fig. of Speech file.)

Metaphor

“Unlike a simile or analogy, metaphor asserts that one thing **is** another thing, *not* just that one is **like** another.”
<http://www.uky.edu/cgibin/cgiwrap/%7Eescaife/terms?file=1ahrd.html&isindex=Metaphor>. (Note: “Metaphor”. is sometimes used to refer to any figurative language. We are using more specifically here, in distinction from a *simile*.)
[bold mine]

Hypocatastasis

“As a figure, it differs from *Metaphor*, because in a metaphor the two nouns are *both* named and given; while, in *Hypocatastasis*, **only one is named and the other is implied**, or as it were, is *put down underneath* out of sight. Hence *Hypocatastasis* is **implied resemblance or representation**: *i.e.*, an implied *Simile* or *Metaphor*. If *Metaphor* is more forcible than *Simile*, then *Hypocatastasis* is more forcible than *Metaphor*, and expresses as it were the superlative degree of resemblance.

“For example, one may say to another, ‘You are **like** a beast.’ This would be *Simile*, tamely stating a fact. If, however, he said, ‘You **are** a beast’ that would be *Metaphor*. But, if he said simply, ‘**Beast!**’ that would be *Hypocatastasis*, for the other part of the *Simile* or *Metaphor* (‘you’), would be *implied* and not stated.

“This figure, therefore, is calculated to arouse the mind and attract and excite the attention to the greatest extent.” Bullinger, p. 744 [bold mine]

Simile “You are like sunshine to me”

“You are like a beast”

Metaphor “You are my sunshine”

“You are a beast”

Hypocatastasis “Morning, Sunshine!”

“Beast!”

S. Mt 13:33 “**like** leaven”

M. 1Co 5:7 “**are** unleavened” NKJV (“*in fact*” in italics, NAS95)

H. Mt 16:6 “leaven” - Note—they missed it!

S. Lam 2:4 “right hand **like an adversary**” (“like a foe” ESV)

M. Ps 144:11 “right hand **is** a right hand of falsehood” - powerful, like the right hand, used by the “aliens” NAS95 (“foreigners” NKJV)

H. Mt 5:29,30 “right eye...right hand” - something very important to you

Simile

1Pt 3:7 “giving honor to the wife, **as** to the weaker vessel” NKJV (“as with someone weaker” - *interprets* by putting “someone” instead of “vessel,” a thing, sometimes clay pots, earthenware)

Mistake to interpret as if women are weaker in ability, etc.

Jn 1:14

“glory **as** of the only begotten from the Father” NASB.

In fact, he *was* the “only begotten,” i.e. unique, Son. But, this verse looks at the “GLORY as of...” His “glory” accorded with and testified to the fact he was the unique son, a Son of God like no other—“full of grace and truth”! (*hendiadys*). See **vv15-18**. Note: read carefully!

Metaphor

Mt 26:26,28 “this **is** my body....this **is** my blood”

“transsubstantiation” - Roman Catholicism: “(especially in the Roman Catholic Church) the conversion of the substance of the Eucharistic elements into the body and blood of Christ at consecration, only the appearances of bread and wine still remaining.” *Oxford Dict*

Hypocatastasis

Ps 22:1 “**dogs**” - wicked men at Jesus ’crucifixion

Dt 23:18“ price of a **dog**” - sodomite, male counterpart of a harlot (“prostitute” ESV)

Note: *context* determines meaning.

Some have mistakenly taken this to mean it was wrong to buy a house dog

Jer 4:7“ a **lion** has gone up” - Nebuchadnezzar/Babylon **Jer 50:17**

Rev 5:5-6 - Christ

Note: *context, harmony* determines meaning.