

509 The Gospel of John
BEAR VALLEY BIBLE INSTITUTE
3 semester hours
Will Hanstein, Instructor

Course Description:

This course is designed to be an in-depth study of the Gospel of John with emphasis given to its text, purpose, and theological significance. Special emphasis will also be given to relevant homiletical themes and to the enduring message of John for today's church.

Course Objectives:

1. The student will learn the Gospel of John in its first-century setting.
2. The student will learn how to examine information about introductory issues.
3. The student will learn how to properly exegete a passage.
4. The student will become acquainted with resources which can be used in future study.
5. The student will learn how to accurately apply the Gospel of John to the 21st century Christian.
6. The student will develop a deeper love for Jesus Christ.
7. The student will develop a deep desire to share him with others.

Course Approach:

Because we are not in a classroom, the approach for this class will be mail, email, and telephone when necessary.

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Course Requirements:

1. The student will read completely, in word-for-word manner, all the required materials. The student will write that he has completely read the required materials and sign it. The student will write and sign one such sheet for each required book and send it to the instructor.

Required Reading

- Read the Gospel of John **five** times.
- Read the introductory sections of the **Gospel of John** in:
 - a. Guthrie, Donald. New Testament Introduction. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 1974.
 - b. Harrison, Everett F. Introduction to the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1964.
- Read the following from The Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible. Vol. 3. Ed. Merrill C. Tenney.
 - a. “Johannine Theology.” Pages 623-636.
 - b. “John, the Apostle.” Pages 637-641.
 - c. “John, Gospel of.” Pages 657-673.
- Read the following pages in the Theological Dictionary of the New Testament:
 - a. “The Early Christian Use of *aletheia*.” Vol. 1. Pages 241-250.
 - b. “The Early Christian Usage of *ginosko*.” Vol. 1. Pages 703-713.
 - c. “The Distinctiveness of the *logos* Saying in Jn 1:1.” Vol. 4. Pages 128-136.
- Read completely:
 - a. Beasley-Murray, George R. John. Word Biblical Commentary. Vol. 36. Waco: Word Books, 1987.
 - b. Carson, D.A. The Gospel According to John. The Pillar New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991.
 - c. Morris, Leon. The Gospel According to John. New International Commentary on the New Testament. Ed. F.F. Bruce. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971.

2. The student will write a review of two of the required books. The review should follow the guidelines given below.

Book Review Guidelines

Book reviews follow a simple format. The general publication data should be given at the beginning of the review. The bulk of the review should consist of two points: strengths and weaknesses of the book. A book review should be written as if it will be read by a person who is interested in buying the book, yet needs to know if it is worth the time and expense. It should be at least four pages, but no more than five pages, in length.

- Details of Publication.
 - a. Put data at the top of the page (author, title, series, price, etc).
 - b. Write around three sentences about the author (not a whole page).
 - Evaluation (primary part of the review).
 - a. Content.
 - i. Do you agree with the thesis and the other major points of the book? Why?
 - ii. Do the book's conclusions agree with scholarly opinion as a whole on the topic? If not, does the book represent one particular segment or school of scholarly opinion? Does the book take advantage of the most recent developments in scholarship on the topic? Does the book advance scholarly discussion on the subject?
 - b. Aesthetics.
 - i. Is the book well written, easy to read, and interesting?
 - ii. How do you rate the quality of the book's binding and printing? Are there many typographical errors or other obvious mistakes?
 - c. General Evaluation—what is your overall opinion of the book? Is it better or worse than others on the topic? Can you recommend it to others?
3. The student will write a term paper on a topic of his choice. The topic must be approved by the instructor prior to beginning the paper. The paper should meet the following requirements:
 - a. The paper should be written in MLA style.
 - b. The paper should have at least 15 cited sources.

- c. The paper must have at least 15 pages of text (works cited page, etc. do not count in this number).
 - d. The research will deal with textual or interpretation questions relating to the Gospel of John.
4. The student will prepare three expository sermons from the Gospel of John and submit them in outline form. The outlines should be no longer than five pages in length.

Grading:

Your grade will be determined as follows:

Reading all required books	20%
Book reviews	20%
Research paper	40%
Expository sermons	20%

The grading scale for this course is:

100-95 / A
94-87 / B
86-74 / C
73-63 / D
62-0 / F