

510 Old Testament Theology
BEAR VALLEY BIBLE INSTITUTE
3 semester hours
Pat McIntosh, Instructor

Course Description:

This course is designed to help the student grow in the knowledge of the theology of the Old Testament by studying various major doctrines and difficult passages contained therein. The issues to be studied include the Angel of the Lord, atonement, Baal, Blood, the various covenants, names of God, the sacrificial system, the Law, worship and other topics.

Course Objectives:

1. To encourage each student to generate a deeper appreciation of Old Testament truths that have been provided for our learning (Rom. 15:4).
2. To encourage each student to share these truths with others in a classroom or pulpit setting.
3. To generate with each student a renewed sense of appreciation for that which God has done on man's behalf.
4. To provide the basis for a deeper understanding of God and the truths to which we are amenable today.

Course Approach:

This course is offered in an in-ministry format. As 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 the required texts **in their entirety in a word-for-word manner**. The student will complete a daily reading log (title, pages read, date) and submit it

(handwritten on index cards or typed) and send it to the instructor with book reviews and other course requirements.

Reading Requirements

- Dyrness, William. Themes in Old Testament Theology. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1979.
- House, Paul R. Old Testament Theology. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1998.
- Kaiser, Walter C., Jr., Toward an Old Testament Theology. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1978.
- Sailhamer, John H. An Introduction to Old Testament Theology: A Canonical Approach. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.

Recommended Reading

- Chesser, Frank. Portrait of God. Huntsville: Publishing Designs, Inc., 2004. (May be ordered from <http://www.publishingdesigns.com/index.php>.)
- Smith, Ralph L. Old Testament Theology. Broadman and Holman, 1993. (Note: This book has been available sporadically at amazon.com, but is currently not listed. If you have availability to this book, it will be more than worth your while. If you cannot get the book, I suggest that you replace this book with the one by Dyrness on the required reading list.)
- Young, Edward J., The Study of Old Testament Theology. Westwood: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1959. (Note: This book was available in paperback on amazon.com. My copy is an older hardback copy that is comprised of four lectures on the subject of Old Testament Theology delivered at London Bible College in London, England in May, 1958. Young has been an excellent conservative source for research.)

Note: These books were selected for their contribution to the study of “leadership.” These books do not necessarily reflect the doctrinal position of the instructor and are to be read discerningly, applying the truths contained therein (1 Thess. 5:21-22).

2. The student will write a review on three of the four required texts. 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 (typed and double-spaced), 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. Research Paper

- A paper of no less than 15 pages will be written on a topic provided below. If a student wishes to write on a topic other than that which is provided below, he or she must call and make arrangements with the instructor before beginning the paper.
- The paper must be written in MLA style. The student will provide a cover sheet, outline, text and bibliography.
- The 15-page minimum will not include the cover sheet, outline, or bibliography.
- The paper must be typed and double-spaced.
- A minimum of 15 sources must be used and referenced in the paper. Footnotes or endnotes (according to MLA style) will be used.

- The student may choose from one of the following topics for the paper (or seek prior approval as indicated above):
 - 1) The Angel of the Lord
 - 2) The Purpose of Anointing
 - 3) The Atonement (terms used, general biblical teaching re: unity of God and man, etc.)
 - 4) Baal (name, character, attributes, worship, forms, etc.)
 - 5) Blood (Hebrew and OT customs)
 - 6) Calf Worship
 - 7) Cherubim
 - 8) Covenants (general meaning, nature, requirements, etc.)
 - 9) Ark of the Covenant
 - 10) The Day of Atonement (also refer to Scapegoat and other pertinent details)
 - 11) Names of God (personal, descriptive, etc.)
 - 12) The Nazarite Vow
 - 13) The Sabbath
 - 14) Sacrifice (terms and definitions, origin and nature, pre-Mosaic, Mosaic, etc.)
 - 15) The Synagogue (origin, nature, worship, etc.)
 - 16) The Tabernacle
 - 17) Worship (terms, aspects of OT worship)

4. Sermon Outlines

Each student will prepare five sermon outlines or Bible Class lessons from the topics provided above. These sermons/lessons will be written in the normal outline form using complete sentences. The sermons/lessons will be a minimum of three pages each.

Grading:

Your grade will be determined as follows:

Reading all required books	20%
Book reviews	20%
Research paper	40%
Sermon outlines	20%

The grading scale for this course is:

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