

511 Advanced Textual Studies in I and II Thessalonians
BEAR VALLEY BIBLE INSTITUTE

3 semester hours

Earl D. Edwards, D. Miss., Instructor

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description:

Study will be given to the background of the epistles and then a verse-by-verse exegesis will be done with special attention to the problems surrounding the teaching about the second coming of Christ.

Course Objectives:

1. The student will have an understanding of these Pauline epistles in their first-century setting.
2. The student will have a knowledge of the key introductory questions relative to the two epistles.
3. The student will have a knowledge of the basic tools needed for exegeting Biblical passages.
4. The student will have a knowledge of the resource books and journal articles available for assisting in the exegesis of Pauline Literature.
5. The student will have the ability to apply the content of these epistles to 21st-century lives.
6. The student will be led to desire the coming of “the day of the Lord” and the “transformation” of our bodies to one like that “spiritual” body of Jesus.

Course Approach:

This course will be offered on campus during Blitz Week.

Course Requirements:

1. Papers will be constructed using MLA style according to Gibaldi, Joseph. MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. 6th ed. (or later). New York: Modern Language Assoc., 2003. The instructor however, desires parenthetical documentation of sources.

2. Reading. The reading of these required texts must be completed **prior** to the beginning of classroom instruction in the June Blitz Week:

- Bruce, F. F. Word Biblical Commentary: I and II Thessalonians. Waco, TX: Word, 1982.
- Morris, Leon. New International Commentary on the NT: 1st and 2nd Thessalonians. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1959.
- Kelcy, Raymond. Living Word Commentary: 1st and 2nd Thessalonians. Austin, TX: Sweet, 1968. Only Kelcy was a member of the Lord's church.

The student will sign on the first day of class that he has read the above three commentaries.

- The photocopied commentary of the instructor on the two epistles will be read during Blitz Week. This commentary will be given to the student the first day of class.

3. In addition to the assigned commentary readings, the student will:

- Read the two epistles several times before coming to class.
- Write an evaluation of I Thess. 5:1-11 in the Kelcy commentary according to the following guidelines:
 - a. Use MLA style (see above).
 - b. Use at least 15 sources which you cite in the text.
 - c. Write at least 15 pages of text (plus bibliography) dealing with the way Kelcy treats this section and compare it with the opinions of other commentators and with your own conclusions.
 - d. Due date: the first day of class.
- Write an exegesis paper.
 - a. Use MLA style (see above).
 - b. Use at least 25 sources cited in the text of your paper.
 - c. Write at least 15 pages of text, plus bibliography.

- d. Deal with one of the following passages:
- I Thess. 2:1-12 – Paul’s Ministry There
 - I Thess. 2:13-16 – Thessalonians’ Reaction to Him
 - I Thess. 3:6-10 – Joy Over Good News Brought by Timothy
 - I Thess. 4:1-8 – Exhortation to Holy Living
 - I Thess 4:13-18 – Instructions Regarding Second Coming
 - II Thess. 1:5-10 – The Righteous Judgment of God
 - II Thess. 2:3-12 – The Man of Lawlessness and that Which Restrains
 - II Thess. 3:6-15 – The Treatment of Disorderly Members
- e. Due Date: August 31, 2007 – late papers will not be accepted.
- Take two tests: the first will cover I Thessalonians chapters 1-4 and the second will cover I Thessalonians 5 through all of II Thessalonians. These will be administered during Blitz Week.

Grading:

Your grade will be determined as follows:

Reading all required books	15%
Book evaluation (Kelcy commentary)	15%
Research paper	30%
Class participation	10%
Test #1	15%
Test #2	15%

The grading scale for this course is:

- 100-93 / A
- 92-83 / B
- 82-72 / C
- 71-63 / D
- 62-0 / F