



ID5000-01 Biblical Theology and Interpretation • Daniel J. Ebert, PhD • Fall 2020 • 3 Semester Hours • 727-710-6760 • djebert@tiu.edu • Hudson Extension • Aug 14-15; Sept 11-12; Oct 2-3; and Nov 13-14 (Fridays, 7:00-9:30; Saturdays 8:30-4:30).

Course Description

A survey of biblical theology, including methodological issues of debate during the last two centuries. Emphasis is placed on the Bible's storyline, examining how the books and corpora of the Bible contribute to the unfolding history of redemption. Attention is given to themes of temple, sacrifice, priest, rest, kingship, exile, idolatry, promise, messiah, wisdom, and others. Finally, the relationship of biblical theology with other disciplines, especially exegesis and systematic theology, is considered. Required for all MA in CMC, MA in MHC, and MDiv students. Should be taken during first year of enrollment. Offered fall and spring. Three hours.

Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to help students who faithfully attend and engage in the class to attain the following objectives.

- Students will gain a fundamental understanding of principles for biblical interpretation (hermeneutics) that are consistent with Scripture's nature as both human and divine discourse.
- Students will gain an understanding of the discipline of biblical theology including methodology, important historical issues and persons – all of which have affected its definition and practice. By the end of the course, students will be able to articulate the distinctions and relationships between biblical theology, exegesis, and systematic theology.
- Students will gain an understanding of Scripture as the unfolding story of God's redemptive plan. They will explore the progressive nature of this story and of divine revelation. By the end of the course, students will be able to articulate elements of continuity and discontinuity in this story and articulate some of the distinctive contributions made by different biblical corpora and genres of Scripture.
- Students will gain an understanding of important biblical motifs woven through Scripture and redemptive history. They will hopefully gain a deeper appreciation for the coherence and richness of divine revelation and God's redemptive work culminating in Christ.
- Students will demonstrate their ability to do biblical theology by tracing a key biblical theological motif through Scripture and relating this theme to Christian worship and faithfulness.

Course Texts

T. D. Alexander and Brian S. Rosner, ed., *New Dictionary of Biblical Theology*. IVP: Downers Grove, 2000. ISBN-13: 978-0-8308-1438-2; ISBN-10: 0830814388

Graeme Goldsworthy, *According to Plan: The Unfolding Revelation of God in the Bible*. IVP Academic: Downers Grove, 2002. ISBN: 978-0-8308-2696-4; ISBN-10: 0830826963

Bible Software Advice – <http://library.tiu.edu/c.php?g=299056>

Course Expectations and Requirements

- **Required Reading (15%) - Due Thursday, Nov 12 (11:55 PM)**. Read Goldsworthy in its entirety as early in the course as possible. Read Part One of *New Dictionary of Biblical Theology* and any 200 additional pages from Parts Two and Three. Students will be expected to report their completion of the reading on Moodle.
- **Biblical-Theological Paper (35%)**
This assignment consists of two phases: proposal and final paper. Choose a biblical-theological theme and develop a proposal for your paper. Only after receiving approval and feedback should you begin writing your paper. Papers written on topics without approval will not be accepted.

Paper Proposal – Due Wednesday, Sept 9 (11:55 PM) - Before writing your paper you will submit a brief proposal carefully following the *Paper Proposal Guidelines* posted on Moodle. The file should be uploaded on Moodle in Word format and titled according to the following convention: lastname_initial_proposal.docx. Your proposal will be evaluated and returned to you with comments. Students may be asked to revise or resubmit their proposals before receiving approval to proceed.

Final Paper – Due Wednesday Nov 11 (11:55 PM) - You will trace out your theme crisply and succinctly in a paper of 10-12 pages, doubled-spaced, carefully following the *TIU Style and Format Guide*. Please be sure to consult the relevant help documents provided for you on Moodle. These include: 1) *Biblical Theological Paper Guidelines*, 2) *Paper Tips*, 3) *Biblical Theological Paper vs. Systematic Theological Paper* and *Humanities Paper Template*. It is expected that students will follow these guidelines. Please note that deductions will be made for errors in format, grammar, spelling (etc.) as well as failing to abide by the required paper length (either under or over the page limits). The final paper should be uploaded in Word file format and titled accordingly: lastname_initial_paper.docx.

Test #1 (25%) - Open Wednesday, Aug 19 (9:00 AM) until Friday, Aug 21 (11:55 PM). The first test will cover the introductory material covered during the initial weekend (Aug 14-15). Administered on Moodle.

- **Final Exam (25%) - Open Wednesday, Nov 18 (9:00 AM) until Friday, Nov 20 (11:55 PM).** The final exam will cover all the lectures since test #1 onward, including Goldsworthy, and *NDBT* Part I only. Administered on Moodle.

For All Assignments Please Note: Grades will be penalized 5% per day (or any part thereof) late. For example, one hour late = 1 day late (5%); 25 hours late = 2 days late (10%). In the case of an unforeseen emergency, please email the professor.

Grading Scale

94% - 100% A 90% - 93.99% A- 87% - 89.99% B+ 83% - 86.99 B 80% - 82.99% B- 77% - 79.99% C+

73% - 76.99% C 70% - 72.99% C- 67% - 69.99% D+ 63% - 66.99% D 60% - 62.99% D- 59.99% and below F

Class Topics

- I. Prolegomena, The Nature of Scripture and Biblical Interpretation
- II. Biblical Theology – History, Definition and Method
- III. Unfolding the Big Story of the Bible
- IV. Unfolding the Themes of Covenant and Promise
- V. Unfolding the Theme of Kingdom
- VI. Unfolding the Themes of Exile, Sabbath and Rest
- VII. Unfolding the Themes of Incarnation, Death and Resurrection
- VIII. Biblical Theology Applications

Class Attendance Policy:

Students are required to attend each and every session throughout the entire course period. Due to the nature of Extension classes, attendance at all sessions is especially important with weekend courses. Missing even an hour of a weekend class means a significant portion of the required contact with the instructor and learning community has been lost. For this reason, students missing any portion (hours) of an Extension course can result in a grade reduction; missing more than one weekend class session will result in a grade reduction and possibly failing the course.

In the case of extreme emergency or unforeseen circumstances (family emergencies, death, etc.) the student should contact the instructor and secure the necessary permission to miss time in a class and make up the missed class time and assignments. Vacations, ministry responsibilities and travel plans are not considered emergencies and such requests will be denied. As the schedule for the Extension courses is set ahead of time, students should plan ahead to be sure they will be able to make it to all class sessions before they register. If the emergency necessitates a longer absence the student should contact the Dean of Students to request an extension of time, or in rare instances a withdrawal from the class without penalty.

Students with Disabilities

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Trinity Evangelical Divinity school to provide appropriate and reasonable accommodations, or academic adjustments, and services to students with a documented disability to help ensure an equal educational opportunity. Students seeking these services should contact the academic office.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism

The community at Trinity International University promotes a commitment to integrity in all areas of life. In the case of breaches of academic honesty such as plagiarism or cheating on examinations, the matter will be reported to the Dean/Associate Dean of Students. Students should be advised that normally in cases of academic dishonesty or plagiarism the penalty shall be a "0" for the assignment and an "F" for the course. For the full policy, please see the *TEDS/TGS Student Guide*.

Computer Use Statement

Students may use computers in class under the condition that they will use the computer only for purposes related to the course that day. All programs such as internet use, solitaire and other games, email, and any others not related to the course should not be open during class time. Such programs cause unnecessary distraction for you and those sitting around you in the class.

Further Suggested Reading

Bartholomew, Craig G and Goheen Michael W. *The Drama of Scripture: Finding Our Place in the Biblical Story*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker, 2005.

Bauckham, Richard. *Bible and Mission: Christian Witness in a Postmodern World*. Milton Keynes, UK/Grand Rapids, Michigan: Paternoster/Baker, 2005.

Beale, G. K. *New Testament Biblical Theology, a: The Unfolding of the Old Testament in the New*. Baker Academic, 2011.

Beale, G. K. *The Temple and the Church's Mission: A Biblical Theology of the Dwelling Place of God (New Studies in Biblical Theology)*. IVP Academic, 2004.

Dumbrell, William J. *The Search for Order: Biblical Eschatology In Focus*. Eugene, Oregon: Wipf and Stock, 2001.

Gentry, Peter J., and Stephen J. Wellum. *Kingdom Through Covenant: A Biblical- Theological Understanding of the Covenants*. 1 ed. Crossway, 2012.

Graeme Goldsworthy, *Christ-Centered Biblical Theology*. IVP Academic: Downers Grove, 2012.

Hafemann, Scott J. (Ed.). *Biblical Theology: Retrospect & Prospect*. Leicester/Downers Grove: IVP/Apollos: 2002.

Hafemann, Scott J. and House, Paul R. (Eds.). *Central Themes in Biblical Theology: Mapping unity in diversity*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic: 2007.

Johnson, Dennis E. *Him We Proclaim: Preaching Christ From All the Scriptures*. P & R Publishing, 2007.

Johnson, H. Wayne. "The "Analogy of Faith" and Exegetical Methodology: A Preliminary Discussion on Relationships." *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 31, (1988): 69-80.

Lints, Richard. *The Fabric of Theology: A Prolegomenon to Evangelical Theology*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1993. (Part III)

Klink III, Edward W. and Lockett, Darian R. *Understanding Biblical Theology: A Comparison of Theory and Practice*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

Scobie, Charles H. H. *The Ways of Our God: An Approach to Biblical Theology*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans 2003.

Smith, James K. A. *Desiring the Kingdom: Worship, Worldview, and Cultural Formation (Cultural Liturgies)*. Baker Academic, 2009.

Vos, Geerhardus. *Biblical Theology: Old and New Testaments*. Carlisle, Pa.: Banner of Truth Trust, 1975.

Wright, Christopher J. H. *The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative*. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP Academic, 2006.

_____. *The Mission of God's People: A Biblical Theology of the Church's Mission*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2010.

Wright, Christopher J. H. *Knowing Jesus Through the Old Testament*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1995.

See also: http://ntresources.com/blog/?page_id=2753