

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Evangel University
Springfield, Missouri

BTH 530 OLD TESTAMENT THEOLOGY
Three Credits
Online Version

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October 16-December 11

I am generally available for appointments, by phone or in person, 8:00am – 5:00pm, M – F. However, I have classes and meetings; so, please e-mail ahead so I can confirm that I will be present at the specific time desired.

COURSE SYLLABUS

MISSION STATEMENTS

Evangel University is a comprehensive Christian university committed to excellence in educating and equipping students to become Spirit-empowered servants of God who impact the Church and society globally.

The Assemblies of God Theology Seminary exists to shape servant-leaders with the knowledge, skill and passion to revitalize the church and evangelize the world in the power of the Spirit.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the message, major themes, and key theological concepts of the Old Testament, understanding how they are developed and expressed in the ancient historical, cultural, and literary, context. Special attention is given to the relevance of the principles for believers today and the relationship of the Old Testament to the New Testament.

Prerequisite: It is highly recommended that the student have had an Old Testament introduction course. Such basic knowledge will be assumed in the course.

TEXTBOOKS

Cotton, Roger D., *BTH 530 OT Theology Handouts, 2017*, Springfield, MO: AGTS, Evangel Univ. (posted on Commons and the portal).

Waltke, Bruce K. with Charles Yu. *An Old Testament Theology: A Canonical and Thematic Approach*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-310-21897-5

For information on textbook pricing, go to <http://www.bkstr.com/evangelstore/home>.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Explain briefly the field of Old Testament theology.
2. Describe the foundational concepts of Old Testament theology.
3. Explain how the OT relates to the gospel message of the NT and how to relate the Sinai Covenant with all the laws to Christians today.
4. Identify the underlying theological principles in any Old Testament passage and apply them to the Church today with proper understanding of their relation to New Testament theology, including being able to explain how one does Biblical Theology.
5. Incorporate into one's life the universal principles taught in the Old Testament for living as God's holy people, manifesting His holy love, in a holistic approach, including responsible stewardship of God's world, and working for justice and the flourishing of all in society, and then to teach others how to do the same and how to determine God's principles and apply them.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS and POLICIES

The following are policies and requirements for the course in general. Specific content and assignment directions will be given later in this syllabus.

- All assignments are due on the date and time specified in this syllabus, on the Course Commons Course Calendar, and in the various weekly folders.
- All students are expected to communicate with the teacher any concerns, technical difficulties, and/or questions they may have via the General Q&A Discussion Forum, emails, phone calls, or face-to-face appointment. It is possible that there are errors in the instructions for this course so the student should feel free to raise questions.
- Late work will be accepted but may be penalized one grade level per day late, such as from a B to a B-. If you have had an emergency, please explain it to the professor.
- Students are expected to have (and use):
 - Daily computer access
 - Daily internet access
 - Evangel Email and Course Commons
- All assignments need to be submitted in .docx or .doc format (MS Word 07/10/13 or later).
 - Microsoft Office 2013 is available on all Evangel campus computers and as a free download for all Evangel students. Please contact the Evangel IT Helpdesk for more information.
- All students will submit homework as directed:
 - Via Course Commons assignment
 - Post via Course Commons discussion
 - Suggested web browsers:
 - Mozilla Firefox: <https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/>
 - Google Chrome: <https://www.google.com/chrome/browser/>

- If the student needs to send something by mail, the seminary address is:
Roger Cotton
Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
1435 N. Glenstone Ave
Springfield, MO 65802

COURSE METHODOLOGY

This course will be offered completely online through the Canvas learning management system (LMS). The professor will utilize readings, discussion forums, writing assignments, and possibly assessment instruments to achieve the course objectives.

All the course materials including any document files are available through Canvas under the Course Content link. Course grades will be posted using the Canvas Grade Book (see Course Tools, My Grades).

Expectation:

As an eight week course the amount of time in study and writing to do good graduate level work should be about 16 hours per week, on average, for a total of at least 130 hours for a three credit course.

You should know, when planning your work, that the weekly modules are not all equal in the amount of time they will take you to do the reading and then the written work. I advise you to look ahead if your schedule is going to be tight. Also, there is a research project to do throughout the course, along with the weekly assignments, that is due at the end of the course and requires some library resources. If you do not have access to any library resources you must contact me, the professor. Finally, there is no time off for Thanksgiving but the due date for that week is extended one day, causing the next week to be a day shorter.

How to accomplish each week's work:

1. Complete the readings, including the Introduction essay for each week.

The readings for this course are NOT all intended for detailed recall. Read each as quickly for the main points or as slowly and thoroughly as you determine they are helpful to you. I do not necessarily agree with all the readings by others. Most are to acquaint you with the issues, thinking process, and kinds of sources, information, and interpretations available, including providing exposure to some of the best conservative scholars. The readings do not cover every topic or assignment in the course systematically or thoroughly. They are the resources that I have available to help you. They were not originally written to directly answer the assignments nor are you expected to just give back my words and thoughts for any assignment. As a graduate student, you should take into consideration all the readings I give you and any other credible sources you feel would be helpful to you and then formulate your own conclusions. Looking over the assignments before doing the reading will help you determine what to look for in the readings. Beyond that, you should simply be alert for the material that might help you in

your use of the Old Testament in your life and ministry. NOTE: if there is ever a discrepancy between this syllabus and the course material in Commons, this syllabus takes precedence and is authoritative.

2. Participate in any discussion forums required, within CANVAS. Discussion forums will have **initial posts due by Friday** of that week of the course, **by 7:00 pm**, and responses to at least two other students' posts due by Monday at midnight, when the other assignments are due. You are expected to participate by sharing your thinking on specific issues and interacting with other students' thinking, using the Canvas discussion forum. Postings of your thoughts on the subject assigned are usually only to be a paragraph of roughly 100 words. The scores (for this and all assignments) will be a percentage of those possible, based on my evaluation (using the seminary grading scale) of the quality of your thinking and communication, for both your posting and your responses to two other students' postings. Students are NOT graded in relation to their agreement with me or the Assemblies of God. Responses to other students need only be a few sentences each. The forums are a place for interaction among the course participants, providing opportunities for sharing with others and sharpening each other's thinking and observations. I will check the discussion boards regularly and participate in the discussion as needed.

3. Complete all writing assignments by midnight each Monday (the weeks of this online course begin on Tuesday and end on Monday).

Note, again, that Discussion Forum postings need to be up by Friday and then responded to by Monday.

See INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED TO ROGER COTTON, near the end of this syllabus. If you use any sources besides the readings specified make sure they are credible scholarship and list them at the end of the assignment.

4. Check Email regularly, on your Evangel email account, during the work week for announcements, course communications, reminders, and answers to specific questions, submitted by me. Emails to me should contain the course code (BTH 538), and a brief reason for the email in the subject line.

I will commit to responding to emails within 24 hours of receipt, except on weekends, when I will try to check and respond by Sunday at 10:00 pm. Generally, I will respond more quickly.

5. Be aware of my approach to grading: The various assignments are graded on the basis of how carefully the student followed the instructions and showed good thinking about what the readings said. You are not required to agree with me but you must be well aware of my teaching and able to explain any significant disagreement. You also are not required to agree with the Assemblies of God. If you have any doubt about the instructions feel free to contact me. The definition of each letter grade follows the seminary scale and is explained later in this syllabus in a chart under **GRADING PROCEDURE**.

6. Understand Course Commons: (the following material is provided courtesy of Dr. Randy Walls)

This course will use Evangel's online system, Course Commons, powered by the Canvas Learning Management System.

Login directly at: <https://courses.evangel.edu/> or go to the Student Portal/Course Commons. **Use your Evangel username and password to login. To access this course, hover over or click Courses at the top of the page after logging in.**

- a. **Before the class starts:** Students will have access to Course Commons and this course seven (7) days before the official beginning of the semester. This does not mean all course content will be ready. Release of course content will be the prerogative of the professor. Students have until seven (7) days after the semester begins to complete financial registration. If financial registration is not completed by the seventh day, course access will be revoked and all submitted work will be lost.
- b. **Course Content:** All course content (syllabus, modules, course materials, assignments, quizzes, exams, discussions, grades, etc.) will be located on the navigation pane on the left hand side of our course. At the end of a semester, students will have limited access to the course through Course Commons. Only access to already submitted work and grades will be available.
- c. **Personal Settings:** After logging into Course Commons, be sure to go to Settings and adjust your personal profile settings. *Add in a profile picture of yourself (Smile!).* Set your notifications: set how you'll be notified (EU email, personal email, text, Twitter, etc.) and how often.
- d. **Help:** *Click the Help button in the top right hand corner after you login. By clicking Help, you'll be able to...*
 - i. Submit a question directly to your instructor
 - ii. Access Canvas Help Guides
 - iii. Submit a Course Commons Helpdesk Ticket
- e. **Course Commons Student Orientation:** All EU students are automatically enrolled in the [Course Commons Student Orientation site](#). What's available? [Getting Started](#) help, what to do [During Your Course](#), [Help and FAQ](#), the [Student Quick Start Guide](#), and much more.
- b. **Course Commons Troubleshooting:** Question about a quiz or course content? *Contact your instructor, first!* Technical question about the Course Commons? Click Help and submit a ticket through Report a Problem. *Can't access Course Commons?* Contact the EU IT Helpdesk: 417-865-2815 x8368 (phone) or helpdesk@evangel.edu (email) or help.evangel.edu (web).

7. Communications:

- **Email:** You should daily check their Evangel University email account for announcements, course communications, reminders, and for submitting specific course questions. (If an Email account is needed or there are technical questions, you may contact Evangel's Information Technology HelpDesk: <http://www.evangel.edu/Info/HelpDesk.asp>).
 - Emails to the professor should contain the following:
 - The subject line of any email should contain the course code, the student's name, and a brief reason for the email.

- The body of any email should contain proper grammar, punctuation, and be in complete sentences.
 - Please be descriptive as to the reason for the email.
- CANVAS email:
 - Students can send email to the course instructor through CANVAS.
- Discussion forums: There will be some discussion forums throughout the course. Content forums will have interaction directions posted within the forums. A general discussion forum will be created to provide students a setting to ask general course questions.
- Online Chat: Students may interact with the professor via CANVAS's online chat capabilities by prior appointment.
- Phone/Online and Face-to-face Meetings: Phone and Online conversations and face-to-face meetings may also be pre-arranged by appointment. Please contact me for available times. If not already available to you Skype may be downloaded for free at <http://skype.com/>.
- Course Announcements: Course announcements will be posted as needed on the CANVAS homepage. Please check them regularly.

What you the student can expect of the professor:

- Emails: All student emails will be answered within 24 hours of receipt except on weekends.
- Discussions: I will interact with student postings as required and needed.
- Phone/Online and Face-to-face Meetings: I will be available for phone/online conversations or face-to-face meetings by prior appointment. Face-to-face meetings will be conducted in my office.
- Course Announcements: Announcements will be posted on the course CANVAS homepage. Any change in the course schedule, or assignments, will be posted in the announcements section of the CANVAS course homepage at least 12 hours in advance.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED TO ROGER COTTON:

All work for me must be typed, double spaced (except for online assignments submitted through Course Commons), with one-inch margins and the right margin NOT justified, and be proof-read. Your writing should demonstrate good, formal, clear, writing style (see handouts and Strunk and White or *Getting the Words Right* by Cheney). The format should follow Turabian 8th edition. I especially want signed articles in books such as encyclopedia articles, word studies, and other multi-author works to be listed according to 17.1.8.2. Not following this could cost the student an A grade. When you need to cite a source you may choose which one of the three citation methods in Turabian you prefer to use: foot notes, end notes, or parenthetical. **For assignments with specific readings**, no bibliography is needed unless you want the professor to know about *additional* reading you did. If you need to cite a source that was assigned, just put the last name in parentheses with the page number. The length of written assignments may exceed the limit by up to 25%. Assignments not turned in on time may have the grade lowered by a part of a letter grade per day, usually with a day of grace. Put the

following information at the top of the first page or on a title page: Name, assignment, course, my name, date. Do not put anything but the page numbers at the top of the other pages. No title page is needed for work under 4 pages. I recommend using the program *Grammarly*, and using an editor if necessary, to bring your English style up to the appropriate quality.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

It is assumed that students at AGTS will endeavor to be honest and of high integrity in all matters pertaining to Seminary life. A lack of respect and integrity is evidenced by cheating, fabricating, or plagiarizing. Cheating is defined as “intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise.” While discussion and collaboration is encouraged as part of course interaction, AGTS expects that whatever is submitted by a student is the work of that student and is new work for that course. Fabrication is “intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise or form.” Plagiarism is “intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one’s own in any academic exercise.” One who facilitates any of the above is equally responsible with the primary violator.

Penalties may include restitution, an “F” on an individual paper, exam, or course; loss of campus employment; disciplinary probation; removal from extracurricular activities; and suspension.—*AGTS Student Handbook*.

NON-DISCRIMINATORY LANGUAGE

Students should use non-discriminatory language in all written and spoken communication in this class. For specific guidelines, see the Student Handbook at: http://www.agts.edu/community/student_handbook/2010studenthandbook.pdf

COURSE SCHEDULE

Note that these eight weeks do not allow for time off for Thanksgiving so the due dates have been adjusted to compensate by extending that week’s due date one day and thereby shortening the following week one day.

Week	Dates	Lesson	Assignmments	Due	Points
Week 1	October 16-23	<i>Introduction and What Biblical Theology and Specifically OT Theology is and How to Do it</i>	Discussion Forum (DF), Essay	Mon., Oct 23 , 11:59 PM (all due dates are Mondays, by Midnight except for initial DF postings, which are for Fridays)	1/10
Week 2	Oct. 24-30	<i>Foundational, Essential Theology in Genesis</i>	DF, Short Answers, Begin Theme Study		1/10/5
Week 3	Oct. 31-Nov. 6	<i>God’s Promise-Plan of Salvation Throughout the Bible</i>	DF, Short Answers		1/10
Week 4	Nov. 7- 13	<i>God’s Nation with His Constitution of Laws for Them</i>	DF, Short Answers		1/10

Week 5	Nov. 14-20	<i>Salvation, the Presence of God, Holiness, and the Ceremonial Law</i>	Short Answers	1/10
Week 6	Nov. 21-28 (extended one day because of Thanksgiving)	<i>How to Determine Universal Truths from the Laws and Apply them Today</i>	DF, Essay	1/10
Week 7	Nov. 29-Dec. 4 (one day shorter due to previous week)	How to Read the Historical Books for OT Theology and the Empowering by the Spirit of God in the OT	Short Answers	10
Week 8	Dec. 5-11	<i>How to Read the Prophets and the Poetical and Wisdom Books for OT Theology; Conclusion</i>	Short Answer, Theme Outline, Reading Accountability	5/50/30

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS INSTRUCTIONS:

Week 1 — October 16-23: *Course Introduction and What Biblical Theology and Specifically OT Theology is and How to Do it.*

Assignments:

1. Discussion Forum (DF) Posting (for Friday) (1pt) Personal Introduction:

- a. Post around 200 words on who you are to **introduce yourself** to the professor and other students. You do not have to use whole sentences for this. Include where you grew up, where you live, spouse and children, what your undergrad degree is and from where, what you do for a living, what your current ministry is, why you are at AGTS, and any thoughts about further ministry. Do you consider yourself experientially Pentecostal or charismatic or not? Do you have any background that helps you in the study of the OT? What are the most important things you want people to know about you, and your favorite thing to do. Please **post by Friday, October 20 at 7:00 pm.**
- b. Read the other students' posts. Respond to at least two of them with comments, further inquiries, or dialogue, **by Monday October 23, at midnight.**
- c. Besides helping us get acquainted, the intent of this exercise is to familiarize you with the actual discussion forum posting and response mechanism. Since this is a personal posting and relational response it will not be graded.

2. Overview the course:

Read the syllabus and the following two handouts on *Expectations for Graduate Students and Characteristics of Participation in a Pentecostal Class* and ask any questions you have about what is expected in the course. (Italics will be used for the titles of the handouts)

articles throughout this syllabus, even though the correct style is quotation marks.)

3. Readings:

Remember: Read each as quickly for the main points or as thoroughly as you determine that they are helpful to you.

a. Introduction to Week 1

b. Read the Preface and Introduction, Chapters 1-6, of the textbook by Waltke.

c. Handouts:

Expectations for Graduate Students

Characteristics of Participation in a Pentecostal Class

What Do We Need to Know to do Graduate Level Study?

Definitions for Biblical Studies

Goldsworthy on Theology as the Bible Presents It

Thinking About OT Theology

Major Issues of OT Theology

Basic Resources for OT Studies

Various Terms used in OT Studies

Topics List for OT Theological studies

Guidelines for Developing a Theme/Topic

Studying a Theme of OT Theology

Principles to Remember About Bible Translations

Continuum Charts of Bible Translations

Basic Exegesis Guidelines

Doing Biblical Theology on an OT Passage

Literary Clues to a Bible Writer's Intended Theological Meaning

Various Handouts on doing word studies

Checklist of Sources for Research on an OT Theology Topic

OT Commentaries Recommended

ALSO, be aware of and be sure to follow, as needed, the handouts on writing and bibliographic form. Note that some of the handouts, such as these, in the book of handouts for this course are for the general benefit of the student.)

4. Essay (around 500 words): What it Means to do OT Theology

Summarize the principles of *what it means to do Old Testament theology* based on the Preface and Part 1 of the OT Theology book by Waltke. Waltke's Preface is important for understanding his work. Then, in Part One, Introduction, he writes many important things about OT theology, including great material on God's revelation in Scripture, but this assignment is intended to focus on summarizing your understanding of *what this field is about and how one goes about doing OT theology*. I recommend that you read the points you are to cover below, the two handouts *Thinking About OT Theology* and *Major Issues of OT Theology*, and then read through all the material in Waltke, taking notes on where he deals with those points. (There is not just one location for the answer to each point.) Then, write up the required points below.

A) Begin with your definition of Old Testament theology in your own words as a sub field of

biblical theology in contrast with (but not in conflict with) systematic theology, in one sentence and then elaborate in another few sentences. You must be sure to tell how it differs from systematic theology. You should consider Waltke's statements on what he believes it is, the goal and task of OT theology (such as on pp. 20, 50, 55, 63, et. al.), as well as my summary in the handouts. However, you are not expected to restate anyone's definition but say it the way you understand it and will teach others.

B) Then, summarize key points you learned from Waltke about what is involved in doing OT theological study of passages and books of the Old Testament.

1) Be sure to become aware of the major

issues or questions that one must deal with in doing OT theology (see my handout), such as Waltke refers to on page 12: "A theology of the OT must account for both the . . . and the . . ." Take note of Waltke's implications of one's belief in revelation/inspiration, pp. 39-48, and the aspects of the task of Old Testament theology that Waltke explains in Chapter 2.

2) Skim Chapters 2-5 to overview the methodological considerations in doing OT theology. Just briefly summarize the highlights of what you learned from these chapters.

3) State in a few sentences OR list principles of how to recognize and follow a theme/topic in OT Theology through the Old Testament. Be aware that word studies are an important tool in this and will be required as part of your theme research project.

4) Be sure you survey what Waltke says in the Introduction section of Chapter 6 and then read his key statements in the rest of the sections of the chapter which give an overview of the theology intended by the OT writers as God inspired them to write the OT Scriptures.

Week 2 — Oct. 24-30: Foundational, Essential Theology in Genesis

Assignments:

1. Readings:

- a. Introduction to Week 2.
- b. Waltke, Chapters 7-12 (pp.305-337)
- c. Handouts:

Beginnings—Lessons from Genesis 1-11
Foundational and Essential Truths of OT Theology
Keys to Unlocking the OT

2. DF: What is the essence of the human problem?

Describe in around 200 words what you understand from Genesis 3 to be the origin and essence of the human problem in terms of universal principles (avoid theological jargon). What

is the heart problem behind the sin of Adam and Eve? Describe the seriousness of the sin that God would pronounce the judgment of death on all humans? Remember to post DF thoughts by Friday at 7pm and respond to two other posts by Monday at midnight.

3. Short Answers: God and the Image of God

A) In around 200 words tell how you will summarize in your ministry (avoiding theological jargon) the three to five most important truths about God demonstrated in Genesis 1-12. One way to see these more clearly is to think about both the world of Moses and our world today, including the rise of Islam, in contrast with the God's true revelation of Himself.

B) In around 200 words tell how you will summarize in your ministry the important principles in the understanding of the image of God in humans and how God and people were intended to relate to each other. Be sure to bring them out from what the context in Genesis 1 implies about the image and what chapters 2 and 3 show about the relationship between God and humans. Try to state principles for unchurched people without using theological jargon.

4. Begin Theme Research Project

See the handout on *Studying a Theme of OT Theology and Guidelines for Developing a Theme/Topic*. This project is due on the final due date of the course and so should be a part of your work each week. For this project word studies are very important. You need to have use of a tool (see instructions in handouts or a computer program) that gives you every place any Hebrew word is used in the OT. If you are unable to get a list of every place the important Hebrew words in your theme are found in the OT, contact me. The specifics about the tools and doing word studies are in the handouts. **For this week, turn in evidence that you have found every place one key word in your theme is found in the OT.** One way is to tell me the first and last verses in the list. Be sure to give me the Hebrew word, in English letters, unless you are absolutely sure you have the Hebrew letters correct.

Expectations for OT Theology Topic/Theme Research Project:

This is to be a typed, 11-13 page research paper or a presentation in my office of a detailed outline (at least 3 pages single-spaced) of your biblical-theological researched findings on an OT theology theme/topic of your choice, submitted on October 30 and approved by the professor. This is to be an exegetical, Biblical-theological, study for teaching in the church, with strong application for God's people today. This study must demonstrate good interpretive method including the following **to qualify for an A grade** (also see the handouts about method and tools):

- A. Concordance work, mainly focusing on key Hebrew words, which uncovers all the major passages on the theme/topic in which the key Hebrew words are used. (This is the heart of the study.) Do good word study analysis of the concepts expressed by them, including reading the articles on those words in at least *NIDOTTE (New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis)*.
- B. Quick but accurate exegetical analysis of the meaning of each important passage on the theme in the context of the message of that book, taking into account the ANE background, using the *Dictionary of Biblical Imagery*, the *Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary: Old Testament*, biblical encyclopedia articles, and other

- background sources, and then the best, scholarly, exegetical, commentaries on each passage (usually about 3 or so on each significant passage; see my list in the handouts). Do your own analysis first before reading the scholars' opinions.
- C. Read at least one scholarly journal article related to your theme, and be sure to check any scholarly books specifically on your theme for helpful insights.
 - D. Check at least the following OT theologies for anything they have that relates to your theme: Eichrodt, Von Rad, Payne, Martens, Goldingay, House, Dyrness, and Waltke (see Bibliography and library reserve books for these). Also check *The IVP Dictionary of the OT*, in four volumes.
 - E. Draw conclusions on what God is teaching on your theme/topic through the various passages of the Scriptures in terms of principles, which can be applied to the lives of Christians today.

Doing a presentation will only help your grade be higher than what you would get for a paper because you are able to explain yourself more clearly. It cannot cause a lower grade.

The **bibliography** for the project must include all sources consulted (not just cited) and separately authored articles in books must follow 17.1.8.2 in Turabian 8th ed. Be sure to follow the Checklist of Resources in the Handouts. Do your own analysis first before reading the scholars' opinions. You should take into account any progressive revelation. Provide a title page but no cover. On form and style see INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED TO ROGER COTTON, earlier in this syllabus.

Week 3 — Oct. 31-Nov. 6: God's Promise-Plan of Salvation Throughout the Bible

Assignments:

1. Readings:

- a. Introduction to Week 3
- b. Waltke, Chapters 6, 12, 13, 15 (pp. 405-11), 19, 20 (pp.558-61), 23 (pp.660-61), 32 (pp.887-90)

c. Handouts:

Kaiser on Promise-Plan

Kaiser on Mission in the OT

The Central Message of the Bible (chart)

Central Message Passages of the Bible

Salvation in the OT as a Gift of a Personal Relationship with the Lord

The Name of God in the OT

Longman on Covenant

Covenant in the OT

Lessons from the Covenant in ANE Context

The Blessings and Curses and Us

Continuity/Discontinuity Chart

Zion in the Bible

The Significance of the Land of Israel in the OT

Grogan article Conclusion on continuity of the experience of salvation

2. DF: What is Your Summary of the Message of the Bible?

State in one sentence your summary of the message of the Bible—why God gave the Scriptures—in terms that a person in the OT could understand. Then explain your understanding of the big picture of the Bible in a paragraph.

3. Short answers (a paragraph of around 150 words each): Name, Covenant, Continuity/Discontinuity

Put these in your own words as you would teach them in your ministry. Mention key Scripture references that support or illustrate what you are saying, citing book and chapter, but not necessarily the specific verses. You do not have to agree with what I have written.

A) Briefly explain what is the significance of the **name** of the LORD in the OT context, using as a specific example, your explanation of what it means in the context of a reference to finding a place of safety “in His name,” as in Proverbs 18:10.

B) Briefly explain the significance of the Sinai **Covenant** for Israel in terms that Christians today can relate to. Define what is meant by a covenant in general, in one sentence, and then explain the specific type from the ANE (ancient Near East) used in the Pentateuch between God and Israel. Identify major principles that we should keep in mind when we see the Sinai Covenant referred to in the Bible and that help us relate to it.

C) Briefly explain the major **discontinuity** between the OT and the NT, assuming that God and salvation do not change. What is the most significant change in the NT?

Week 4 — Nov. 7-13: God’s Nation with His Constitution of Laws for Them

Assignments:

1. Readings:

- a. Introduction to Week 4
- b. Waltke, Chapters 15-17
- c. Handouts:

Foundational and Essential Truths of OT Theology

Chapter 7 by Cotton from They Spoke from God

Outline of the Relationship of Major Topics of OT Theology (particularly in the laws)

Galatians and the Relationship of the OT to the NT

Biblical Concepts in My Words by Roger Cotton

The Universal Absolute Principles of the OT Law

Summary Exposition of the Ten Commandments

Understanding the Sabbath for Christians

Understanding the OT on Taking Human Life

Response to the Perception that the God of the OT is Different from the NT

Wright on Ethics in NIDOTTE

2. DF: Israel's Purpose

Do you agree that Israel was God's missionary nation and why or why not? If not "God's missionary nation" how would you prefer to summarize God's purpose for Israel (in a paragraph)? Give the major Scripture passage for it in the Pentateuch.

3. Short Answers: Purposes of the Laws

A) Propose a common denominator general principle that explains why God gave the death penalty for the crimes He did in the Pentateuch and not for other crimes. (around 150 words)

B) Explain the purposes of the laws of the Pentateuch, as a whole, for Israel—why God gave them to Israel. (around 250 words)

C) Explain the purposes for the Sabbath commandment for Israel—what were its function and significance for them. (around 250 words) Be sure you have read my essay.

Week 5 — Nov. 14-20: Salvation, the Presence of God, Holiness, and the Ceremonial Law

Assignments:

1. Readings:

- a. Introduction to Week 5
- b. Waltke, Chapters 5 (pp.136-42), 16, 26 (pp.741-43)
- c. Handouts:

Biblical Holiness

Holiness in Commentary by Wenham

Distinguishing the Reason for a Sin Being a Sin

Theological Principles of the Ceremonial Instructions

Images of Salvation

Salvation as a Gift of a Personal Relationship with the Lord

Essay on the Tabernacle

Longman on the Presence of God

Goldsworthy on Typology

Typology According to Roger Cotton

Moving From the Major Institutions of the OT to the NT

The Significance of Key OT Institutions to Keep in Mind

Wright on Salvation

2. Short Answers: Key Concepts of the Ceremonial Law

Give your theological definition that you will use in your ministry, in a sentence and then elaborate in a few sentences, for the theological significance in terms of principles for the following:

- A) Holiness
- B) Clean/unclean
- C) Tabernacle/temple
- D) Atonement

Week 6 — Nov. 21-28: How to Determine Universal Truths from the Laws and Apply them Today

(Note that this week is extended one day due to Thanksgiving)

Assignments:

1. Readings:

- a. Introduction to Week 6
- b. Waltke, Chapters 15-17
- c. Handouts:
 - Righteousness word study*
 - NT Teaching on OT Laws in Relation to Christians*
 - Goldsworthy on the Law*
 - Longman on applying the law*
 - Distinguishing Universal Principles vs. Specific Cultural Applications*
 - Four Different Purposes for God's Requirements in the OT*
 - Indicators That a Law is Intended Universally vs. Contextually*
 - One Question for Relation to the OT Today*
 - Principles for Relating to Leviticus 19:28 on Tattoos*
 - What OT Writers Understood to Distinguish Universal from Contextual*
 - Reading Leviticus Consistently on Homosexual Relations*
 - Summary Outline of the Message of Leviticus*

2. DF: The Sabbath and the Christian

State your position on the relation of the Sabbath commandment to the Christian in your own words in one or two sentences and then briefly why, giving key OT Scriptures and a few key NT ones (around 150 words)

3. Essay (around 500 words):

Explain briefly, in summary, why a certain law in the OT (of your choice but not the Sabbath) should still be kept and why one (also of your choice but not the tattoo one) is no longer required of God's people. Include major principles they teach that are universal.

Week 7 — Nov. 29-Dec. 4: How to Read the Historical Books for OT Theology and the Subject of the Empowering by the Spirit of God in the OT

(Note that this week is one day shorter due to the previous week)

Assignments:

1. Readings:

- a. Introduction to Week 7
- b. Waltke, Chapters 14 (pp.389-404), 21 (pp.619-21). 26 (pp.738-52), 31
- c. Handouts:
 - Overview chart of OT History after David (showing where the prophets fit)*
 - Intro Notes on OT Historical Books*
 - Goldsworthy on history*

Longman on Divine Warrior
Word Study on the Hebrew Word Ruach
Numbers 11 and a Pentecostal Theology of Church Leadership
Implications of Numbers 11
Selman on Chronicles

2. Short Answers: Spirit in the OT and Principles in a Passage

A) Summarize in one sentence and then explain in a paragraph what the OT writers had in their minds when they used the term Spirit of God (or Spirit of the LORD—treat them as the same) including your basis for your view.

B) Briefly explain what 2 Chronicles 7:14 meant theologically for Israel, in its context. Explain briefly how the theological principles God communicated there can be applied to our lives as Christians, today. Be sure to review my handout on the Land. (around 300 words)

Week 8 — Dec. 5-11: How to Read the Prophets and the Poetical and Wisdom Books for OT Theology; Conclusion

Assignment:

1. Readings:

- a. Introduction to Week 8
- b. Waltke, Chapters 29, 33, 34 (p.944), 35
- c. Handouts:

Principles for Understanding the OT Prophets in Biblical Theology

Four Aspects of the Use of “Fulfilled” in the NT References to OT

Horton on Isaiah

Joel, Pattern of the Message

The Day of the Lord

Eschatology in the OT

Hope of Resurrection in OT

Major Principles of the Relationship of NT Prophetic Ministry to OT

Introductory Points on OT Poetical Books

Toward OT Ethics: The OT View of Imprecation

Imprecatory Passages

Zuck on Wisdom books

Biblical Wholistic Approach to People, Ourselves, and Life

Summary of Themes of the Books of the OT

Seeing the OT Books in the Big Picture

What I Want to Say About the OT

Misunderstandings of the OT

2. Short Answer: The Message of Obadiah as an example

Read Obadiah all together at one time and then summarize the message of the writer—God’s purpose in giving this book—in one sentence. Then point out at least four themes of OT Theology in the book of Obadiah with the verses where they were alluded to. For an example

see handout on The Book of Numbers: Summary. Unlike the example, you do not need to give an outline of Obadiah.

3. Theme Research Project due

4. Accountability for the readings due

Report what per cent of the required readings you did from Waltke and the book of handouts. (Remember some may be skimmed for main thoughts.)

GRADING PROCEDURE:

The points are listed with each assignment, thereby showing the student the weight of the assignment in relation to the total course. However, the grades are recorded as percentages representing the quality level of the answer as interpreted by the professor. Late work usually is given a day or so of grace. After that, the grade may be lowered a part of a letter grade per day. The readings are given a grade at the end of the course on the basis of the percentage that you state in the last week's assignment. The course grade is based on all the percentages scored, as valued according to the seminary grading scale given below.

AGTS grading scale

<i>Percent</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Grade</i>
100-94%	A superior	76-74%	C satisfactory
93-90%	A-	73-70%	C-
89-87%	B+	69-67%	D+
86-84%	B good	66-64%	D poor
83-80%	B-	63-60%	D-
79-77%	C+	Below 60%	F failure

Note: Students need to retain extra copies of all work submitted until the work has been graded and recorded.

Final course grade and incompletes

At the end of the course, students will receive the final grade recorded in the CANVAS gradebook. If a student needs to request an extension, an incomplete grade may be granted with prior notification of unfinished work to the course instructor and the filing of the Incomplete Grade Request form: <http://www.agts.edu/academics/forms.html>. The approved Incomplete request will extend the due date for up to ninety days, may include a grade reduction, depending on the extenuating circumstances, and will be assessed a grade change fee. Students may not register for courses in a new term if they are carrying more than two IP or I grades.

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