

Bible and Theology Department
"Shaping Servant-Leaders"

— Syllabus —

<p>COURSE NUMBER and TITLE: BTH 530 Old Testament Theology ONLINE CREDIT HOURS: 3 SEMESTER: Fall 2018 COURSE DAY/TIME: August 24-October 19 LOCATION: ONLINE (Course Commons, EU/AGTS)</p>	<p>INSTRUCTOR: Roger D Cotton, Th.D. PHONE: 417.865.2815 EX 8876 Direct: 417-268-1076 OFFICE: AGTS, Rm 214 EMAIL: cottonr@evangel.edu OFFICE HOURS: call or email for an appointment</p>
<p>Waltke, Bruce K. with Charles Yu. <i>An Old Testament Theology: A Canonical and Thematic Approach</i>. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-310-21897-5</p> <p>For information on textbook pricing, go to http://www.bkstr.com/evangelstore/home.</p>	

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY MISSION:

The purpose of Assemblies of God Theological Seminary is to train men and women to fulfill the mission of the Church as taught in Scripture—*Shaping servant leaders with knowledge, skill and passion to revitalize the Church and evangelize the world in the power of the Spirit.*

EVANGEL UNIVERSITY MISSION:

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.

CATALOG 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.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

It is highly recommended that the student have had an Old Testament introduction course and has read through the Old Testament in recent years. Such basic knowledge will be assumed in the course.

COURSE PURPOSE:

This course is intended to enable the student to relate as a Christian to and use the teachings of the Old Testament as a whole and any book in the Old Testament.

COURSE OUTLINE (Broad):

1. Authority, inspiration, reliability, canon, and the text of the Old Testament.
2. Overview of scholarly approaches to the text.
3. Geography and historical framework of the ancient Near East.
4. The Pentateuch and literary, cultural parallels.
5. The Writings and ANE religion.
6. The Former Prophets (O.T. History).
7. The Latter Prophets.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

This is an online course. Weekly modules found in COURSE COMMONS include course resources and specifications.

- All assignments are due at time and date specified under Course Assignments.
 - Late work is allowed, assuming good reasons for it. Let me know if you will be more than one day late. Please try to keep up with the discussion forums on schedule for the benefit of your fellow students.
 - Students are expected to complete all course work by the final due date for the course. A grade of I (Incomplete) may be granted at the discretion of the professor for extenuating circumstances upon the presentation of the Incomplete Grade Request form: <http://agts.edu/current-students/administrative-forms/>. The approved Incomplete request will extend the due date for up to ninety days and may include a grade reduction. NOTE that students may not register for courses in a new term if carrying more than two IP or I grades.
 - Specific assignments are given later in this syllabus.
- You are expected to communicate with the instructor any concerns, technical difficulties, and/or questions you may have via email, phone call, or face-to-face at my office. There may still be errors in this syllabus or in Course Commons; so ask about any confusing instructions or statements.
- You are expected to have daily access to Evangel email.
- Online submissions for me do not have to be in any certain format and do not require a list of sources unless specified. **Be sure to proof-read your submissions.** The length is flexible.
- NOTE that this online eight-week format means that the time needed to accomplish the work required **each week** may be as much as **17 hours** to do graduate level work.
- NOTE: The latest version of Office is available for your personal machine. It can be downloaded without charge by following the instructions at: <https://help.evangel.edu/hc/en-us/articles/201759875-How-Do-I-Get-Microsoft-Office-for-free->

COURSE METHODOLOGY

This course is offered completely online through Course Commons. (see addendum at the end of this syllabus) It utilizes readings, discussion forums, and writing assignments to achieve the course objectives. All the documents called for are in the course files.

Students should know, when planning their work, that the weekly modules are not all equal in the amount of time they will take the student to do the reading and then the written work. I advise you to look ahead if your schedule is going to be tight.

1. How to accomplish each week's work:

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 work on 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.

2. Complete the readings, including the Introduction for each week.

The readings for this course are NOT all to be done for detailed recall. Read each as quickly for the main points or as carefully as you determine they are helpful to you. I do not necessarily agree with all the readings by others. Most are to acquaint the student with the issues, thinking process, and kinds of sources, information, and interpretations available, including providing exposure to some of the best Old Testament scholars. Looking ahead at the assignments for the week will help the student determine what to look for in the readings. Beyond that, the student should simply be alert for the material that might help them in their use of the Old Testament in their life and ministry.

3. Participate in any discussion forums required, on Course Commons. Discussion forums will have **initial posts due by Tuesday** of that week of the course, **by 7:00 pm**, and responses to at least two other posts due by Friday at midnight, when the other assignments are due. Students are expected to participate by sharing their thinking on specific issues and interacting with other students' thinking, using the Canvas discussion forum. Postings of the student's thoughts on the subject assigned are usually only to be a paragraph of roughly 100 words. The points scored (for this and all assignments) will be a percentage of those possible, based on the professor's evaluation (using the seminary grading scale) of the quality of the student's 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 the professor or the Assemblies of God. Those responses need only be a few sentences each. The forums are a place for interaction among the course participants, providing opportunities for sharing and sharpening each other's thinking and observations. The course instructor will check the discussion boards regularly and participate in the discussion as needed.

4. Complete all writing assignments by midnight each Friday (the weeks of this online course begin on Saturday and end on Friday).

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

Please proofread your work before submitting it. If you use any sources besides the readings specified make sure they are credible scholarship and list them at the end of the assignment.

5. Check Email regularly, on your Evangel email account, during the work week for announcements, course communications, reminders, and answers to specific questions, submitted by the course instructor. Emails to the professor should contain the course code (BTH 530), and a brief reason for the email in the subject line.

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

6. Be aware of Cotton's 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 the professor but you must be well aware of his 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 the professor. The definition of each letter grade follows the seminary scale and is explained later in this syllabus in a chart under **ASSESSMENT.**

COURSE OUTLINE and SCHEDULE

Week	Dates	Lesson	Assignments	Due	Points
Week 1	August 24-31	<i>Introduction and What and What Biblical Theology and Specifically OT Theology is and How to Do it</i>	Discussion Forum (DF), Essay	Fri, Aug 24 , 11:59 PM (all due dates are Fridays, by Midnight except for DF postings, which are for Tuesdays)	1/10
Week 2	Sept. 1-7	<i>Foundational, Essential Theology in Genesis</i>	DF, Short Answers, Begin Theme Study		1/10/ 2
Week 3	Sept. 8-14	<i>God's Promise-Plan of Salvation Throughout the Bible</i>	DF, Short Answers		1/10
Week 4	Sept. 15-21	<i>God's Nation with His Constitution of Laws for Them</i>	DF, Short Answers		1/10
Week 5	Sept. 22-28	<i>Salvation, the Presence of God, Holiness, and the Ceremonial Law</i>	Short Answers		10

Week 6	Sept. 29- Oct. 5	<i>How to Determine Universal Truths from the Laws and Apply them Today</i>	DF, Essay	1/10
Week 7	Oct. 6-12	<i>How to Read the Historical Books for OT Theology and the Empowering by the Spirit of God in the OT</i>	Short Answers	10
Week 8	Oct. 13-19	<i>How to Read the Prophets and the Poetical and Wisdom Books for OT</i>	Short Answer, Short Answer, Theme Outline, Reading	5/1/ 60/
		<i>Theology; Conclusion</i>	Accountability	30

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS INSTRUCTIONS:

Week 1 — August 24-31: Course Introduction and What Biblical Theology and Specifically OT Theology is and How to Do it.

Assignments:

1. Discussion Forum (DF) Posting (for Tuesday) (1pt) Personal Introduction (all DFs are due Tuesdays at 7:00 pm and are graded as a % of 1 point):

- 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 Tuesday, August 28 at 7:00 pm.**
- b. Read the other students' posts. Respond to at least two of them with comments, further inquiries, or dialogue, **by Friday Aug. 31, 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 (all others will be).

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 (note that many of these are found both in the BTH 530 book of handouts as well as individually in Files):
 - Expectations for Graduate Students*
 - Pentecostal Class Participation*
 - What Do We Need to Know to do Graduate Level Study?*
 - Definitions for Biblical Studies*
 - Goldsworthy on Biblical Theology, especially "Theology as the Bible Presents It"*
 - Thinking About OT Theology*
 - Issues in 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 in OT Theo*
 - Studying a Theme of OT Theology*
 - Translations, Principles to Remember*
 - Translations Continuum Charts*
 - 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 (see BTH 530 book of handouts)
 - Checklist of Sources for Research on an OT Theology Topic*
 - Commentaries Recommended in OT*

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 and not necessarily used in this course.

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.

i) 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.

ii) 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.

iii) 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.

iv) 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 — Sept. 1-7: 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. Short Answers: Begin 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, due on the final due date of the course. It should be a part of your work each week. **This week, tell me the topic you propose to research.** The choices for this online course are the following from the document *Topic List OT Theology*: 1. What does God want us to learn from OT passages on the Angel of the LORD? 10. What do we learn about God and/or His Messiah from passages that use shepherd imagery of God or His Messiah? 13. What does God teach about His view of women in leadership among His people from the Old Testament? 17. What do the uses of the Old Testament concept of the Fear of the LORD teach? 19. What does God teach about responding to suffering, in the OT? 23. What does the OT teach about what God wants to do for people with the use of the Hebrew words for healing? 24. What does God teach with the Hebrew word for peace, *shalom*? 25. What does God teach in the OT on how to treat the needy and/or poor and/or oppressed? 28. What does God teach in the OT about His attitude toward the non-Israelite? 29. What is the OT teaching on The Day of the LORD? 32. What is the OT teaching of the theological theme of the remnant? 36. What does the OT teach about the work of the Spirit of God in relation to His people? 38. What does the OT teach about the glory of God in reference to His presence? If you believe you have the resources to do a study not listed here, you may propose it, but it must have at least one passage dealing with it from each of the four blocks (broad genres) of the OT: Pentateuch, History, Poetry, Prophets.

On how to do this project see the documents, *Studying a Theme of OT Theology*, and *Guidelines for Developing a Theme/Topic*. For this project word studies are very important. You need to have the use of a tool that gives you every place any Hebrew word is used in the OT. The specifics about the library tools and doing word studies are in the document [BTH 530 OT Theo Handouts SP17.pdf](#). Computer programs are often very helpful but you have to be sure of what information they are giving you and I am unable to help you much with how to use those that are for people who do not know Hebrew. If you are absolutely unable to get a list of every place where the important Hebrew words in your theme are found in the OT, you must contact me. **For this week**, besides giving me your topic choice, **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. To choose the word or phrase, look at a major OT passage that comes to mind in relation to your interest area. You must then find the Hebrew word behind the English, through the tools and then go to a Hebrew concordance, as the instruction documents, especially the chart, explain.

Expectations for OT Theology Topic/Theme Research Project:

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):

1. Concordance work, mainly focusing on key Hebrew words, which uncovers all the major passages on the theme/topic by finding the passages where 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*).
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.

[If you are unable to get access to one of the above tools you tell me your situation and what you do have and we will work out what to do.]

5. 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.
6. After the conclusion, give a **simple sermon outline** applying the results to people today in a unified message, if just main points.
7. 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.

You may do a presentation in my office, if you are in town, which requires only a detailed, content-rich, outline. It 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.

Week 3 — Sept. 8-14: 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 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 — Sept. 15-21: 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 — Sept. 22-28: 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 — Sept. 29-Oct. 5: How to Determine Universal Truths from the Laws and Apply them Today

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): **Specific Examples of Laws in Relation to Christians Today**

Explain briefly, in summary, why a certain law in the OT (of your choice but not the Sabbath or any of the Ten Commandments) 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 — Oct. 6-12: How to Read the Historical Books for OT Theology and the Subject of the Empowering by the Spirit of God in the OT

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 — Oct. 13-19: How to Read the Prophets and the Poetical and Wisdom Books for OT Theology; Conclusion

Assignments:

1. Readings:

a. Introduction to Week 8

b. Waltke, Chapters 29, 33, 34 (p.944), 35

c. Handouts:

Prophets and Biblical Theology

Four Aspects of Fulfilled in NT refs to OT

Horton on the message of Isaiah

Joel, Pattern of the Message

Day of the Lord

Eschatology in the OT

Resurrection Hope in OT

Major Principles of Prophetic Ministry OT-NT chart

Poetical Books Introductory Points

Imprecation from Toward OT Ethics

Imprecatory Passages

Zuck on Wisdom books parts 1 and 2

Wholistic Approach to People, Ourselves, and Life

Summary Themes of OT Books

OT Books in the Big Picture

What I Have Learned and 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. Elaborate briefly in a few sentences including how it relates to God's people. Then point out at least four themes of OT Theology in the book of Obadiah noting 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 but you do need to give verses for the themes.

3. Short Answer: Organizing Old Testament Theology

After looking at the tables of contents of various OT theologies listed in the readings and provided in the documents files, state in a sentence or two the general way that you would organize a book or a seminar on the major theological teachings, themes, concepts, etc., of the Old Testament, OTHER THAN doing it book by book. How would you teach a brief course in Old Testament theology and structure it so that you do not leave out anything important but keep the interest of the audience/readers?

Theme Research Project due. See the instructions in Week 2.

4. Short Answer: Most Significant Principle Learned

State and describe in a few sentences the most significant and helpful principle you learned or confirmed in this course.

5. Accountability for the Readings Due

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

COURSE OUTCOMES (with assignment #s where assessed):

CLOs	PLOs	FWE
<p>1. Explain briefly the field of Old Testament theology.</p> <p>2. Describe the foundational concepts of Old Testament theology.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p><u>MDiv</u></p> <p>1. Discuss the flow of biblical revelation through the Old and New Testaments, with an emphasis on the redemptive mission of God's people through the world. (4.)</p> <p>2. Construct a paradigm for bridging the horizons between the ancient biblical text and the contemporary world. (4.)</p> <p><u>MATS</u></p> <p>1. Discuss the flow of biblical revelation through the Old and New Testaments, with an emphasis on the redemptive mission of God's people through the world. (4.)</p> <p>3. Demonstrate the ability to extract and construct the biblical teaching on a given topic or doctrine that respects the progress of revelation within the biblical canon and employs sound principles of biblical interpretation. (not assessed)</p> <p>8. Seek to apply biblical/theological foundations and critique to current ministry practices within specific ministry contexts. (not assessed)</p> <p><u>MACM</u></p> <p>3. Apply biblical/theological foundations and current ministry practices to specific ministry contexts. (not assessed)</p> <p>4. Discuss the flow of biblical revelation through the Old and New Testaments, with an emphasis on the redemptive mission of God's people through the world. (4.)</p> <p><u>MAIS</u> (none are assessed)</p>	<p>These are supported but not assessed.</p> <p>1. Pastors, Christian leaders and local churches prioritize helping people live integrated lives wholly centered on discipleship to Christ, not limiting "mission" and "ministry" to church activities. (This is woven throughout the course lectures.)</p> <p>2. Pastors, Christian leaders and local churches prioritize helping people live as stewards of God's world, responsible to work with integrity for its flourishing—individually and collaboratively in communities. (This is briefly mentioned in the lecture on Genesis.)</p> <p>6. Pastors, Christian leaders and local churches prioritize helping people take responsible action, individually and as communities—energetically pursuing justice, mercy and flourishing while recognizing the complex challenges and limitations we face in the present age. (This is especially emphasized in the initial lecture on Genesis.)</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make decisions, live and serve according to revealed truth and the will of God. 2. Develop biblical theology of missions which addresses the contemporary missional context. 6. Identify, exemplify and foment biblical leadership 	
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EU20 Outcomes: ¹

This class supports, in at least a small way, but does not assess, all the EU20 Outcomes, except the following: E5; I2; and I3.

ASSESSMENT:

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.

The various assignments are graded on the basis of how carefully you 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 grading scale for the course is shown below.

Note: Students need to retain extra copies of all work submitted until the final course grade has been recorded.

GRADING SCALE:

A	94 to 100%	C	74 to < 77%
A-	90 to < 94%	C-	70 to < 74%
B+	87 to < 89%	D+	67 to < 70%
B	84 to < 87%	D	64 to < 67%
B-	80 to < 84%	D-	60 to < 64%
C+	77 to < 80%	F	0 to < 60%

¹ All EU 20 Outcomes are found on the website.

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SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Roger D. Cotton, Th.D., Professor of Old Testament, submitted in July 2018.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

As people of Christ, members of the broader academic community, and future professionals, it is incumbent upon every member of the Evangel community to employ and encourage integrity in all our academic and professional pursuits. Any and every instance of academic dishonesty compromises the mission of Evangel University and violates the standards we hold as people of Christ and practitioners within our professional fields. Students are expected to understand and avoid all forms of academic dishonesty, which includes falsification, cheating, collusion, and plagiarism.

As members of the Evangel community, students share the responsibility to deter and report academic dishonesty. Should a student become aware of a violation of academic integrity, he or she is encouraged to report the incident to a faculty member or department chairperson.

It is the responsibility of the faculty to address any and all acts of academic dishonesty. Sanctions for violations of academic dishonesty can include but are not limited to a failing grade on an assignment, a failing grade for the course, suspension from school, or expulsion from the university. Evangel's policy on academic integrity, as published in the Student Handbook, appears in Section VIII. University Policies: Academic Integrity.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THE CLASSROOM:

Please do not detract from the learning environment in how you use your devices.

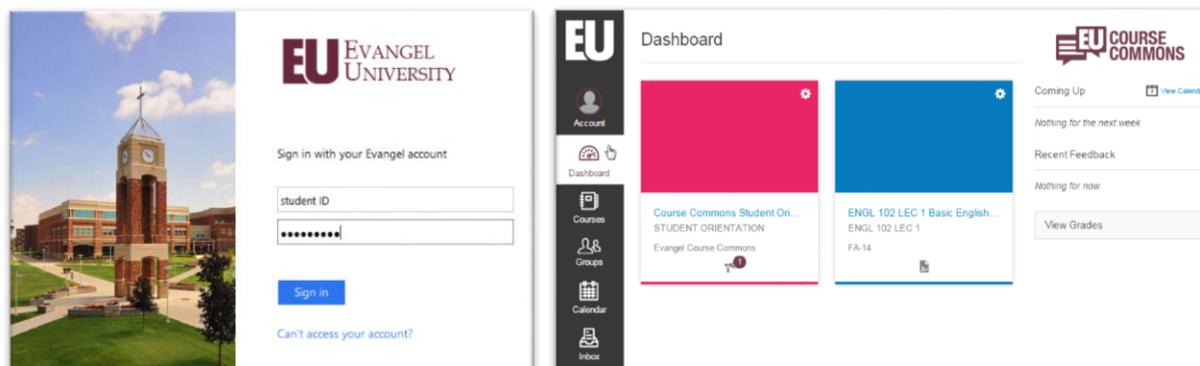
DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS:

Evangel University is committed to equal educational opportunities for students with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American with Disabilities Act as amended (ADA). Academic Support, a division of the Center for Student Success, is the office designated by Evangel University to review disability documentation, determine reasonable accommodations, and develop plans for the provision of such accommodations.

If you have already established accommodations through Academic Support and receive accommodation memos, please meet with me to discuss the provisions of those accommodations as soon as possible (accommodations are not retroactive). If you have not yet established accommodations, but have a disability or health condition (permanent or temporary) that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, you are welcome to contact Academic Support staff in the Center for Student Success (ZM-208; 417-865-2815 x.8215) so that accommodations can be arranged. See the Disability and Academic Accommodations Handbook for further information on the accommodations process.

— COURSE COMMONS Information —

This course will use *COURSE COMMONS*, Evangel's learning management system. There are links to *COURSE COMMONS* in the Student Portal and the Evangel website. The login page for *COURSE COMMONS* is <https://courses.evangel.com/>.

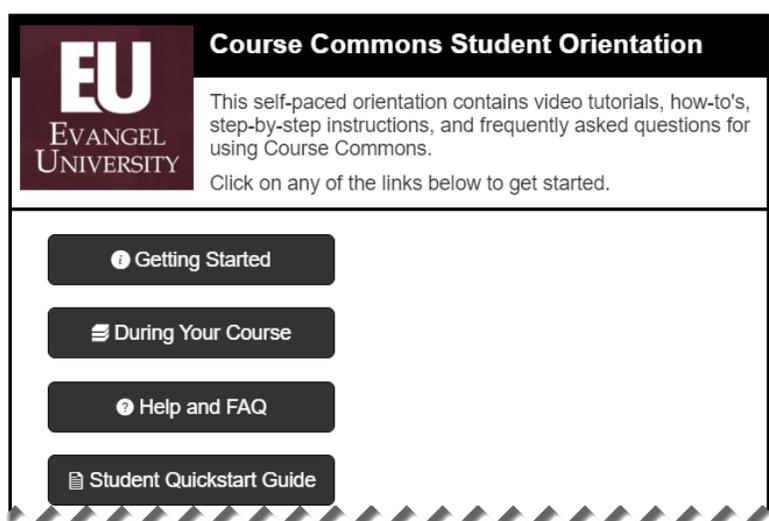


**Use your
Evangel**

username and password to login.

COURSE COMMONS STUDENT ORIENTATION

All Evangel students have access to the [Course Commons Student Orientation](#). If you are new to *COURSE COMMONS* you are encouraged to take advantage of this excellent resource. As part of your course preparation, this will help you make the most of the features that are available to you as a student.



ACCESSING THE COURSE IN COURSE COMMONS

Access your courses list by clicking on the Courses icon on the Global Navigation menu on the left of the screen. You can also click on the course card on the Dashboard.

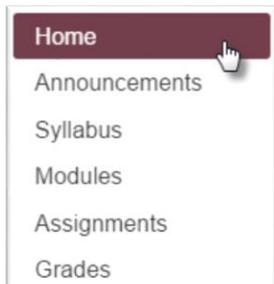
To customize your Courses list, see the following Help Guide: [How do I customize my Courses list?](#)

Students will have access to this course in *COURSE COMMONS* seven (7) days before the official beginning of the semester. 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.

After the end of the semester, students will have read-only access to the course through *COURSE COMMONS*. Only access to already submitted work, course resources and grades will be available.

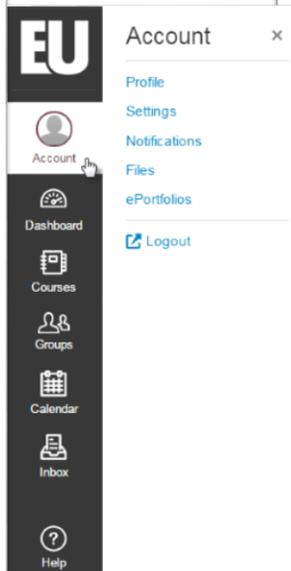
ACCESSING COURSE CONTENT IN COURSE COMMONS

The professor controls the availability of course content and features. Some items may be unavailable until a date set by the professor.



You can navigate the course content and features using the Course Navigation menu on the left. This menu can be customized by the professor, so it may differ from course to course, depending on what features the professor has chosen to make available.

You can collapse the Course Navigation menu to focus on the page content. Click on the menu icon in the upper left (which looks like 3 lines). You can expand the menu by clicking on the menu icon again.



All course content (syllabus, modules, course materials, assignments, online quizzes, online discussions, grades, etc.) can be accessed using the links in the Course Navigation menu. Students can adjust their personal settings in *COURSE COMMONS*. Click on the Account icon to access the Account menu.

On the **Profile** page, you can add a profile picture to your account. You can also edit your display name, which will show to your instructor and peers throughout *COURSE COMMONS*.

The **Settings** link allows you to add additional contact methods (personal email or cell phone number for text message alerts) to your account. You can also add external services, like Twitter, Skype or Google Drive.

The **Notifications** link allows you to customize *what* notifications you receive from *COURSE COMMONS* and *how* and *when* you receive them. This is a student-centered feature that allows you to optimize your notifications to help you stay connected to what is happening in all your courses.

For more information, see the following pages in the *COURSE COMMONS* Student Orientation: [How to Update your Profile and Settings](#) and [How to Update Your Notifications Preferences](#).

ACCESSING GRADES IN COURSE COMMONS

All course grades will be recorded and shown through *COURSE COMMONS*. Simply click the “Grades” button on the lower right of the Dashboard to access your grades for all courses. You can also use the Grades link in the Course Navigation to access your grades for this course.

For more information on how to check your grades and what you can do from the Grades page, see the following page from the *COURSE COMMONS* Student Orientation: [How to Check My Grades](#).

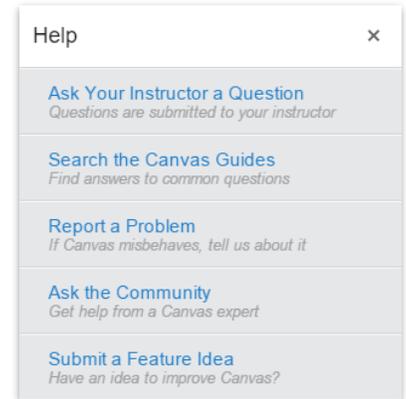
HOW TO GET HELP WITH COURSE COMMONS

Help is never more than a few clicks away! You can access the Help menu from any page in *COURSE COMMONS*.

Click on the Help icon in the lower left corner of the screen. Because the *COURSE COMMONS* is powered by the Canvas Learning Management System, all help guides and helpdesk tickets will reference Canvas.

From the Help menu, you can send a message to your instructor, search the Canvas Help Guides, or report a problem.

You can browse and search the Help Guides using the following link: <https://community.canvaslms.com/community/answers/guides/>.



COURSE COMMONS TROUBLESHOOTING

Do you have a question about a quiz, an assignment, or another item in the course? Contact your professor.

Are you having technical problems with COURSE COMMONS? Click the Help icon, click "Report a Problem" and complete the form to file a ticket for a personal response from the support team. Please be sure to include a thorough description of the problem.

Are you having trouble with your Evangel account (username and password)? Contact the IT Helpdesk at 417-865-2815 ext. 8368 (phone), helpdesk@evangel.edu