

OTEN6321 OT ENGLISH EXEGESIS: ESCHATOLOGY
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Disclaimer: This syllabus is intended to give the student a general idea of the content, format, and textbooks used for this class. The professor will submit a full syllabus at the beginning of the class which will contain a course schedule and the instructor’s information.

“At a time when 90% of Southern Baptist churches are plateaued or declining, NOBTS is a school focusing on training God-called men and women to grow healthy churches.”
 —Dr. Chuck Kelley—

NOBTS Mission To equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Course Description This course studies the message of hope in the Old Testament in the light of the ancient Near Eastern world. Old Testament eschatology includes several areas of thought: death and afterlife, future hope, the (coming) kingdom of God, God’s anointed, and God’s redemptive plan. The focus of this class will be a modest introduction to the ANE contextual world of thought about the afterlife, along with a heavy emphasis upon what the Old Testament teaches about the kingdom of God and His anointed Messiah.

- Curriculum Competencies**
1. **Biblical Exposition:** To interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.
 2. **Disciple Making:** To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.
 3. **Worship Leadership:** To facilitate worship effectively.

- Course Objectives**
- By the end of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Discuss key biblical texts that develop the individual and corporate eschatological hope of ancient Israel.
 2. Discuss Israel’s prophetic realization that the kingdom of God would be the second coming of messiah.
 3. Understand why the kingdom of God was such a vital topic of Jesus’ teaching ministry and in the context of first-century Judaism.
 4. Identify the contemporary approaches to the interpretation of Old Testament eschatology, especially noting the advocates, the strengths, and the weaknesses of each millennial position.
 5. Give a brief synopsis of the “day of the Lord” motif in the Old Testament prophets.

Required David S. Dockery. *Our Christian Hope*. (Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2008).

Textbooks

ISBN-13: 978-1556357282

Darrell L. Bock and Craig A. Blaising, et al. *Three views of the Millennium and Beyond* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999). ISBN: 978-0310201434

Course Requirements & Assignments

The professor expects the course activity to involve 4-5 hours each week.

1. Scripture Insight Brief: *Each week*, the professor will provide selected Old Testament scripture references relating to a personal or corporate eschatological theme. The student will read each text and record one to three (1-3) insights from the text. Each insight should be typed out along with a one (1) paragraph of reflective thought.

Although not required, a student may consult a commentary(ies) for insights and context.

Note: The assignment should be single-spaced with the respective scripture references used as the headings.

2. Interaction: *Each week* the student will (1) email their "Scripture Insight Brief" to the entire class and the professor, (2) read 3-5 postings of other students, and (3) respond to one of the postings. The response will be sent to both (1) the one who posted the insight and (2) to the professor.

Note: The response posting should be more than "I agree with you" or "what a great thought" type response. A response should contain a meaning extension of thought to the observation already presented.

3. Journal Reflection Brief: *Each week* one or two journal articles will be posted for the student to read. These articles will serve as the "virtual lecture" for the week.

Each week the student will read the posted journal article(s). Five (5) significant points (i.e. exact quotations, 1-3 sentences) made in the essay will be identified. Each point listed should be typed out along with a one (1) paragraph of reflective critical thought on the quotation selected. This assignment will be emailed to the professor each week. All posted articles require a subsequent reflection brief.

Note: I do not expect you to agree with every view espoused in the articles you read. Subsequently, your reflection point(s) may be questioning or rebutting a thought of the author.

4. Read the textbook: Blaising, et al., *Three views of the Millennium and Beyond*.

5. Millennial Views Paper: *On specified dates* the student will submit three (3) mini papers describing each millennial position as presented in the textbook. The paper will (1) define each millennial position, (2) list and describe significant tenets/principles of the position, and (3) provide noteworthy Scripture texts used to develop and support each view.

Note: Each paper will be 4-6 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font, one inch margins. Footnotes are not necessary. Acknowledgement of a page number

will be done within a parenthesis (#) at the end of a sentence.

6. Millennial Position Paper: *On a specified date* the student will submit a paper detailing their own millennial position. The paper will consist of two parts: (1) describing your own millennial position and (2) defending your millennial position from the critiques of your selected view as found in the textbook.

Note: The two sections of the paper will be 5 pages and 3-5 pages respectively. The paper should be 10-12 pages double spaced. Extensive use of Scripture references is expected.

Grading Scale A: 93-100% B: 85-92% C: 77-84% D: 70-76% F: below 70%

Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior

Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on the Discussion Board. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity will be expected at all times in the online environment.

Views of Eschatology

[Postmillennialism : an eschatology of hope / Keith A. Mathison](#) by [Mathison, Keith A., 1967-](#) Phillipsburg, N.J. : P&R Pub., c1999.

A Case for Historic Premillennialism: An Alternative to "Left Behind" Eschatology

by [Craig L. Blomberg](#) (Editor), [Sung Wook Chung](#) (Editor)

- **Paperback:** 208 pages
- **Publisher:** Baker Academic (February 1, 2009)
- **Language:** English
- **ISBN-10:** 0801035961
- **ISBN-13:** 978-0801035968

historic premillennialism include [Baptists John Gill](#), [Charles Spurgeon](#), and [George Eldon Ladd](#) and [Presbyterians Francis Schaeffer](#), [Gordon Clark](#), and [James Montgomery Boice](#).

James Montgomery Boice (1986). "How Will It all End?". *Foundations of the Christian Faith*. InterVarsity Press. pp. pp. 703ff. [ISBN 0877849919](#).

Case for Amillennialism, A: Understanding the End Times (Paperback)

by [Kim Riddlebarger](#) (Author)

- **Publisher:** Baker Books (March 1, 2003)
- **Language:** English
- **ISBN-10:** 080106435X
- **ISBN-13:** 978-0801064357

The Bible and the Future (Amillennialism)

by [Anthony A. Hoekema](#) (• Eerdmans Publishing Company (March 1994))

- **Language:** English
- **ISBN-10:** 0802808514
- **ISBN-13:** 978-0802808516

General Bibliography

Joshua J. Adler. "The Bible and Life After Death." *Jewish Bible Quarterly* 22, no. 2 (April 1994): 85-90.

Desmond Alexander. "The Old Testament view of life after death." *Themelios* 11, no. 2 (January 1986): 41-6.

Carl Edwin Armerding. "Asleep in the dust." *Bibliotheca Sacra* 121, no. 482 (April-June 1964): 153-58.

Bill T. Arnold. "Old Testament Eschatology and the Rise of Apocalypticism." In *The Oxford Handbook of Eschatology*. Jerry L. Walls, ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. [Google Books]

Daniel I. Block. "Beyond the Grave: Ezekiel's Vision of Death and Afterlife." *Bulletin for Biblical Research* 2 (1992):113-41.

John D. Davis. "The Future Life in Hebrew Thought." *Princeton Theological Review*, 6 (1908): 246-68.

Elmer W. Fondell. "Resurrection truth in the Old Testament." *Covenant Quarterly* 6, no. 4 (November 1946): 195-207.

Edward Fudge, "The final end of the wicked" *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 27, no. 3 (S 1984): 325-34.

Robert J. Kepple, "Hope of Israel, the resurrection of the dead, and Jesus : a study of their relationship in Acts" *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 20, no. 3 (S 1977): 231-41.

Clement J. McNaspy. "Sheol in the Old Testament." *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 6, no. 3 (July 1944): 326-33.

Michael S. Moore. "Resurrection and immortality : two motifs navigating confluent theological streams in the Old Testament (Dan 12:1-4)." *Theologische Zeitschrift* 39, no. 1 (January-February 1983): 17-34.

James Orr. "Immortality in the Old Testament." In *Classical Evangelical Essays in Old Testament Interpretation*, ed. Walter C. Kaiser, Jr. 256-65. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1972.

John H. Otwell. "Immortality in the Old Testament." *Encounter* 22, no. 1 (Winter 1961): 15-27.

John Strange. "The idea of afterlife in ancient Israel : some remarks on the iconography in Solomon's temple." *Palestine Exploration Quarterly* 117 (January-June 1985): 35-40.

Bruce R. Reichenbach. "Genesis 1 as a theological-political narrative of kingdom establishment." *Bulletin for Biblical Research* 13, no. 1 (2003): 47-69.

Irwin W. Reist. "Old Testament basis for the resurrection faith." *Evangelical Quarterly* 43 (January-March 1971): 6-24.

Thomas E. Ridenhour. "Immortality and resurrection in the Old Testament." *Dialog* 15, no. 2 (Spring 1976): 104-9.

Ovid R. Sellers. "Israelite Belief in Immortality." *Biblical Archaeologist* Vol. 8, no. 1 (February 1945): 1-16.

Elmer B. Smick. "Resurrection and Immortality in the Old Testament." *Westminster Journal of Theology* 31 (1968-69): 12-21.

H. G. M. Williamson. "Eschatology in Chronicles." *Tyndale Bulletin* 28 (1977): 115-54.