



OTHB6322
HEBREW EXEGESIS: JEREMIAH
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Biblical Studies Division
Online Course – Spring 2020

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Seminary Mission Statement:

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership.

Curriculum Competencies The core value focus for the 2019-20 academic year is Spiritual Vitality: Maintaining a close relationship to Jesus Christ through all life endeavors. We are a worshipping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Our confessional commitments are outlined in the Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith & Message 2000.

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership.

The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Servant Leadership, and Spiritual and Character Formation

Course Description

This course combines an overview of the Book of Jeremiah with an in-depth analysis of selected portions of the Hebrew text. Primary attention will be given to the grammatical, literary, historical, and theological features of the text. The

study will include a discussion of the process leading to hermeneutical goals of teaching and preaching.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course the student will have demonstrated a proper knowledge of and an ability to use effectively in study, teaching and preaching:

1. The overall literary structure and content of the Book of Jeremiah.
2. The major theological themes and critical issues in the book.
3. The Hebrew text of the Book of Jeremiah.
4. Hebrew syntax and literary style.

Textbooks:

Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia.

Book of Jeremiah by J.A. Thompson (NICOT) (Eerdmans)

Basic Forms of Prophetic Speech, by Claus Westermann (Westminster/John Knox)

Course Assignments:

1. Translations (20%). Weekly Assignment dates in Course Schedule.
2. Introduction to Jeremiah (10%) **Due Date: Sat February 17**
3. Literary - Rhetorical Analysis (15%). **Due Date: March 27**
4. Book Reviews (10% each) **Due Dates Mondays, March 9 and April 13**
5. Exegetic research paper (25%). **Due Date Wed, May 13**
6. Discussion Board Areas: 4 Topics + Personal Introduction (10%) See schedule

Book Reviews (2) Post your Book Reviews in the Assignments

Due Dates March 12 and April 22

Choose two books from the "Books" section of the "Selected Bibliography"

Marked by the double asterisk **.

These will be shared with your classmates.

Procedures

1. **Translations** -- Weekly translations shall be submitted via the "Assignments" section in Blackboard. **See posted example in "Course Documents" These are DUE ON SATURDAY NIGHT at the conclusion of the given week of the seminary Internet course calendar.**

The translations should include:

- (1) a "rough/rote" translation of the words in the Hebrew word order in, followed by
- (2) the parsing of key verbs (not all, only those of "significance" and/or difficulty), and then
- (3) a dynamic or formal equivalency translation of the text, keeping the following model in mind: "the accuracy of the New American Standard Version with the readability of Today's New International Version."

2. **Discussion Board** -- In the Four Subject areas, **each student** is to post his or her own discussion on the given topic assignment, and then contribute **responses to the postings of at least two other students** in the course.
3. **Key Questions** - Several of the translation passages will have a "Key Question" regarding the interpretation of the given text.
4. **Video Guides and Lectures** - Video lectures are interspersed through the various Units. Some are introductory lectures to the course, the book, or the various translation sections. Others will guide you in the process of interpreting Jeremiah through the Hebrew literature.

EXEGETICAL RESEARCH PAPER: 20-25 pages

The student is to write an exegetical research paper on a section of the Book of Jeremiah, chosen in consultation with the professor. The passage should be approximately 12-20 verses.

Students will turn in a statement regarding their chosen passage on or before .

****Rhetorical/Structural Analysis**** (Length 5-7 pages) due **March 27, 2020**.

After reading Westermann's *Basic Forms of Prophetic Speech*, and reviewing the examples posted in the "Course Documents" the student shall complete a rhetorical and structural analysis **of their chosen passage**.

See video and handouts for guidelines posted in "Course Documents" as well as a sample paper.

The **Exegetical Research Paper** should include the following elements:

Introduction - To the passage (not the entire biblical book) including the historical and cultural setting, important biblical background material, etc.

Translation - Your own translation, having the following quality goal: the precision of the *NASB* or the *NKJV*, with the readability of the *NIV*, *ESV*, or *NLT*.

Textual Footnotes: Address the issues in important text critical notes, as well as any key words which you have translated in a nuanced manner.

Exegetical Outline - Provide an exegetical outline of the chosen passage, based upon your "Rhetorical / Structural Analysis" with at least one but no more than two sub-levels. The outline should reflect the prophetic literary structure of the passage.**

Exegetical Notes and Discussion - Explicate the meaning of the text, highlighting words studies, structural elements, pertinent background material. This is the most in-depth section of the paper. Include here the findings from your "Rhetorical / Structural

Analysis" as well as material from word studies, syntax, etc. that aid in the interpretation of the passage as a holistic text.

Homiletical Outline - Assuming you will be teaching or preaching from this material, provide an outline of your presentation, including: Title, Theme or Key Point, Outline with no more than two sub-levels, Conclusion. This may or may not directly reflect your **exegetical outline**, depending upon your homiletical emphasis.

COURSE SCHEDULE HEBREW EXEGESIS: JEREMIAH

NOTE: Students should read the appropriate pages in Thompson's commentary each week according to the assigned passage for the given class session.

UNIT

- I Post Personal Introduction on Blackboard Discussion Board #1 by Jan 25**
Read Thompson pp. 1-106 Introduction to Jeremiah
Send email to Dr. Cole confirming the reading of the Introduction
- II Translate Jer 1:1-19 Call of Jeremiah Read Thompson, pp. 139-158 Feb 1**
- III Discussion Board Topic #2 Post your contribution on the subject: Feb 8**
"The Call of Jeremiah and My Call to Ministry" by
- Translate Jer 2:1-19 Israel's Unfaithfulness Feb 8**
Read Thompson pp. 159-175
Email Dr. Cole with your chosen passage for your Exegetical Research Paper
- IV Translate Jer 2:20-37 Futility of Idolatry Feb 15**
Submit your "Introduction to The Book of Jeremiah" on Blackboard
- V Submit: Introduction to the Book of Jeremiah Due Date Feb 22**
Read Thompson pp. 175-187 Obedience over Sacrifice
Read R. Byargeon, "Thus Saith the LORD: Interpreting the Prophetic Word"
In *Biblical Hermeneutics*, by B. Corley, S. Lemke, G. Lovejoy (B & H),
pp. 301-315. See also handouts in "Course Documents"
Read *Basic Forms of Prophetic Speech*, by Claus Westermann
- VI Translate Jer 10:1-16 Satire on Idolatry Feb 29**
Read Thompson pp. 323-339
- Discussion Board Topic #3 Post your contribution on the subject of Feb 7**
"Idolatry in the 21st Century" by March 7
- VII Translate Jer 7:1-20 (cf. 26:1-16) Temple Sermon(s) Mar 7**
Read Thompson pp. 271-286
- Book Review #1 Due Mar 12**

VIII Translate Jer 7:21-8:3 Temple Sermon & Queen of Heaven Mar 14
Read Thompson pp. 286-296

SPRING BREAK WEEK MARCH 15-21

**Discussion Topic #4 Post your contribution on the subject of
"Defining Biblical Worship" by March 24**

IX Literary - Rhetorical Analysis of your chosen passage. Due March 28

X Translate Jer 28:1-17 Judgment on Hananiah, the False Prophet April 4
Read Thompson on Jeremiah 28

APRIL 12 EASTER/ PASSION WEEK -- NOTHING DUE

XI Translate Jer 21:1-14; 22:1-9 Jeremiah vs. Zedekiah & the Kings Apr 18
Read Thompson pp. 465-475

Book Review #2 Due April 22

XII Translate Jer 22:10-12 Shallum; 22:13-19 Jehoiakim; Apr 25
22:24-30 Coniah; Jer 23:1-8 Future Righteous King
Read Thompson pp. 475-492

**Discussion Topic #5 Post your contribution by April 24 on the subject of
"The Messianic Kingship of Jesus" in light of Jeremiah's assessment of the
Kings of Judah and their failure to live up to God's ideal kingship model as
described in part in Deuteronomy 17.**

XIII Translate Jer 31:1-22 Restoration & Judgment of Israel May 2
Read Thompson pp. 563-576

XIV Translate Jer 31:23-40 The New Nation and the New Covenant May 9
Read Thompson pp. 576-585

XV Exegetical Research Paper Due WEDNESDAY, May 13, 2020

OLD TESTAMENT EXEGETICAL STUDIES (JEREMIAH) SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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