



OTEN6321 Old Testament Eschatology (Internet)
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Biblical Studies Division
Spring 2021

Dr. David Justice

Adjunct Instructor
Office: 280 Hardin Student Center
Phone (office): 504-816-8555
Phone (Cell): 205-535-0250
Email: justida@gmail.com

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. The core value focus for this academic year is Spiritual Vitality. The NOBTS graduate catalog defines Spiritual Vitality as follows: We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.

Curriculum Competencies

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 and Christian Theological Heritage.

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.

Student Learning Outcomes

The following student learning outcomes are employed to demonstrate the student's proficiency in each of these areas. The student must demonstrate accomplishment of each of the items described under the assessment area in order to pass this course. Upon completing the course, the student will have demonstrated an ability to:

- Discuss key biblical texts that develop the eschatological hopes of ancient Israel.
- Identify significant eschatological themes in the Old Testament.
- Discuss contemporary approaches to the interpretation of Old Testament eschatology, especially

noting the advocates, the strengths, and the weaknesses of each millennial position.

- Write an exegetical paper on a selected passage regarding eschatological/messianic expectation in the Old Testament.
- Develop a teaching/preaching outline based on the exegetical analysis.
- Reflect on how understanding OT eschatology shapes their own walk with Christ

Textbooks

Darrell L. Bock, ed. *Three Views on the Millennium and Beyond*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999, 2010. 978-0310201434

Walter C. Kaiser, Jr. *Preaching and Teaching the Last Things: Old Testament Eschatology for the Life of the Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2011. 978-0801039270

J. Richard Middleton. *A New Heaven and a New Earth: Reclaiming Biblical Eschatology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2014. 978-0801048685

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies: lecture, textbook readings, independent research and writing.

Course Requirements

Chapter Summaries:

After reading the chapters in *The Search for Order* or *The End of the Beginning*, the student will write a **one-paragraph summary of each chapter** included in that week's reading. Each summary will capture the basic message of the chapter in a concise paragraph that highlights the key points from the reading.

Bible-Reading Log:

Throughout the semester, the student will read the relevant chapters from the OT and write a one-line journal entry that summarizes their thoughts on their reading. The reading log will be submitted at the end of each week throughout the semester. Here is an example of one-line entries covering the first three chapters of Genesis:

Genesis 1-3

1. God creates all things including humanity and commissions humanity to multiply and rule.
2. God places humanity in the garden and commands them not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
3. Humanity disobeys God's command and is expelled from the garden.

Unit Quizzes:

Each week the student will complete a brief quiz covering that week's assigned reading. The weekly quiz must be submitted by Sunday night @ 11:59 p.m. CST.

On-line Discussion:

In addition to **reading** the weekly assignments, including the Old Testament texts as they are covered, students are expected to **participate** on a regular, weekly basis in the on-line discussions on Blackboard. Failure to do so will result in a grade penalty as reflected in the Grading Policies. While much of the work can be done independently, the on-line discussions on Blackboard will enable us to

interact as a learning community. As a general protocol for the discussions, respect for others, considerate wording of posts, and Christian charity when good intentions are misunderstood are required. Remember, we are brothers and sisters in Christ seeking to know our Lord better and proclaim Him more faithfully, so let's enjoy the discussion, participate regularly, and exemplify Christ in how we do so. Thanks for being a part of this learning community.

Book Review: A two or three-page, single-spaced critique of J. Richard Middleton's *A New Heaven and a New Earth* is **due on Monday, March 1**. By submitting a critique, the student is affirming that he or she has read the entire book. The book will be discussed on Blackboard after the date on which the critique is due. The format of the paper must be two to three pages, single-spaced and typed in Times New Roman 12-point font with 1" margins. Keep in mind, meeting the two-page minimum means filling up 2 pages, not partially filling the second page (1.5 for example).

The content of the review should contain a **brief summary (a half-page to no more than one page)** and a more thorough **critique**. In your critique, state the **purpose** or the guiding argument (thesis) of the book. What did the author set out to do? Why did the author write this particular book? Also, discuss how well the author achieved his purpose. Most of your critique should be a discussion of the **strengths and weaknesses** of the book. Finally, you should include a statement of whether or not the author achieved his goal and why you think that he did or did not. Keep in mind, simply summarizing the book is not a critique and will not lead to the highest possible grade for this assignment. Students should also provide two discussion questions based on the reading of the book that are not clearly answered (i.e., questions the book left unanswered).

Exegetical Paper: Students will select a passage to exegete. In its final product, exegetical papers should be 18–22 pages double spaced and should include the following:

1. Title page
2. Literary analysis
 - a. Relevant literary features (prose/poetry, parallelism, chiasm, etc.)
 - b. How does this passage fit into the broader context of the book?
3. A word-study
 - a. Examine at least one key word or phrase from the passage (no more than three) and,
 - b. Its importance for the message/understanding of the text
4. Background issues
 - a. Historical context
 - b. Impact on the message/understanding of the text
5. Detailed explanation of the text
 - a. Provide your own explanation (verse-by-verse, paragraph-by-paragraph, however you see fit)
 - b. Provide limited interaction with commentaries (be sure to note the eschatological perspectives of the authors you engage)
 - c. Significance of the passage for OT and biblical eschatology; main eschatological theme
6. Conclusion/Implications
 - a. Summation of your findings
 - b. Application for the modern Church

Teaching/Preaching Outline: In addition to the exegetical analysis, students will also develop an outline for teaching or preaching the selected text from the exegetical paper. The outline should include enough

detail (points, sub-points, etc.) to demonstrate a well-organized, well-planned lesson/sermon including, but not limited to:

1. Statement of expected audience (e.g., Bible study class, youth group, entire church, etc.)
2. Text/Title
3. Teaching Aim/Main Point/Statement of Purpose
4. Outline
5. Key Exegetical Points (include an intro, sections, bullet points, and conclusion)
6. Application for Christian living

Millennial Views Paper: Students will produce a three or four-page, single spaced paper outlining the key elements in each of the three major millennial views. The paper will include discussion of the hermeneutical significance of millennial views for understanding the OT texts, a brief summary and critique of the strengths and weaknesses of each of the major millennial views, and a final evaluation of which view you find most persuasive.

Extra Credit: Students may choose to do a second book review for up to three points extra credit on their final average. Extra credit must be submitted by the final class period.

Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Weekly Assignments

Chapter Summaries	5%
Bible Reading Log	5%
Unit Quizzes	15%
Discussion Board	15%

Other Assignments

Book Review	15%
Exegetical Paper w/Teaching Outline	25%
Millennial Views Paper	20%

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Writing Style Guide

Writing assignments should follow the **NOBTS/Leavell College Manual of Form and Style** (*revised August 2019*). To access this manual on the seminary website, please use the following link: <https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>.

Course Schedule

Date	Unit	Textbook Reading	Biblical Texts
Week 1: 1/19–1/24	Introduction to the Course	Kaiser. <i>Last Things</i>. Introduction, Part 1	Genesis 1–3, 6, 9, 11, 12, 49
Part I: Overview of OT Eschatology			
Week 2: 1/25–1/31	Unit 1: Creation, Fall, and Covenant	Dumbrell, <i>Search for Order</i>. Introduction, Chapter 1	Exodus 15, 19, 20–34; Deuteronomy 26
Week 3: 2/1–2/7	Unit 2: Exodus, Covenant, and Promised Land	Dumbrell, <i>Search for Order</i>, Chapter 2 Kaiser. <i>Last Things</i>. Part 2	Judges 8, 9, 21 1 Samuel–2 Samuel 7 1 Kings 10, 17–19
Week 4: 2/8–2/14	Unit 3: Kingship Unit 4: Zion Theology and Preexilic Eschatology	Dumbrell, <i>Search for Order</i>, Chapter 3 Dumbrell, <i>Search for Order</i>, Chapter 4	Isaiah 1–39
Week 5: 2/15–2/21	Unit 5: Exilic Eschatology	Dumbrell, <i>Search for Order</i>, Chapter 5	Amos Micah Zephaniah
Week 6: 2/22–2/28	Unit 6: Postexilic and Apocalyptic Eschatology	Dumbrell, <i>Search for Order</i>, Chapter 6 Kaiser. <i>Last Things</i>. Part 3	Jeremiah 7, 26, 31 Joel Obadiah
Book Review Due: <i>A New Heaven and a New Earth</i>, Monday, March 1			
Part II: Major Themes of OT Eschatology			
Week 7: 3/1–3/7	Unit 7: The New Jerusalem	Dumbrell, <i>End of the Beginning</i>, Chapter 1	Ezekiel 33–48
Week 8: 3/8–3/14	Unit 8: The New Temple	Dumbrell, <i>End of the Beginning</i>, Chapter 2 Kaiser. <i>Last Things</i>. Part 4	Isaiah 40–55
Spring Break (March 15–19)			
Week 9: 3/22–3/28	Unit 9: The New Covenant	Dumbrell, <i>End of the Beginning</i>, Chapter 3 Kaiser. <i>Last Things</i>. Part 6	Isaiah 56–66
Week 10: 3/29–4/4 Easter Week	Unit 10: The New Israel	Dumbrell, <i>End of the Beginning</i>, Chapter 4 Kaiser. <i>Last Things</i>. Part 5.	Haggai Zechariah Malachi
Week 11:	Unit 11: The New Creation	Dumbrell, <i>End of the Beginning</i>,	Daniel, 2 Chronicles 36

4/5–4/11		Chapter 5	
Exegetical Paper and Teaching/Preaching Outline Due: Monday, April 19			
Part III: Millennial Systems			
Week 12: 4/12–4/18	Unit 12: Postmillennialism	Bock. <i>Three Views. Postmillennialism</i> (11–80)	
Teaching Outline Due: Thursday, April 26			
Week 13: 4/19–4/25	Unit 13: Amillennialism	Bock. <i>Three Views. Amillennialism</i> (81–154)	
Week 14: 4/26–5/2	Unit 14: Premillennialism	Bock. <i>Three Views. Premillennialism</i> (155–276)	
Week 15: 5/3–5/9	Unit 15: Putting It All Together	Bock. <i>Three Views. Summary Essay</i> 277–310	
Paper Due: Millennial Views, Monday, May 14			

Selected Bibliography

Books

Alan J. Avery-Peck and Jacob Neusner, eds. *Judaism in Late Antiquity: Death, Life- After-Death, Resurrection and the World-To-Come in the Judaisms of Antiquity*. Boston: Brill, 1999.

Gregory K. Beale and Mitchell Kim. *God Dwells Among Us: Expanding Eden to the Ends of the Earth*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP.

Charlesworth, James H. ed. *The Messiah : Developments in Earliest Judaism and Christianity*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress, 1992.

_____. *Resurrection: The Origin and Future of a Biblical Doctrine*. New York: T&T Clark, 2006.

Andrew Chester. *Future Hope and Present Reality. Vol.1 Eschatology and Transformation in the Hebrew Bible*. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2012.

Collins, John J. *The Scepter and the Star: The Messiahs of the Dead Sea Scrolls and Other Ancient Literature*. ARBL 10. New York: Doubleday, 1995.

Christopher Cone, ed. *Dispensationalism: Tomorrow and Beyond, A Theological Collection in Honor of Charles C. Ryrie*. Forth Worth: Tyndale Seminary Press, 2008.

J. Harold Ellens, ed. *Heaven, Hell, and the Afterlife: Eternity in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam*. Oxford: Praeger, 2013.

- Craig A. Evans, ed. *Eschatology, Messianism, and the Dead Sea Scrolls*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997.
- Edward Fudge, *The Fire that Consumes: A Biblical and Historical Study of the Doctrine of Final Punishment*, 3rd ed. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2011.
- Donald Gowan. *Eschatology in the Old Testament*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1986.
- Walter C. Kaiser, Jr. *The Messiah in the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1995.
- Hanson, Paul D. *The Dawn of Apocalyptic: The Historical and Sociological Roots of Jewish Apocalyptic Eschatology*. Philadelphia, PA: Fortress, 1989.
- Richard S. Hess and M. Daniel Carroll R. eds. *Israel's Messiah in the Bible and the Dead Sea Scrolls*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2003.
- Laato, Antti. *The Historical Development of the Old Testament Royal Ideology and the Rise of the Jewish Messianic Expectations*. Atlanta, GA: Scholars Press, 1997.
- Jon D. Levenson and Kevin Madigan. *Resurrection: The Power of God for Christians and Jews*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2008.
- Jon D. Levenson. *Resurrection and the restoration of Israel: The ultimate victory of the God of life*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2008
- Tryggve N. D. Mettinger. *King and Messiah: The Civil and Sacral Legitimation of the Israelite Kings*.
- Christopher W. Morgan and Robert A. Peterson. *The Kingdom of God*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2012.
- Stanley E. Porter. Ed. *The Messiah in the Old and New Testaments*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2007.
- Portier-Young, Anthea E. *Apocalypse against Empire: Theologies of Resistance in Early Judaism*. Reprint Edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2014.
- Henning G. Reventlow. *Eschatology in the Bible and in Jewish and Christian Tradition*. New York: T&T Clark, 1997.
- Rowland, Christopher. *The Open Heaven: A Study of Apocalyptic in Judaism and Early Christianity*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 1982.
- Rydelnik, Michel. *The Messianic Hope: Is the Hebrew Bible Messianic?* Nashville: B&H, 2010.
- Sailhamer, John H. *The Meaning of the Pentateuch: Revelation, Composition, and Interpretation*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2009. (236–46)
- Philip E. Satterthwaite, Richard S. Hess, and Gordon J. Wenham. *The Lord's Anointed: Interpretation of Old Testament Messianic Texts*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1995.
- Eckhard Schnabel. *40 Questions about the End Times*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2012.

Janet K. Smith, *Dust or Dew: Immortality in the Ancient Near East and in Psalm 49*. Cambridge: James Clark & Co., 2012.

Klass Spronk. *Beatific afterlife in ancient Israel and in the ancient Near East*. Neukirchener Verlag, 1986.

Nicholas J. Tromp, *Primitive Conceptions of Death and the Netherworld in the Old Testament*. Biblica et Orientalia 21 Rome: Pontifical Biblical Institute, 1969.

Walls, Jerry. *The Oxford Handbook of Eschatology*. Oxford: Oxford University, 2008.

Wright, Christopher J. H. *Knowing Jesus through the Old Testament*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2014.

Articles, Chapters

Block, Daniel I. "The Doctrine of the Future and Moses: 'All Israel Shall Be Saved.'" Pages 107–34 in *Eschatology: Biblical, Historical, and Practical Approaches*. Ed. D. Jeffrey Bingham and Glenn R. Kreider. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2016.

Klingbeil, Gerald. "Looking at the End from the Beginning: Studying Eschatological Concepts in the Pentateuch." *JETS* 11 (2000): 174–87.

Levenson, John D. "The Fact of Death and the Promise of Life in Israelite Religion." In *Papers of the Henry Luce III Fellows in Theology* Vol 6. 139-54. Pittsburgh: Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada. 2003.

Medina, Richard W. "Life and Death Viewed as Physical and Lived Spaces: Some Preliminary Thoughts from Proverbs" *ZAW* 122 (2010): 199-211.

Mendenhall, George E. "From Witchcraft to Justice: Death and Afterlife in the Old Testament." 67-?. In *Death and Afterlife: Perspectives of World Religions*. Hiroshi Obayashi, ed. New York: Praeger, 1992.

Sailhamer, John H. "The Messiah and the Hebrew Bible," *JETS* 44 (2001): 1–22.