

EXPOSITORY PREACHING FROM EXODUS
BSOT8301 Expository Preaching from the Old Testament
Doctor of Ministry Seminar
Fall 2015 Trimester – September 22-24, 2015

Professors:

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Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Course Purpose, Core Value Focus, and Curriculum Competencies

This seminar offers a practical study of the Book of Exodus. Using the components of sound biblical exegesis and exposition, the focus of the seminar is to prepare the participants for effective expository preaching. New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity in that the course is designed to prepare the student to grow in the understanding and application of the Word of God. Characteristic Excellence also is addressed in that the student should be as prepared as possible to be a minister for Christ. The course will address the value of Spiritual Vitality by reminding the student that personal and corporate worship as well as instruction in God's Word are vital to ministers and their congregations. The Core Value Focus for the 2015-2016 academic year is Mission Focus. This course also addresses the competencies of Biblical Exposition and Worship Leadership by preparing the student to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.

Course Description

This seminar centers on preparing expository sermons and deriving homiletical values from a selected Old Testament book. The work is aimed at providing a model upon which students can establish an effective life-discipline of study and sermon preparation. The exegetical component is taught by an Old Testament professor and the expository section by a Preaching professor. This course may be repeated as long as a different Old Testament text is being studied.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the student will have:

1. Gained an understanding of the critical historical/theological issues in Exodus.
2. Completed an exegesis of a selected passage from the English text of Exodus.

3. Developed a broad understanding of the text through exegetical and homiletical commentaries on Exodus.
4. Learned to appreciate the value of Old Testament narrative for preaching.
5. Developed sermons from Exodus that will incorporate the results of exegesis as well as application and interpretation in light of the contemporary setting.

Course Teaching Methodology

The lectures by the professors will provide the basis for background and movement from subject to subject within the seminar. Assigned topics and Scriptural passages will be designed to sharpen the student's knowledge and skills in important areas of study in Exodus. Dialogue and discussion during the seminar will enhance the learning experience. Individual presentations and small group interaction will also be employed.

Seminar Requirements

1. Textbooks and Reading Report

Each student will read the **textbooks** and verify by signing a **reading report**.

Douglas K. Stuart. *Exodus, NAC*. B & H Publishing, 2006. ISBN: 0805401024

Maxie D. Dunnam. *Exodus, The Preacher's Commentary*. Thomas Nelson, 2002.

ISBN: 0785247750

2. Background Brief Paper

Each student will prepare a **Background Brief** on a Critical Issue or Major Theme from the Book of Exodus. The topics will be assigned by Dr. Parker on a "first come, first served" basis. Please select a first, second, and third choice from the following list of topics and email your choices to Dr. Parker (jparker@nobts.edu). The Background Brief is to be 8-10 pages in length. Each student will make a 15-20 minute verbal presentation of the Background Brief during the seminar. Consult Turabian 6th edition as the format and style guide for the Background Brief. The Background Brief is due at the beginning of the seminar on September 22, 2015.

Background Brief Topics

1. What was going on with the 18th dynasty in Egypt during Moses' time? - Exodus 1:1-14
2. Genocide in the Bible: Egyptian and other accounts in the OT - 1:15-22
3. Adoption in Egypt and the OT - 2:1-10
4. The text twice mentions "his brethren" in 2:11-15. When did this idea that he was a Hebrew occur to Moses? Pharaoh's daughter obviously knew from the beginning.
5. Midianites: Who were they? 2:16-22
6. What did the Abrahamic covenant have to do with the fact that 1) God heard; 2) God remembered; 3) God saw; and 4) God took notice in 2:23-25?
7. Theophany: What is it and what did the Angel of the Lord have to do with it? - 3:1-12
8. Yahweh: What is the significance of the "Name" for Moses and the Israelites? - 3:13-22
9. Use of signs by God: What significance did they have in Moses' ministry? - 4:1-9
10. Circumcision as an obligation to the covenant and a requirement to lead - 4:24-26
11. Genealogies in the OT: Special uses. (See Ruth 4:18-22) - 6:14-27

12. "Moses as God" and "Aaron as prophet": What did this mean? – 6:28-7:7
 13. God's of Egypt: How they are reflected in the "Plagues" narrative? – 7:14-11:10 & 12:29-36
 14. "Powerful hand": What did this anthropomorphic, idiomatic expression mean as Yahweh used it to describe His work? 13:1-16
 15. Pillar of Cloud – Pillar of Fire: How did God use this theophany to help the Israelites? – 13:17-14:4
 16. "East wind": What are the implications of this detail to the parting of the Red Sea? – 14:13-31
 17. What does the NT say about the "rock" in the narrative when the Israelites test Yahweh and Moses? – 17:1-7
 18. Who is Amalek and what significance and connection is there to the Amalekites attacking Israel as it relates to 17:1-7. 17:8-16
 19. Who was Jethro, Priest of Midian, and what was his role relative to Moses and the Israelites? 18:13-27
 20. "Kingdom of priests and a holy nation": What is the significance of this relative to the Israelites? – 19:1-15
 21. The "trumpet"; What is its biblical significance to the arrival of Yahweh as described in both the OT and NT? 19:16-25
 22. The 10 Words or 10 Commandments: What were their purpose and significance for the original community of the Israelites? 20:1-17
 23. Israel's demand for Moses to be a mediator between them and God: What was God's original intent for Israel and what were the implications of a mediator? 20:18-21
 24. "40 Days": What is its significance and use throughout the Bible? – 24:1-18
 25. Incense: Its purpose and meaning in Israelite worship - 30:1-10
 26. What would the symbol of the "Golden Calf" have meant to the Israelites? (Hint: think Egypt) – 32:1-6
 27. What does it mean in Exodus 32:14 when it says "So the Lord changed his mind"? – 32:7-35
 28. What was the significance of "I will not go up in your midst" in Exodus 33:3?-33:1-6
 29. Tent of Meeting – What exactly was this and what function did it serve? - 33:7-11
 30. What is the significance of "known you by name" in Exodus 33:12 and 33:17? – 33:12-34:9.
 31. Who are the nations to be driven out before the Israelites and why were they driven out? – 34:10-28
 32. Moses "shining face": How does this relate to the "glory of God" and the use of the term glorification by the Apostle Paul? 34:29-35.
3. Exposition Paper and Exegetical Outline
 Each student will prepare an **Exposition** from a selected text in the Book of Exodus. Each student will include with the Exposition a detailed **Exegetical Outline** of the assigned text. Please select a first, second, and third choice from the following list of Exposition Texts and email your choices to Dr. Nix (pnix@nobts.edu). He will assign the texts in the order in which he receives the emails. The Exposition must reflect use of the two required texts/commentaries plus two (2) other texts/commentaries of choice. The Exposition is to be 10-12 pages in length, double-spaced.
Special Note: A few of the passages in the list are very short and do not provide enough material for an adequate Exposition. As a result, if you desire to cover that material, the shorter text should be combined with the longer passage in its context.

Also, a couple of the passages are very long and you will have to summarize the exegetical material to keep the Exposition within the acceptable length for the paper as stated above. Each student will make a 20-25 minute verbal presentation of the Exposition during the seminar. Consult Turabian 6th edition as format and style guide for the Exposition, especially for footnotes, margins, page numbers, headings, and other form issues. **Students are responsible for downloading or printing other students' papers for their use in the seminar.**

Exposition is presenting, explaining, or expounding a text of Scripture, usually involving commentary and interpretation. In the Exposition you explain, argue, apply and illustrate the material at hand. As stated above, you are to use as references the two assigned commentaries and two additional commentaries. However, be sure that any direct quotes are footnoted and that you limit the number of block quotes. Also, be sure to include your interpretation of the textual material. Do not simply repeat what the commentaries say. When you "expound" in a sermon, you use commentaries for the foundation, but you also tell the listeners how you interpret the text and how it applies to their lives. The Exposition becomes the basis for the fully developed sermon. Remember that Exodus is Old Testament narrative. Truths, principles, applications, and implications must be drawn from the story. Think of it this way -- if a person were completely unfamiliar with that passage of Scripture, and he read your Exposition, when he finished, would he be able to understand that text, what it meant in its context, and how it applies to his Christian journey now?

Exposition Texts

Israel in Egypt - 1:1-2:25	
Description	Passage(s)
Reversal of Fortune: The New Dynasty	1:1-14
The Pharaoh's Genocide	1:15-22
Birth of a Deliverer: Moses	2:1-10
Adulthood, Revolt & Flight	2:11-15
Moses Finds a Home	2:16-22
A Postscript on the Oppression	2:23-25
Moses' Call - 3:1-12:36	
Theophany and Call	3:1-12
The Name of God and It's Meaning	3:13-22
The Signs of Moses' Authority	4:1-9
Moses Goes to Egypt - Leadership Challenged	4:24-26
The Genealogy of Aaron & Moses	6:14-27
Moses and Aaron: The Mission	6:28-7:7
The Plagues: Spiritual Warfare	7:14-11:10 & 12:29-36

(Use The Nile Turned to Blood as Example)	7:14-24
Israel in the Wilderness - 13:17-18:27	
Unleavened Bread and the Firstborn	13:1-16
The Route of the Exodus	13:17-14:4
The Parting of the Sea	14:13-31
The Testing of Yahweh & Moses	17:1-7
The Battle with Amalek	17:8-16
The Necessity of Leadership and the Beginning of the Israelite Legal System	18:13-27
Israel at Sinai - 19:1-40:38	
Israel Prepares for Yahweh's Coming	19:1-15
Yahweh Comes to Israel at Sinai	19:16-25
Yahweh's Principles for Life in Covenant	20:1-17
Israel Response to Yahweh's Coming	20:18-21
The Making of the Covenant: The People and Their Leaders	24:1-18
The Tabernacle	25:1-31:18
(Especially the Altar of Incense ["Most Holy"])	30:1-10
Israel's Sin with the Golden Calf	32:1-6
Moses' Anger & Yahweh's Judgment	32:7-35
The Command to Leave Sinai	33:1-6
The Tent of Meeting	33:7-11
Moses' Plea for Mercy and Yahweh's Answer	33:12-34:9
The Renewal of the Covenant	34:10-28
Moses' Shining Face	34:29-35

4. Final Paper

Each student will submit a **Final Paper**, postmarked on or before October 22, 2015. Hard Copies of the Final Paper only, to be mailed to the NOBTS address, attention Dr. Nix. Choose one (1) of the following options:

Option 1: Prepare a series of **four (4) sermons** from the Book of Exodus composed around a common theme. A one-page **Sermon Brief** is to be prepared for EACH sermon in the series, following the Sermon Brief form attached at the end of the syllabus. In addition to the 4 Sermon Briefs, the student will write a 3-page, double-spaced, **Personal Perspective of preaching a series of expository sermons**, to include the following components:

- a. A working definition of expository preaching

- b. A rationale for preaching a series of sermons from a Bible book
- c. A strategy for how to preach a series of sermons in a local church setting

Option 2: Select **four (4) Theological and/or Doctrinal Issues** from the Book of Exodus and give a 2-page (double-spaced) **Reflection** for each issue. Cite the references from the Book of Exodus where the theological issue is located. Include in your Reflection the applications and/or implications of the issue for preaching in the 21st century church.

Seminar Evaluation

The grade for the seminar will be divided equally as follows:

- 25% Seminar Participation/Reading Report
- 25% Background Brief Paper/Presentation
- 25% Exposition/Outline/Presentation
- 25% Final Paper

Directed Study Requirements

1. Each student will complete all four (4) of the Seminar Requirements listed above.
2. Each student will write an Introduction Paper on the Book of Exodus. The length of the Introduction Paper is to be 8-10 pages, double-spaced. The Introduction Paper is due on or before November 12. Please mail or email to Dr. Parker.
3. Each student will select a text from the Book of Exodus, preach a message from the text, video record the worship service in which the sermon is preached, and submit a 1500 word sermon manuscript of the sermon. The DVD and sermon manuscript are due on or before December 3. Please mail to Dr. Nix.

Sermon Brief Sample

A. Foundational Elements

1. Sermon Title (in quotation marks; headline capitalization style): "Every Christian's Assignment"
2. Text: Matthew 28:19-20
3. Central Idea of the Text (CIT) or Essence of the Text in a Sentence (ETS) [A past-tense statement interpreting what the text meant in its historical context.] Jesus commanded every believer to make disciples of all people groups.
4. Proposition or Essence of the Sermon in a Sentence (ESS) [A present- or future-tense, one-sentence application of the CIT to the contemporary context]: Jesus calls us not only to come to Him but also to go for Him.
5. Purpose or Thesis [A brief statement of what the speaker specifically hopes to accomplish in the lives of the primary audience with this particular message on this particular occasion]: Hearers will intentionally share Jesus and be involved in disciple-making.

B. Formal Elements

Introduction: Brief paragraph of introduction.

The assignment Jesus had while on Earth is now every Christian's assignment. Jesus saves us and then we are sent out as His followers to continue what Jesus started. The Great Commission is not the Great Suggestion. Our assignment is mandatory.

Our assignment is three-dimensional. Consider the three dimensions of every Christian's assignment.

Main Points:

- I. It is a Personal Assignment – (Matthew 28:19a) "Go"
 1. Jesus commanded every person to make disciples – "as you are going."
 2. Sharing Jesus is our personal assignment.

- II. It is a Proportional Assignment – (Matthew 29: 19a) "Go and make disciples of every nation."
 1. Jesus defined the limits of our assignment.
 2. The limit is that there is no limit – "all ethna."

- III. It is a Practical Assignment – (Matthew 28:19-20) "Go and make disciples of every nation, baptizing them....teaching them."
 1. Jesus simplified every Christian's assignment – "them."
 2. All of us have "thems" we can influence.

Conclusion: Brief paragraph of conclusion.

Rick Warren's father's last words – "Got to win one more for Jesus."

Selected Bibliography

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Childs, B.S. *The Book of Exodus, Old Testament Library*. Westminster: SCM, 1974.

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Dunnam, Maxie D. *Exodus, Communicator's Commentary*. Waco: Word, 1987.

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Kaiser, W.C. Jr. *Exodus, Expositor's Bible Commentary*, Vol. 2. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990.

Mackay, John. *Exodus, A Mentor Commentary*. Mentor Press, 2001.

Meyers, Carol. *Exodus in the New Cambridge Bible Commentary*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

Motyer, J.A. *Exodus, The Bible Speaks Today*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2005.

Ryken, Philip. *Exodus*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2005.

Sarna, Nahum M. *Exodus, The JPS Torah Commentary*. Philadelphia & New York: The Jewish Publication Society, 1991.

Stuart, Douglas K. *Exodus, The New American Commentary*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishing Group, 2006.