



**BSOT8301 Expository Preaching from the Old
Testament (Joshua)
Doctor of Ministry Seminar
Fall Workshop
August 28-30, 2023**

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Mission Statement

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

Course Description

This seminar centers on preparing expository sermons and deriving homiletical values from selected portions of the Old Testament. The work is aimed at providing a model upon which students can establish an effective life-discipline of study and sermon preparation in the Book of Joshua.

Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete the requirements of this course will be able to:

1. Demonstrate competence in using the principles of biblical hermeneutics within the historical narrative genre (historical & literary context; genre analysis; word studies; and content analysis).
2. Create exegetical information necessary as the pre-work for homiletical exposition.
3. Organize a series of exegetical-expository sermons from selected texts in the Book of Joshua.
4. Compose a complete sermon (manuscript) that indicates integration and characterization of sound exegetical-homiletical principles.

Student Learning Outcomes

Knowledge

Students who complete this course successfully should:

- Know the background information for understanding the authorship, date, theological themes, and critical issues in the Book of Joshua.
- Know the interpretative issues for understanding the challenging passages in the historical narratives—particularly in the Book of Joshua—and how these issues relate to proper exegesis of Joshua.
- Know the literary structure of the Book of Joshua, as well as understand the author's intention, especially by how the various emphases in the Book are arranged.
- Know the various interpretative views on the critical issues.
- Discern how Joshua's message impacted his original audience and then apply this intent exegetically to the contemporary church setting.

Attitude

Students who complete this course successfully should:

- Appreciate the richness of the Book of Joshua in its spiritual message to the original hearers and contemporary audiences.
- Appreciate the ecclesiastical guidance of the Book of Joshua for all churches.
- Appreciate the Old Testament theology of the Book of Joshua related to spiritual formation as a servant of God, overcoming opposition, confronting sin, and living well in obedience as God's chosen people.

Skills

Students who complete this course successfully should:

- Understand how to employ the Book of Joshua in pastoral ministry.
- Understand how to connect the historical context of the Book of Joshua to the contemporary context of the Church.
- Understand how to develop exegetical messages.
- Understand how to deliver expository messages.

Course Purpose

Sound exegesis is foundational to persuasive preaching. Working with the Book of Joshua, this course seeks to prepare those in proclamation ministry for the task of expository preaching. As such, the Church Ministry Division and Biblical Studies Division desire to help develop proclamation skills in the area of Old Testament history, word studies, and theological analysis, all while remaining sensitive to the task of "rightly dividing the Word of God."

Course Methods

1. This seminar will be primarily a series of directed studies under constant professorial supervision.
2. Lecture and group discussion.
3. Student PPT/Media presentations and paper presentations modeling the competencies for both biblical studies and homiletics.

Textbooks

Howard, David M., Jr. *Joshua: The New American Commentary*. Nashville: B&H Books, 1998.
(Read the Introduction, pp. 25-68.) Reading due by 8/28.

Chisholm, Robert B., Jr. *Interpreting the Historical Books: An Exegetical Handbook*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic and Professional, 2006. **Reading due by 12/1.**

McConville, J. Gordon, and Stephen N. Williams. *Joshua*. The Two Horizons Old Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 2010. **Reading due by 12/1.**

Articles or Chapters

Hess, Richard S. "Part 2: Historical Books–Joshua," in *The Old Testament: A Historical, Theological, and Critical Introduction* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2016), 155-93. (These pages will be made available to you in a pdf file.) **Reading due by 8/28.**

Recommended, optional Texts:

Butler, Trent C. *Joshua 1-12*. Vol. 7a, Word Biblical Commentary. Second edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2014.

_____. *Joshua 13-24*. Vol. 7b, Word Biblical Commentary. Second edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2014.

Course Requirements

1. **Historical Background of the Book of Joshua:** Each student will complete a 8-10 page, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12pt. font, Turabian formatted **Historical Background paper** on the Book of Joshua. **Due on arrival for the first seminar meeting on 8/28.**
2. **Structural analysis** of the Book of Joshua: **Detailed Outline** of the Book of Joshua. Give credit where influenced by the work of others. **Due on 9/15.**
3. **PowerPoint (or other media) presentation on the historical setting or background of an assigned text** (Consult with [Dr. Nix for your choice of texts](#).) in the Book of Joshua. No more than 10 slides; no more than 15 minutes. (5-15 min). **Presented in class.**
4. **PowerPoint (or other media) presentation on the big ideas/themes (homiletical and theological) that a preaching series should address when preaching the Book of Joshua** ([Consult with Dr. England](#) as needed.). No more than 15 slides (15 min). Be precise yet creative. Definitely use charts, graphs, and pictures—especially those of archaeological or geographical significance to the text. The McConville & Williams textbook will be a helpful resource. **Presented in class.**
5. **Word Study:** Prepare a word study on a word (or group of related words) in the Book of Joshua consisting of 3-5 pages, double-spaced. **Due on 9/29.**
6. **Sermon Briefs:** Each student will develop a **Sermon Series** consisting of **five Sermon Briefs** (utilizing attached Sermon Brief Form) from the Book of Joshua, implementing sound exegetical foundations for preaching (i.e., historical background, literary structure, content analysis, and homiletical skills). **Each student will bring one completed Sermon Brief from the Sermon Series to be presented and critiqued in the seminar. The selected text of the Sermon Brief should consist of a full pericope for a true expository sermon.** Provide a brief **Introduction to the Sermon Series** indicating a name for the Series, stating the purpose of the series, and explaining the reasons for the selection of the particular texts included in the Series. **The remaining four Sermon Briefs are due on 10/27.**

7. Each student will develop a single-spaced, Times New Roman 12pt. font, Turabian formatted full **Sermon Manuscript** from one of the Sermon Briefs. Although an Exegetical Paper on the selected passage for the Sermon Manuscript is not a required assignment for the course, the Explanation Section of the Sermon Manuscript should reflect the fact that a thorough exegesis of the selected text has been done. The Functional Elements of Explanation, Illustration, Application, and possibly Argumentation should be included in the Sermon Manuscript along with transition statements. An Invitation indicating desired response from the congregation should be included. A brief introductory paragraph should explain the place of the selected text for the full Sermon Manuscript in the overall Sermon Series. **The Sermon Manuscript is due on 11/10.**

All assignments will be submitted in the Canvas course shell except for the two PPT/Media presentations and the initial Sermon Brief which will be submitted in Google docs in order that all students can have access to them. The links will be sent to you in a separate email.

Course Evaluation

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|--|-----|
| 1. Historical Background Paper | 15% |
| 2. Structural Analysis/Outline | 10% |
| 3. Two Media Presentations | 10% |
| 4. Word Study | 10% |
| 5. Series of five Sermon Briefs based on sound exegetical foundations for preaching from the Book of Joshua (With one presented in class) | 25% |
| 6. A complete Sermon Manuscript developed from one of the sermon briefs previously identified | 20% |
| 7. Read all of the required textbook materials; attend and participate in the seminar for all sessions of all three days (no tardies or absences). | 10% |

Course Rules

Attendance: *See the Catalog.*

Make-Up & Extra Credit: *None are allowed.*

Fulfilling the Terms of the Syllabus

No student will receive a passing grade in this course if all major assignments are not completed. **Failure to submit any major assignment will result in failure of the course.** A letter grade drop per day results for any work not submitted on time! Moreover, the professors reserve the right to refuse any work submitted later than seven days after the due date.

Daily Schedule for August 28-30, 2023

August 28: Monday 1-3

Devotion (FIRST)_____

Syllabus Overview/Clarification

The Task of Expository Preaching (Nix)

Impact of Backgrounds and Genre (England)

Impact of the Structure of Joshua on Preaching from the Book (England)

August 28: Monday 4-6

Devotion (SECOND)_____

Passage PowerPoint (15 minutes)

First _____

Second _____

Third _____

Fourth _____

Fifth _____

August 29: Tuesday morning 8-11

Devotion (THIRD)_____

Thematic PowerPoint (25 minutes)

First _____

Second _____

Third _____

Fourth _____

Fifth _____

August 29: Tuesday afternoon, 1-4

Devotion (FOURTH)_____

How to Do a Word Study (England)

How to Preach a Word Study (Nix)

August 30: Wednesday morning, 8-11

Devotion (FIFTH)_____

Sermon Briefs, First_____

Second_____

Third_____

August 30: Wednesday afternoon, 1-4

Devotion _____

Sermon Briefs, Fourth_____

Fifth_____

Wrap Up

Selected Bibliography

Old Testament Introductions and Survey

- Arnold, Bill T. and Bryan E. Beyer. *Encountering the Old Testament: A Christian Survey*. Third edition. Baker, 2015.
- Chisholm, Robert B., Jr. *Interpreting the Historical Books: An Exegetical Handbook*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic and Professional, 2006.
- Collins, John J. *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible*. Second edition. Fortress, 2014.
- Coogan, Michael D. and Cynthia R. Chapman. *The Old Testament: A Historical and Literary Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures*. Fourth edition. Oxford University Press, 2017.
- Hess, Richard S. *The Old Testament: A Historical, Theological, and Critical Introduction*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2016.
- Hill, Andrew E. and John H. Walton. *A Survey of the Old Testament*. Third edition. Zondervan, 2009.

Selected Commentaries

Theology

- Anderson, Bernard W. *Contours of Old Testament Theology*. Fortress, 1999.
- Barr, James. *The Concept of Biblical Theology: An Old Testament Perspective*. SCM, 1999.
- Boda, Mark J. *The Heartbeat of Old Testament Theology: Three Credal Expressions*. In *Acadia Studies in Biblical and Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2017.
- Brueggemann, Walter. *Theology of the Old Testament: Testimony, Dispute, Advocacy*. Fortress, 1997.
- _____. *Old Testament Theology: An Introduction*. Fortress, 2008.
- Childs, Brevard S. *Old Testament Theology in a Canonical Context*. Fortress, 1986.
- Eichrodt, W. *Theology of the Old Testament*. 2 vols. OTL. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1961.
- Goldingay, John. *Old Testament Theology*. Volume One. "Israel's Gospel." InterVarsity Press, 2003; Volume Two. "Israel's Faith." InterVarsity Press, 2006; Volume Three. "Israel's Life." InterVarsity Press, 2009.
- Hasel, Gerhard. *Old Testament Theology: Basic Issues in the Current Debate*. Fourth edition. Eerdmans, 1995.
- House, Paul R. *Old Testament Theology*. IVP, 1998.

- Kaiser, W.C., Jr. *Toward an Old Testament Theology*. Zondervan, 1978.
- Martens, Elmer A. ed. *Old Testament Theology. Bibliographies*, No. 13. Baker, 1997.
- Ollenburger, Ben C., Elmer A. Marten, and Gerhard F. Hasel, eds. *The Flowering of Old Testament Theology. Sources for Biblical and Theological Study*. Eisenbrauns, 1992.
- Sailhammer, John H. *Introduction to Old Testament Theology: A Canonical Approach*. Zondervan, 1995.
- Smith, Ralph L. *Old Testament Theology: Its History, Method, and Message*. Broadman & Holman, 1993.
- Terrien, S. *The Elusive Presence: Toward a New Biblical Theology*. Harper and Row, 1978.
- Vanhoozer, Kevin J. ed. *Theological Interpretation of the Old Testament: A Book by Book Survey*. Baker, 2008.
- Von Rad, G. *Old Testament Theology*. 2 vols. Harper and Row, 1967.
- Waltke, Bruce K. *An Old Testament Theology: An Exegetical, Canonical, and Thematic Approach*. Zondervan, 2007.
- Zimmerli, Walther. *Old Testament Theology in Outline*. John Knox, 1978.
- Zuck, Roy B., ed. *A Biblical Theology of the Old Testament*. Moody, 1991.

Old Testament Commentaries

- Butler, Trent C. Joshua 1-12 and Joshua 13-24. 2 volumes: 7A-7B, Word Biblical Commentary. Second edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2014.
- Davis, Dale Ralph. *Joshua: No Falling Words*. In *Focus on the Bible*. Scotland: Christian Focus Publishing, 2000.
- Hess, Richard S. *Joshua: Tyndale Old Testament Commentary*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2008.
- Howard, David M., Jr. *Joshua: The New American Commentary*. Nashville: B&H Books, 1998.
- Hubbard, Robert L., Jr. *Joshua: NIV Application Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2009.
- McConville, J. Gordon, and Stephen N. Williams. *Joshua. The Two Horizons Old Testament Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 2010.
- Woudstra, Marten H. *The Book of Joshua: The New International Commentary on the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 1981.

SERMON BRIEF

Rhetorical Sermon Outline

A. Foundational Elements

1. Sermon Title (in quotation marks; headline capitalization style):
2. Text:
3. Subject (in one or two words--or as a short phrase):
4. ETS (Essence of the Text in a Sentence--state in the past tense):
5. ESS (Essence of the Sermon in a Sentence--also called the Proposition/Thesis; do not state in the past tense):
6. OSS (Objective of the Sermon in a Sentence--state in terms of what hearers will **do** as a result of this sermon): Hearers will....

B. Formal Elements

Introduction (Short paragraph)

Body (Include **Functional Elements** [in abbreviated form or bullet points]: Explanation [most space], Illustration, and Application [and possible Argumentation] for each major point.)

- I.
 - 1. (May or may not have sub points)
 - 2.
- II.
 - 1.
 - 2.
- III.
 - 1.
 - 2.

Conclusion (Paragraph)

Invitation (Statement as to how it will be extended for desired response)

Notes

1. The number of points may vary within the formal elements from the numbers shown above.
2. All main points (i.e., I, II, etc.) in the sermon body outline must be **referenced to the text** (e.g., I. The Motive of Salvation, John 3:16a; II. The Means of Salvation, John 3:16b).
3. Write all sermon body main points in headline capitalization style (e.g., The Motive of Salvation). Write all lesser points under the main points in sentence capitalization style (e.g., The personal motive). State points of message in terms of listeners. Strive for Homiletical/Rhetorical Outline rather than Exegetical/Bible Study Outline.