

# Syllabus for Old Testament Survey III (OTE 503)

## Prophetic Books: Isaiah through Malachi

### Front Range Bible Institute

### Professor Aaron Otten (Spring 2015)

## Course Description

The third of three courses which together survey the entire Old Testament, devoting special attention to the major lessons of each book. This third course covers the prophetic books from Isaiah through Malachi.

This course examines the historical, cultural, and geographical setting in a broad sense for the Old Testament. We will also examine the major themes, purpose, and structure of each OT book, while evaluating the major criticisms associated with each book. We will also emphasize both the understanding of the text and the applications to Christian living, along with the correlation with the New Testament.

## Course Objectives

- I. To survey the prophetic books of Isaiah through Malachi in a broad, expositional manner.
- II. To gain a working understanding of the Old Testament and to facilitate a better grasp of the big picture of the Bible. To grasp the basic geography and general chronology of the Old Testament era, and get a survey of the different cultures and people groups included in the OT. To fit the unfolding drama of God's revealed plan and purpose into its historical human setting.
- III. To state the theme and major emphasis of each Bible book and show its relationship to other parts of the Scripture.
- IV. To offer solutions to certain selected key problems in passages.
- V. To promote a worldview that is derived from godly wisdom and Biblical insight. To apply that worldview in practical living, piety, and one's spiritual growth.
- VI. To grow in love with God and Christ-likeness by applying the magnificent spiritual lessons about God and His covenantal purposes to our own personal, practical walk with Him. To be encouraged as a Christian.
- VII. To develop life long learners, leading the students to apprehend Biblical truth for themselves.

## Course Material.

- A. A NASB or ESV Bible. Preferably a Study Bible.
- B. All Students: *Talk Through The Bible: A Quick Guide to Help You Get More Out of the Bible.* By Bruce Wilkinson and Ken Boa. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2005.

- C. Master Level only. *Minor Prophets*, by Charles L. Feinberg: Moody Publishers, January 1990.
- D. Copy of professor's notes, supplied on the first day of class.

## Course Requirements

### A. Attendance:

Each student should be faithful in attendance. The student is completely responsible for making up any work missed and for securing any material missed in absence. If the student misses more than 2 classes, then their final grade will be lowered a full letter grade. You can not miss more than 3 classes without teacher consent.

The class may be recorded and the video posted on the Front Range Bible Institute youtube.com site. It is the student's responsibility to get the proper codes for access to these videos. These access codes are obtained from the school director or the teacher. The course video is not a way to circumvent the class attendance requirements, but a way to keep up with the material when class is missed.

### B. Final Grade Percentage.

The grading system for this class, implemented with the final grade average, is as follows:

- Grade A: 100% - 92.0%
- Grade B: 91.9% - 84.0%
- Grade C: 83.9% - 76.0%
- Grade D: 75.9% - 68.0%
- Grade F: 67.9% - 0%

### C. Assignments:

1. **Bible Reading:** The following books of the Bible OT will be required reading during this semester. Your reading will be reported on the bi-weekly quizzes. Do not assume that the order of the books correlates with the order in the Bible. Please refer to the class schedule for the reading order of the specific books.

The books for this class:

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| a. Isaiah   | i. Obadiah   |
| b. Jeremiah | j. Joel      |
| c. Ezekiel  | k. Micah     |
| d. Daniel   | l. Habakkuk  |
| e. Hosea    | m. Zephaniah |
| f. Amos     | n. Zechariah |
| g. Jonah    | o. Haggai    |
| h. Nahum    | p. Malachi   |

These books shall be read once for the Bachelor and Certificate Level; while the Master Students are required to scan once and read once. Your reading will be reported on the bi-weekly quizzes.

Scanning. Scanning is reading quickly, with the aim of only spending 10-30 seconds per chapter. Getting familiar with order of the story, the chapter location for the big and hot topics, and noticing the amount of scripture is spent on a single subject or story.

Readings. Reading for comprehension. Being able to recount the story, know the big facts associated with the subject matter, and being able to think about the story. You should be developing questions from this level of reading. If you are not developing a list of questions from this stage of reading, then you are not reading deeply enough. Questions are great indicators of comprehension and examination of the story.

2. **Scripture Memory** - All students must memorize the assigned Scripture verses. Each student is to write out the verses with no helps. You must memorize the verse in either the NASB or ESV translations. The memory verse will be tested on the quizzes.

Quiz 1 memory verse: Isaiah 6:6-7

Quiz 2 memory verse: Jeremiah 31:33-34

Quiz 3 memory verse: Daniel 9:24

Quiz 4 memory verse: Amos 9:14-15

Quiz 5 memory verse: Zechariah 12:10

3. **Supplemental Reading:**

- a. All Students:

*Talk Through The Bible: A Quick Guide to Help You Get More Out of the Bible.* By Bruce Wilkinson and Ken Boa. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2005. Reading will be reported on the quizzes.

- b. Masters level includes *Talk Through the Bible* and the following book:

Master Level only. *Minor Prophets*, by Charles L. Feinberg: Moody Publishers, January 1990. This book must be finished by Class 9, and the reading amount will be reported on Quiz #4.

4. **Research and Presentation Projects.**

- a. The student shall choose one of the following minor prophetic books to research for the purpose of writing a 3 page paper and present the material in a 15 minute segment in class. The due date for the class presentations are defined by the syllabus, pertaining to the day when that book is presented in class. The due date for the 3 page paper is the same day as the presentation.

- b. Minor prophets that are acceptable for research:

- |         |             |
|---------|-------------|
| ▪ Hosea | ▪ Zephaniah |
| ▪ Amos  | ▪ Zechariah |
| ▪ Nahum | ▪ Haggai    |
| ▪ Joel  | ▪ Malachi   |
| ▪ Micah |             |

- c. The student must research this subject using 3 credible book sources, usually a respected commentary will do (don't even think about using the internet or Wikipedia). These sources must be identified in a bibliography

on a single page at the end of the paper. Footnotes are fine, but not necessary.

Note: Master Level Students must write a 5 page paper, provide at least 4 credible sources, and make a 20 minute presentation.

- d. For the 15 minute class presentation, the student must provide a single page handout, to be distributed for your presentation. Please bring enough handouts for all other students and the teacher.
- e. The primary scope of this report is to determine the historical context of the book. Look for the historical issues that the prophet was addressing, and the historically relevant verses that help scholars determine the who-s and what-s of the book. What do we know about the author? Also highlight any Christological applications and any references to the Holy Spirit and New Covenant.

The paper may cover anything else, but make sure that the paper is not simply a Bible study of the book; this is a research paper, primarily focused on the historical setting of this minor prophet. The book should answer the question of why the prophet is writing and to whom the prophet is writing. You shall conclude the paper by answering if or how the book should be used by NT saints.

- f. Format of the paper. This is a research paper and should be formatted as such. Write the 3 page document in paragraph form with complete sentences, single-spaced, typed, regular sized paper, simply stapled in corner, and 12 point font. The margins should not exceed 1 inch on any edge. Remove the extra spacing between paragraphs that Word automatically creates. Do not provide a cover page, and place the bibliographical material on its own separate page at the end.

Format of the class presentation handout is at the student's discretion.

## Course Grading

### Bachelor and Certificate Level:

A. Bible Reading	25%
B. Supplemental Reading, <i>TTTB</i>	20%
C. Bible Memorization	10%
D. Quiz Material	20%
E. Research Presentation Project	25%

### Masters Level:

A. Bible Reading and Scanning	20%
B. Supplemental Reading, <i>TTTB</i>	10%
C. Other Book Reading, Feinberg	10%
D. Bible Memorization	10%
E. Quiz Material	25%
F. Research Presentation Project	25%

# Course Schedule

	<b>Material Covered in Class</b>	<b>Due at Beginning of Class</b>
Class 1	Introduction to class: Discuss syllabus and class notes Discuss course requirements. Introduction to the Prophetic books	n/a
Class 2	Isaiah	READ: Isaiah READ: TTTB
Class 3	Isaiah	READ: Isaiah READ: TTTB
Class 4	<b>QUIZ #1</b> Jeremiah	READ: Jeremiah READ: TTTB
Class 5	Ezekiel	READ: Ezekiel READ: TTTB
Class 6	<b>QUIZ #2</b> Daniel	READ: Daniel READ: TTTB
Class 7	Habakkuk [Bible Study Night. Invite your friends]	READ: Habakkuk READ: TTTB
Class 8	<b>QUIZ #3</b> Hosea, Amos, Jonah, Nahum (Possible student report on Hosea, Amos, and/or Nahum)	READ: Hosea, Amos, Jonah and Nahum READ: TTTB

Class 9	<b>QUIZ #4</b> Obadiah, Joel, and Micah (Possible student report on Joel and/or Micah)	READ: Obadiah, Joel, and Micah READ: TTTB *READ: Feinberg book
Class 10	Zephaniah and Zechariah (Possible student report on Zephaniah and/or Zechariah)	READ: Zephaniah and Zechariah READ: TTTB
Class 11	<b>QUIZ #5</b> Haggai and Malachi (Possible student report on Haggai and/or Malachi)	READ: Haggai and Malachi READ: TTTB

“\*” = Signifies material due for Masters Level.

“TTTB” = *Talk Through The Bible*. Read corresponding material in book that pertains to the content of that class.

**Dates:**

Class 1	Tuesday, March 31, 2015	Class 7	Tuesday, May 12, 2015
Class 2	Tuesday, April 7, 2015	Class 8	Tuesday, May 19, 2015
Class 3	Tuesday, April 14, 2015	Class 9	Tuesday, May 26, 2015
Class 4	Tuesday, April 21, 2015	Class 10	Tuesday, June 2, 2015
Class 5	Tuesday, April 28, 2015	Class 11	Tuesday, June 9, 2015
Class 6	Tuesday, May 5, 2015		