

Syllabus for New Testament Survey II (NTE 502)

Pauline Epistles & Revelation

Front Range Bible Institute

Professor Aaron Otten (Winter 2018)

Course Description

The second of two courses which together survey the entire New Testament, devoting special attention to the major lessons of each book. This first course covers the Gospels, Acts, and General Epistles, leaving the Pauline epistles and Revelation to this second course. Because of the historical correlation between Acts and the Pauline epistles, and the general importance of Acts to a study of the New Testament, the book of Acts is a part of the curriculum of both classes and an assignment has been added to this class that covers the book of Acts.

This course examines the historical, cultural, and geographical setting generally for the New Testament. Examines the major themes, purpose, and structure of each NT book, while evaluating the major criticisms associated with each book. Emphasizes both the understanding of the text and the applications to Christian living.

Course Objectives

- I. To survey the Pauline Epistles and Revelation in a broad, expositional manner. The book of Acts will also be studied in this class.
- II. To gain a working understanding of the New Testament and to facilitate a better grasp of the big picture of the Bible. To grasp the basic geography and general chronology of the New Testament era, and get a survey of the different cultures and people groups included in the NT.
- III. To state the theme and major emphasis of each Bible book and also to show its relationship to other parts of the Scripture.
- IV. To fit the unfolding drama of God's revealed plan and purpose into its historical human setting.
- V. To offer solutions to certain selected key problems in passages.
- VI. To promote a worldview that is derived from godly wisdom and Biblical insight. To apply that worldview in matters of practical living, piety, and one's spiritual growth.
- VII. To grow in love for God and Christ-likeness by applying the magnificent spiritual lessons about God and His covenant purposes to our own personal, practical walk with Him. To be encouraged in your existence, purpose, and future as a Christian.
- VIII. 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. Bachelor and Certificate Level only: *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's Students only. *An Introduction to the New Testament, Three Volume Collection*. By D. Edmond Hiebert. Gabriel Publishing, 2003. Make sure you get the three volume collection and not the separate volumes.
- 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.

- 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:** Each of the Bible books covered in this class is to be read twice (Romans through Philemon, and Revelation). The Master Level students will also scan the book. Hence the Master Level student will go through the Bible reading 3 times (1 scan + 2 read). Your reading will be reported on the 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: Galatians 2:20

Quiz 2 memory verse: Romans 12:1-2

Quiz 3 memory verse: 2 Corinthians 5:10

Quiz 4 memory verse: Ephesians 1:3-4

Quiz 5 memory verse: 2 Timothy 1:13-14

3. **Supplemental Reading:**

- a. Bachelor and Certificate level only:

- 1) *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. Required reading: pages 367-447 and 509-523. Reading will be reported on the quizzes.

- b. Masters level only:

- 1) *An Introduction to the New Testament, Three Volume Collection.* By D. Edmond Hiebert. Required reading: all of Volume II; and Volume III, pages 231-283. Reading will be reported on the quizzes.

4. **Acts Book Chart:** The student will follow the format presented in class, which charts the book of Acts. The format is important, along with the main subjects flowing through the book (to be provided by teacher). More on this project to be supplied in class.

There are many format issues to implement with this project. One format issue is that the top summary separations must be done for each chapter. There should be a synopsis of each chapter. Keep the material in this section very factual in describing the elements in the chapter without adding nor preaching.

5. **Philippians 1 Thesis Paper.** Write a two-page paper in paragraph, essay form with complete sentences, single-spaced, typed, regular sized paper, and 12 point font. The content of the paper is for the student to defining the main theme of Philippians 1:12-26 and supporting why you think this is the main idea. Things to investigate to defend your position on the main idea:

- a. Why is this text here? What is the purpose? What is the main idea?
- b. Can the main idea be found in a specific verse, phrase, or word?
- c. How is the rest of the content of this section connected with the main idea and what is the flow of logic from this main idea?
- d. Is this main idea dealing with salvation issues or sanctification issues?
- e. What is this text trying to accomplish within the reader?

Note. Don't make you paper an answer to these questions above, for they are purposed to help you find the main idea.

6. **Romans 7 Thesis Paper.** Assignment only for Master Level Students. Write a two-page paper in paragraph essay form with complete sentences, single-spaced, typed, regular sized paper, and 12 point font. No cover page necessary (name, date, and title at top); nothing fancy. The content of the paper is defining the main theme of Romans 7:13-25 and supporting why you think this is the main idea. Is this section dealing with salvation (past) issues or sanctification (present) issues? This is very important in finding the thesis idea. You must first determine if Paul is talking about himself as a Christian or as a non-Christian. Explore the whole context and support your findings. If you defend a present sanctification view of this section, you must address (7:14), and how it works with the section.
- Things to investigate to defend your position on the main idea:
- Why is this text here? What is the purpose? What is the biggest verse, phrase, or word?
 - How is the rest of the content of this section connected with the main idea and what is the flow of logic from this main idea?
 - What is this text trying to accomplish within the reader?
- Note. Don't make you paper an answer to these questions above, for they are purposed to help you find the main idea.

7. **Synopsis Papers.**

- Synopsis papers are due after the book is presented in class, as specified by the syllabus. The books that the student will summarize are as follows: **Romans 6-7 and 1 Corinthians.** (Master level students will also complete a synopsis paper for **Philippians**) The grade will reflect a quantity of material in filling the page. Make the synopsis useful and concise because the primary use of the material is for the students own overview. Don't worry about complete sentences. Be particular in following the provided format (font size and type, spacing, underlines) as discussed in class.
- For each assigned book of the New Testament turn in a one-page paper that addresses the following:
 - **Thesis Statement.** A short and meaningful summary sentence of the entire book or section of scripture. It is suggested that you complete this after doing the rest of the assignment. Please make a statement in your own words (don't simply copy a smarter theologian). Your understanding of this book can be surmised by your effort in this thesis statement.
 - **Section titles and summary statements.** The section breaks will be provided by teacher in the synopsis format document, though they may be modified at student's desire.
 - **Themes, purposes, and application of the theologies addressed.** Include any themes of interest that were not highlighted in the

main thesis statement. More freedom is allowed in this section. Please, don't simply reiterate the main thesis already stated.

- Key verse(s)/passage(s). Location and quick summary. Don't write the verse out, but simply summarize the idea in the verse.

Course Grading

Bachelor and Certificate Level:

A. Bible Reading	20%
B. Supplemental Reading, <i>TTTB</i>	20%
C. Bible Memorization	10%
D. Quiz Material	20%
E. Synopsis Papers	15%
F. Acts Book Chart	10%
G. Philippians Thesis paper	5%

Masters Level:

A. Bible Reading	15%
B. Supplemental Reading, <i>EH</i>	15%
C. Bible Memorization	10%
D. Quiz Material	10%
E. Synopsis Papers	20%
F. Acts Book Chart	10%
G. Philippians Thesis paper	10%
H. Romans Thesis paper	10%

Course Schedule

	Material Covered in Class	Due at Beginning of Class
Class 1	Introduction to class: Discuss syllabus and class notes Discuss course requirements. Discuss synopsis papers. Discuss Acts Book Chart project Introduction to NT. General topics	n/a
Class 2	Galatians	READ: Galatians READ: <i>TTTB</i> *READ: <i>EH</i>
Class 3	QUIZ #1 Romans 1-5	READ: Romans READ: <i>TTTB</i> *READ: <i>EH</i>
Class 4	Romans 6-16	* DUE: Romans 7 Thesis Paper
Class 5	QUIZ #2 1 & 2 Corinthians	READ: 1 & 2 Corinthians READ: <i>TTTB</i> *READ: <i>EH</i> DUE: Romans 6-7 Synopsis Page
Class 6	1 & 2 Thessalonians	READ: 1 & 2 Thessalonians READ: <i>TTTB</i> *READ: <i>EH</i> DUE: 1 Corinthians Synopsis Page
Class 7	QUIZ #3 Ephesians [Bible study night. Invite your friends]	READ: Ephesians READ: <i>TTTB</i> *READ: <i>EH</i> DUE: Philippians 1 Thesis paper

Class 8	Philippians	READ: Philippians READ: <i>TTTB</i> *READ: <i>EH</i>
Class 9	QUIZ #4 1 Timothy and 2 Timothy	READ: 1 & 2 Timothy READ: <i>TTTB</i> *READ: <i>EH</i> *DUE: Philippians Synopsis Page
Class 10	Colossians, Titus, and Philemon	READ: Colossians, Titus & Philemon READ: <i>TTTB</i> *READ: <i>EH</i> DUE: Acts Book Chart
Class 11	QUIZ #5 Revelation	READ: Revelation READ: <i>TTTB</i> *READ: <i>EH</i>

“*” = Signifies material due for Masters Level.

“*TTTB*” = *Talk Through The Bible*. Read the *TTTB* book material that corresponds to the Bible book particular to that class.

“*EH*” = *An Introduction to the New Testament*. By D. Edmond Hiebert. Read the *EH* book material that corresponds to the Bible book particular to that class.

Dates:

Class 1	Tuesday, January 9, 2018	Class 7	Tuesday, February 20, 2018
Class 2	Tuesday, January 16, 2018	Class 8	Tuesday, February 27, 2018
Class 3	Tuesday, January 23, 2018	Class 9	Tuesday, March 6, 2018
Class 4	Tuesday, January 30, 2018	Class 10	Tuesday, March 13, 2018
Class 5	Tuesday, February 6, 2018	Class 11	Tuesday, March 20, 2018
Class 6	Tuesday, February 13, 2018		

Bibliography

[not necessarily recommended, but books that I can comment on]

Carson, D. A., Douglas J. Moo. *An Introduction to the New Testament, Second Edition*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

Personal comments: Highly theological book. Recommended for anyone that will be studying the NT in a technical manner. It is less of a presentation of the ideas Carson and Moo, and more of an evaluation of the different theological issues surrounding the NT introduction material. It demands a high vocabulary, especially one familiar with seminary level theological words. Also the authors are quoting many other theologians that are not commonly known. I found myself skimming over some paragraphs because the material was getting tedious and the topic address was no longer of interest. Highly informational as a preparatory book when technically studying a specific NT book. This book may be best for someone that has finished seminary and is looking to add to their knowledge of the NT.

Chrispin, Gerard. *The Bible Panorama, Enjoying the whole Bible with a chapter-by-chapter guide*. Leominster, UK: Day One Publications, 1982.

Personal comments: Really nice cover and looks really good on your shelf. But not much nice to say about this book other than if you need help with alliterations, this book can help. Read the Bible and not this book, which simply presents a cliff notes view of the chapters. The introductions to each book are too simply. This book is not recommended for anybody.

Gundry, Robert H. *A Survey of the New Testament, 4th edition*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.

Personal comment: Lots of colorful pictures and maps, actually it is a bit overwhelming with the pictures. Reminds me of a high school history book. Not much on charts or organizing themes of the Bible. Not much technical data, and needs more on presentation. Probably a good resource for a Christian high school, but less for a seminary level. I would not recommend buying this book.

Hiebert, D. Edmond. *An Introduction to the New Testament, Three Volume Collection*. Waynesboro, Georgia: Gabriel Publishing, 2003.

Personal comments: An excellent introduction to the New Testament. It presents the historical information about the book appropriately, along with a critical examination of the ideas of other theologians. Only problem is that the material is not presented in an eye-catching way. No informational charts. No pictures. The internal aspects of the NT books were more theological and less pragmatic. Maybe a bit intimidating in the length of the reading. The outlines of the NT books were the only tedious aspects of the chapters. Highly recommend this book for college and seminary level.

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

Personal comments: This book covers the whole Bible, and not simply the NT. It has an excellent approach and presents the conservative position very well (as expected coming out of Dallas Theological). The summaries of the books may be a bit too simplified (on a high school level and not a masters level), but it gives an excellent overview of the introduction material. Very good charts of book information. Good maps of the areas of interest. The topics covered for each book were very informative, especially the key verses. I would recommend this book for an easy read of the NT introduction material.