

# Syllabus for NT Theology (BST 606)

## Front Range Bible Institute (Winter 2016)

### Professor Tim Dane

## I. Course Description

New Testament (NT) Theology is a course designed to focus on the major theological themes and nuances of the NT. It overlaps with traditional systematic theology courses in that it addresses many of the same doctrinal topics but the emphasis is more upon the distinct doctrinal themes that one finds coming out of the text. In this sense it really is more of a “biblical theology” course rather than “systematic theology” course.

The course will have classroom lectures that are primarily based upon the professor’s notes and visual presentations, although the format will not be in a pure lecture form. Students are encouraged to participate by asking and answering questions and taking notes. Detailed notes will be provided, but the student is encouraged to make additions in the margins based upon classroom discussions that will expand and elaborate. The students should also be writing interaction papers from all of their reading that can serve as a basis for questions and comments in the classroom.

## II. Course Objectives

- A. One objective of this class is to become more personally familiar with the content of the NT through direct interaction with the text.
- B. A second objective is to have the students recognize the major theological themes that come out through the NT. It is not merely the idea of seeing the doctrines that are there, but especially of seeing those that are bringing a completion to trajectories from the OT and those that are distinctively new through the NT.
- C. An overarching objective is that these studies would help every student draw closer to Jesus Christ as he grows in this study of God’s grace at work in the Son.

## III. Required Course Materials

- A. Required Reading materials (all students).
  - i. This syllabus.
  - ii. The professor’s notes on NT Theology.

iii. Leon Morris, *New Testament Theology* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986).

B. Additional texts for Th. M. students.

- i. **Required:** James Dunn, *Unity and Diversity in the New Testament: An Inquiry Into the Character of Earliest Christianity* (Westminster, 1977).
- ii. **Required:** George Eldon Ladd, *A Theology of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993).
- iii. **Not required:** N. T. Wright, *The Resurrection of the Son of God: Christian Origins and the Question of God* (Fortress, 2003).
- iv. **Required:** N. T. Wright, *What Saint Paul Really Said* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010).
- v. **Required:** David Wenham, *Unity and Diversity in the New Testament* (contained as an appendix in Ladd's *A Theology of the New Testament*).

C. All students: Your own computer or at least access to a computer.

- i. Class presentations should be on Microsoft Word, although the hard copies of your project do not necessarily have to be done on this program. Using the same program may be helpful when it comes to questions about style and formatting.
- ii. It is recommended (though not required) that you see if you could employ Power Point in your teaching.
- iii. You do not need to have a laptop in class, but you may use one for note-taking if you prefer.

D. Logos Libronix Bible Software Program (highly **recommended** as a personal study tool, but not required for the class. Group discount may be possible through FBI).

## IV. Course Requirements

- A. Attend all classes.
- B. All students read Leon Morris *New Testament Theology* in full. (333 pp.) and write a chapter by chapter paper that interacts with their reading. This will include positive or negative impressions from the major theological ideas you encounter.
- C. Th. M. students read the additional sections. The Th. M. students must write a chapter by chapter paper that interacts with their additional

reading. This will include positive or negative impressions from the major theological ideas you encounter.

- i. Read chapter 2 of Dunn's *Unity and Diversity in the New Testament* (The Kerygma of Jesus, The Kerygma in Acts, The Kerygma of Paul, The Kerygma of John). (?pp.).
- ii. Read N. T. Wright's *What Saint Paul Really Said*. (192 pp.).
- iii. Read David Wenham's *Unity and Diversity in the New Testament*. (37 pp.).

D. All students: take notes as appropriate.

E. All students: be active in classroom participation.

F. Complete a course paper. Based on your reading and classroom learning, write a course paper with the following general guidelines and objectives:

- i. As a guideline, papers should be approximately 10-25 pages in length, double spaced. See this as a guideline.
- ii. Sources should include readings that were assigned in this course, but must include additional outside sources.
- iii. Use sample paper by the professor as a sample for style.
- iv. The paper should address in a chapter-by-chapter fashion the following topics:

1. Introduction
2. Chapter 1: The nature of the gospel and the doctrine of justification as seen in the NT.
3. Chapter 2: The nature and purpose of the church. This would include discussion on the various distinctive works of the Holy Spirit in the present church age as discussed in the classroom.
4. Chapter 3: The nature of God's eschatological program following the present church age as foretold in the OT and expanded in the NT.
5. Summary

## V. Course Grading Criteria

- A. 25% Completed reading and interaction with Morris *NT Theology*.
- B. 25% Class participation.
- C. 50% Course paper.
- D. Th. M. student's grades will require full completion of the additional reading and interaction papers.

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Archer, Gleason, et al. *The Rapture, Pre, Mid, or Post Tribulational*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984.
- Benware, Paul. *Understanding End Times Prophecy*. Chicago: Moody, 1995.
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- Feinberg, John S., ed. *Continuity and Discontinuity*. Wheaton: Crossway, 1988.
- Ladd, George Eldon. *A Theology of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.
- McLain, Alva J. *The Greatness of the Kingdom*. Winona Lake: BMH, 1974.
- Morris, Leon. *New Testament Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986.
- Pentecost, J. Dwight. *Things to Come*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1964.
- Ridderbos, Herman. *Paul: An Outline of His Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1975.
- Saucy, Robert. *The Church in God's Program*. Chicago: Moody, 1972.
- Walvoord, John. *The Prophecy Knowledge Handbook: All The Prophecies Of Scripture Explained In One Volume*. Wheaton: Victory, 1990.
- Wright, N. T. *The Resurrection of the Son of God: Christian Origins and the Question of God*. Fortress, 2003.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *What Saint Paul Really Said*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010.
- Zuck, Roy B., ed. *A Biblical Theology of the New Testament*. Chicago: Moody, 1994.