

Syllabus for Life of Christ (NTE 504)

Front Range Bible Institute

“The long winter of disappointment had not destroyed, nor the storms of suffering swept away, nor yet could any plant of spurious growth overshadow, what had struck its roots so deep in the soil of Israel’s heart.” – Alfred Edersheim

“He had lived before men a life which had never been lived on earth before. He pleased not Himself. He went about doing good. He was ever at the disposal of others. There was no self-seeking about Him. His was a life of self-sacrifice from beginning to end. His was a life ever lived to the glory of God. His was a life on which was stamped Heaven’s approval, for the Father’s voice testified audibly ‘This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.’ ” – A.W. Pink

“We should consider the histories of Christ three manner of ways; first, as a history of acts or legends; secondly, as a gift or a present; thirdly, as an example, which we should believe and follow.” – Martin Luther

I. Course Description

Examines the earthly life of our Lord, using a harmony of the Gospels as a basis for study. Evaluates historical, chronological, political, and geographic factors, but devotes primary attention to the theological issues relating to each event and discourse in the Gospels.

II. Course Objectives

- A. To gain a greater appreciation of who Jesus was and what He did
- B. To gain an understanding of the harmony between each of the gospels
- C. To strengthen our faith in the Son of God

III. Course Materials

A. Required Bible

Guthrie, Donald. *A Shorter Life of Christ*

Pentecost, J. Dwight. *A Harmony of the Words & Works of Jesus Christ*

B. Recommended

Stott, John R.W. *The Cross of Christ*

Unger, Merrill F. *Unger’s Commentary on the Gospels*

Custer, Stewart. *Tools for Preaching & Teaching the Bible*

Scougal, Henry. *The Life of God in the Soul of Man*

Sjorgren, Bob & Robinson, Gerald. *Cat & Dog Theology*

IV. Course Requirements and Grading

- A. Attend and participate in all classes (30%)
- B. Complete all reading (30%)
- C. Complete course project (20%)
- D. Quizzes (20%)

V. Course Project

Each student will prepare a paper 10-20 pages, double spaced, with footnotes and bibliography, due the second to last week of class. The paper must have something to do with the gospels and/or Jesus. Examples:

- Expository study of a gospel passage or passages in harmony
- Defense of the authenticity of the gospels
- Critique of a book on Jesus (i.e. *The Cross of Christ, The Quest for the Historical Jesus, The Historical Jesus: Five Views, Training of the Twelve*)
- Discussion on how Jesus used miracles to impact His ministry
- Discussion on the interpretation of parables
- Study of how the life of Christ fulfills OT prophecy

VI. Course Bibliography

American Bible Society. *The Life of Christ: Rediscovering How His Life, Death, and Resurrection Changed the World*. New York: Time Inc. Home Entertainment, 2008

Arnold, Clinton E. ed. *Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary*. 4 Vol. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002

Bruce, F. F. *The Gospel & Epistles of John*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1983

Cook, F.C. ed. *The Bible Commentary*. 10 Vol. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1981

Edersheim, Alfred. *The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah, Updated*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1993

Gaebelein, Frank E. ed. *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*. 12 Vol. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981-1991

Guthrie, Donald. *A Shorter Life of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1970

Hiebert, D. Edmond. *The Gospel of Mark*. Greenville: Bob Jones University Press, 1994

Hoehner, Harold W. *Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1977

Keener, Craig S. *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1993

Lockyer, Herbert. *All the Men of the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005

Lockyer, Herbert. *All the Apostles of the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1972

Orr, James, ed. *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*. Hendrickson, 1996

Pentecost, J. Dwight. *A Harmony of the Words & Works of Jesus Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981

Pentecost, J. Dwight. *The Words & Works of Jesus Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981

Pink, Arthur W. *The Seven Sayings of the Saviour on the Cross*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2005

Poole, Matthew. *Matthew Poole's Commentary on the Holy Bible*. 3 Vol. Peabody: Hendrickson

Strobel, Lee. *The Case for Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998

Tenney, Merrill C. ed. *The Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1976

Torrey, R.A. ed. *The Fundamentals*. 2 Vol. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2008 reprint