

CHPL6282/6382 Spiritual Warfare in the Local Church
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Pastoral Ministries
October 19-23, 2015
Dr. Ken Taylor
Professor of Urban Missions
Occupying the Chester L. Quarles Chair of Missions
Phone: (504) 282-4455 ext. 8124
E-mail: ktaylor@nobts.edu
Dr. Jerry Rankin
Guest Lecturer
President Emeritus, International Mission Board, SBC
Director, Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies at CIU
Phone: (769) 274-4086
Email: jerryrankin205@comcast.net

COURSE SYLLABUS

Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Course Purpose

The course focuses attention on understanding the work of the enemy of God and Christians, and ways that church leaders may understand, identify and defeat Satan's schemes through the power of Jesus Christ and practicing spiritual disciplines. A growing awareness of cosmic-level spiritual warfare has emerged in recent years as an important component of biblical Christian understanding and ministry. This course investigates biblical, theological, and practical dimensions of spiritual engagement and its relationship to fulfilling the mission of God.

Core Value Focus

Mission Focus

Curriculum Competencies

Curriculum Competencies Addressed: Servant Leadership and Disciple Making.

Course Description

This course is designed to give students a deeper awareness and understanding of the reality of spiritual warfare in the context of the mission and ministry of the church. Emphasis will be given to the biblical basis for leaders to avoid giving the devil a "foothold" (Eph. 4:27) through obedience to biblical principles for living victoriously and conducting the affairs of the church.

Student Learning Outcomes

The student who completes this course should be able to:

1. Recognize the reality of spiritual warfare and the strategies of Satan to oppose the work of the church and the advancement of God's kingdom.
2. Identify major biblical texts and practical perspectives on spiritual warfare.
3. Apply biblical truth to develop and apply a personal strategy to keep the enemy from gaining a foothold in the student's life and ministry.
4. Understand how Satan uses non-Christian worldviews as a barrier to effective witness and how to encounter them with the truth of the gospel.
5. Learn to practice often-neglected spiritual disciplines that equip one to be empowered by God to overcome spiritual conflicts in witness and ministry.
6. Comprehend and present a synthesis of current thoughts on how spiritual warfare erodes the spiritual vitality of the church and inhibits fulfillment of the mission of God in the world.

Teaching Methodology

Students will be expected to read the following assigned texts prior to the beginning of class. Based upon this assigned reading, class lectures and discussion will probe deeper into the issues of spiritual warfare and its impact on the church, the mission of God and one's personal ministry.

Required Texts

Rankin, Jerry. *Spiritual Warfare: The Battle for God's Glory*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2009.

Rankin, Jerry and Stetzer, Ed. *Spiritual Warfare and Missions: The Battle for God's Glory Among the Nations*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2010.

Course Requirements and Grading

1. **Participation and Attendance.** (10% of grade) Because this course will include lectures, small group discussions, team activities and presentations, students are expected to participate actively in each class. Punctual attendance and full participation is expected. Unexcused absences will affect the student's grade. The seminary's attendance policy is followed for this class.
2. **Four brief daily examinations.** (40% of grade) To reinforce learning and comprehension an objective review of the previous day's lessons will be given which includes a written subjective application.
3. **Book Review.** (20% of grade) Students will select a book from the selected bibliography and write a paper of at least 2500 words reviewing the basic content and premise of the book. A major portion of the paper should compare positions advocated with those presented in class including a personal assessment and evaluation. This book review will be due one month following the conclusion of class.
4. **Final Examination.** (30% of grade)

5. Students should follow the seminary's manual of style and form for all written assignments.
6. Letter grades will be in accordance to the NOBTS course catalog. Should a student's final numerical grade come within a fraction of the next higher letter grade, the professor may—*at his discretion*—consider promoting the student to the next higher grade based on his or her attitude, positive contributions to the field, and preparedness for classroom discussions. The professor reserves the right to employ a bell-curve on grade distribution.

Course Evaluation

Participation/Attendance	10%
Daily Examinations/Application	40%
Book Review	20%
Final Examination	30%
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Total	100%

DISCLAIMER: This syllabus is intended to reflect accurately the course description, course objectives, general content, grading criteria, course requirements, attendance requirements, and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. The instructor, however, reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as may appear necessary because of the events and circumstances that change during the term.

PROJECTED COURSE SCHEDULE

Monday, October 19, 2015

Exploring the realities of spiritual warfare, God's ultimate desire to be glorified in our lives and among the nations, the nature of Satan as the adversary to God's purpose and understanding practical manifestations of spiritual warfare in witness and ministry.

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

A survey of a biblical worldview in contrast with Satan's collaboration with the world and effective alliance with our fleshly nature to defeat God's purpose through His church. Understanding the nature of the enemy as an adversary, accuser, tempter, and deceiver.

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Spiritual warfare as it relates to the Christian life and the kingdom of God and how the mission of God is being hindered. What the Bible reveals about Satan's strategies through the ministry and teaching of Jesus and the assurance of victory revealed in scripture.

Thursday, October 22, 2015

The prominence of adversity in Satan's success and how practicing spiritual disciplines can result in victorious living and witness that results in the expansion of God's kingdom. How we are to deal with external manifestations of spiritual warfare in countering evil, immorality and demonization.

Friday, October 23, 2015

How to appropriate the power of the Holy Spirit to live a victorious life of faith and how this translates into effective ministry in the world and leading the church to become God-empowered people obediently fulfilling His mission.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Anderson, Neil T. and Dave Park. Victory Over the Darkness Series. *Overcoming Negative Self-Image*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2003.

Anderson, Neil T. and Mike Quarles. Victory Over the Darkness Series. *Overcoming Addictive Behavior*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2003.

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Bubeck, Mark I. *The Adversary: The Christian versus Demon Activity*. Chicago, IL: Moody, 1975.

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Boyd, Gregory A. *God At War: The Bible and Spiritual Conflict*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1997.

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