

# **SERMON ON THE MOUNT BASIC AND ADVANCED GREEK EXEGESIS**

(NTGK 6322--Workshop Syllabus)

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Biblical Studies Division

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## **NOBTS MISSION STATEMENT:**

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

## **COURSE PURPOSE, CORE VALUE FOCUS, AND CURRICULUM COMPETENCIES:**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. These values shape both the context and manner in which all curricula are taught, with “doctrinal integrity” and “academic excellence” especially highlighted in this course. The core value focus for the 2014-15 academic year is “spiritual vitality”.

NOBTS also has seven basic competencies that guide our Masters degree programs: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual & Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. This course addresses the “Biblical Exposition” competency by helping the student learn to interpret the Bible accurately.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This is an advanced exegesis course that gives consideration to text-critical, grammatical, syntactical, literary, and historical issues through text analysis of the genre of Sermon on the Mount. The course will emphasize sound hermeneutical principles for discovering the meaning of the text and for applying the text in teaching and preaching.

## **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

The objectives of this course include the following:

1. Students should understand the background & exegetical meaning of Sermon on the Mount
2. Students should gain an increased appreciation for how the study of Greek enhances Biblical interpretation
3. Students should acquire the ability to translate and analyze the Greek text of Sermon on the Mount and apply this analysis to sound interpretation of the text

## **I. COURSE TEACHING METHODS:**

This course will be taught via a combination of pedagogical methods, including but not limited to the following: lectures, student assignments, small group work, computer resources, textbook

reviews, interaction with the setting of the text, and student presentations. Both inductive and deductive approaches to learning will be utilized.

## II. TEXTBOOKS:

1. *The Greek New Testament* (UBS 4th ed. or Nestle-Aland 27th ed.)
2. Scot McKnight, *Sermon on the Mount, in The Story of God Bible Commentary*
3. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*
4. Charles H. Talbert, *Reading The Sermon On The Mount: Character Formation And Decision Making In Matthew 5-7*

## III. REQUIREMENTS IN THE COURSE:

1. **Participation/Translation:** Students are expected to participate in the class sessions and are expected to be able to translate the texts to be covered each day in the class, including giving the grammatical locations. A **written copy** of this work will be required. (15%)

2. **Reading:** Students are expected to complete the reading of the books by **McKnight and Talbert prior to the beginning of the workshop**, with a written review to be submitted on each book at the beginning of the initial class period on Monday, July 6. The book review should be 2-4 single-spaced pages and include the following elements:

- 1) Bibliographic Entry
- 2) Statement of the Author's Purpose
- 3) Summary of the Contents
- 4) An Evaluation of the book, including consideration of the most suitable readership, the scope of the book (comprehensive? or lacking in major areas), the viewpoints presented (multiple viewpoints when pertinent, or only one), and your overall evaluation of the book.

A summary of the book by **Bonhoeffer is due on the Friday after the workshop** and should be submitted via e-mail (msolomon35@gmail.com) or on Blackboard. The review should follow the format given above regarding both length and content. (10% per review = 30% total)

3. **Final Exam:** A take-home final exam (more of an exegetical exercise than a formal final) will be handed out at the end of the workshop, with the final due **on or before August 3** and submitted via e-mail (msolomon35@gmail.com) or on Blackboard. (20%)

4. **Presentations:** Students will be assigned/choose groups and make presentations on one of the topics handed out in class for this purpose near the beginning of the workshop. The presentation will be either focused on the historical setting of the text or a modern application of the text. The presentation should be creative, communicating the information for a church-type setting. (10%)

5. **Research Paper:** Each student will prepare a research paper on a passage or topic in the Sermon on the Mount. The professor must approve the paper topic in advance (during the workshop itself). The paper will be 12-15 pages in length, double-spaced, plus a bibliography of the works consulted (not just the works cited). The grading of the paper will be based on the following considerations: Form/Style/Grammar = 10%; Bibliography = 20%; Organization of the paper = 10%; Logic Flow = 20%; Content (coverage of viewpoints, details, etc.) = 40%. The papers are due **three weeks after**

**the end of the workshop (Aug. 3)** and should be submitted via e-mail (msolomon35@gmail.com) or on Blackboard. (25%)

#### **IV. THEOLOGICAL TOPICS FOR PRESENTATIONS: (SM = Sermon on the Mount)**

1. Discipleship as defined in the SM
2. Jesus and the OT acc. to the SM
3. Mission/Ministry acc. to the SM
4. True Spirituality acc. to the SM
5. Relationships between material and Spiritual focuses in life
6. Proper Worldview acc. to the SM
7. Complexities of Sin acc. to the SM
8. Righteousness/Justice acc. to the SM
9. True Worship acc. to the SM
10. The Lukan emphases related to the SM
11. Forgiving Others according to the SM
12. Forgiveness from God versus of people
13. Dangers for Religious People acc. to the SM
14. Prayer/Communion with God acc. to the SM
15. Valid Religious Leadership acc. to the SM
16. Concepts of persecution acc. to the SM
17. Anxiety/worry in the Context of Discipleship
18. Discerning, Judging/Condemning, and "Fruit Inspecting" acc. to the SM
19. True Confession acc. to the SM.
20. The Beatitudes in the OT, ITP, and SM

#### **V. CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS:**

- DAY 1: Introduction to the course, Introduction to Matthew.  
Approaches to the Sermon on the Mount. Mt. 5:1-20, Lk. 6:17-26
- DAY 2: Mt. 5:21-48, Lk. 6:27-35
- DAY 3: Mt. 6:1-34, Lk 11:1-12
- DAY 4: Mt. 7:1-29, Lk. 6:36-49
- DAY 5: PRESENTATIONS OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

## Sermon On the Mount: Sample Bibliography

- Allison, Dale. *The Sermon on the Mount*, 1999)
- Arnold, Eberhard, *Salt and Light*, 1967
- Augustinus, *The Preaching of Augustine; "Our Lord's Sermon on the Mount,"* 1973
- Barclay, William, *The Old Law & the New Law*, 1972
- Bauman, Clarence, *The Sermon on the Mount: the Modern Quest for Its Meaning*, 1985
- Betz, Hans Dieter. *The Sermon on the Mount: A Commentary on the Sermon on the Mount, Including the Sermon on the Plain (Hermeneia)*, 1995
- Bonhoeffer, Dietrich, *The Cost of Discipleship*, 1960
- Brooks, Oscar Stephen, *The Sermon on the Mount: Authentic Human Values*, 1985
- Carson, D. A., *Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and His Confrontation with the World*, 2004
- Carter, Warren. *What are they Saying About Matthew's Sermon on the Mount?*, 1994
- Chrysostom, *The Preaching of Chrysostom: Homilies on the Sermon on the Mt*, 1967
- Davenport, Gene, *Into the Darkness: Discipleship in the Sermon on the Mount*, 1988
- Davies, William David, *The Sermon on the Mount*, 1966
- Davies William David, *The Setting of the Sermon on the Mount*, 1964
- Dibelius, Martin, *The Sermon on the Mount*, 1940
- Driver, John, *Kingdom Citizens*, 1980
- Friedlander, G., *The Jewish Sources of The Sermon on the Mount*, 1969
- Guelich, Robert A., *The Sermon on the Mount: A Foundation for Understanding*, 1982
- Hughes, Kent. *The Sermon on the Mount: The Message of the Kingdom*, 2001
- Hunter, Archibald, *A Pattern For Life*, 1965
- Jeremias, Joachim, *The Sermon on the Mount*, 1963
- Jordan, Clarence, *Sermon on the Mount*, 1970
- Kissinger, Warren, *The Sermon on the Mount; A History of Interpretation*, 1975
- Lambrecht, Jan, *The Sermon on the Mount: Proclamation and Exhortation*, 1985
- Lamsa, George Mamishisho, *The Kingdom of Earth*, 1966
- Luther, Martin, *The Place of Trust*, 1983
- Massey, I. A., *Interpreting the Sermon on the Mount, In the Light of Jewish Tradition as Evidenced In The Palestinian Targums of the Pentateuch*, 1991
- Miller, John, *The Christian Way: A Guide to the Christian Life Based on the SM*, 1969
- Palmer, Earl, *The Enormous Exception: Meeting Christ in the Sermon on the Mt*, 1986
- Parker, Hankins, *Earth's Greatest Sermon: A Practical Application of the SM*, 1973
- Phillips, John, *The Sermon on the Mount*, 1965
- Pinson, Ernest, *Some Revolutionary Teachings of Jesus In the Sermon on the Mount*
- Scaer, David. *The Sermon on the Mt: The Church's First Statement of the Gospel*, 2000
- Stasson, Glen, & David Gushee, *Kingdom Ethics: Following Jesus in Contemporary Context*, 2003
- Stott, J.R., *The Message of the Sermon on the Mount (Christian Counter-Culture)*, 1985
- Strecker, George, *The Sermon on the Mount: An Exegetical Commentary*, 1988
- Talbert, Charles H. *Reading The Sermon on the Mount: Character Formation and Decision Making in Matthew 5-7*, 2004
- Thielicke, Helmut, *Life Can Begin Again: Sermons on the Sermon on the Mount*, 1963
- Vaught, Carl, *The Sermon on the Mount: A Theological Interpretation*, 1986
- Weakley, Clare, *Happiness Unlimited: John Wesley's Commentary on the SM*, 1979
- Weakley, Clare, *The Nature of the Kingdom: Wesley's Messages on the SM*, 1986
- Wierzbicka, Anna. *What Did Jesus Mean?: Explaining the Sermon on the Mount and the Parables in Simple and Universal Human Concepts*, 2001