

## *Successfully completing an Internet course*

1. Understand that Internet courses are not “easier” than classroom courses. Disabuse yourself of any notion to the contrary. In a typical semester, 20% of my Internet students do not complete the course whereas 95+% of classroom students do.

2. You must be able to envision specific blocks of time in which you can complete your work, something like regular class times in a traditional course.

3. If you plan to do the work in your spare time, don't take the course because no one has any spare time.

**Important note regarding “Incompletes”:** Please know that students may not receive an Incomplete for any Internet course--i.e., all work must be completed during the academic duration of the Internet course. (Page 170, *Graduate Catalog 2013-2014.*)

# New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

## OTEN 6321 – Old Testament Eschatology [Internet]

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“At a time when 90% of Southern Baptist churches are plateaued or declining, NOBTS is a school focusing on training God-called men and women to grow healthy churches.”

—Dr. Chuck Kelley—

**NOBTS Mission** To equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

**Core Values** Our seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity as the Bible is believed to be the Word of God, inspired and inerrant. The specific core value celebrated this academic year is Spiritual Vitality.

**Course Description** This course studies the message of hope in the Old Testament in the light of the ancient Near Eastern world. Old Testament eschatology includes several areas of thought: death and afterlife, future hope, the (coming) kingdom of God, God's anointed, and God's redemptive plan. The focus of this class will be a modest introduction to the ANE contextual world of thought about the afterlife, along with a heavy emphasis upon what the Old Testament teaches about the kingdom of God and His anointed Messiah.

**Curriculum**

1. **Biblical Exposition:** To interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.
2. **Disciple Making:** To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church

<b>Competencies</b>	for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth. 3. <b>Worship Leadership:</b> To facilitate worship effectively.
<b>Student Learning Outcomes &amp; Course Objectives</b>	By the end of this course, the student should be able to:  1. Discuss key biblical texts that develop the individual and corporate eschatological hope of ancient Israel.  2. Discuss Israel's prophetic realization that the kingdom of God would be the second coming of messiah.  3. Understand why the kingdom of God was such a vital topic of Jesus' teaching ministry and in the context of first-century Judaism.  4. Identify the contemporary approaches to the interpretation of Old Testament eschatology, especially noting the advocates, the strengths, and the weaknesses of each millennial position.  5. Give a brief synopsis of the "day of the Lord" motif in the Old Testament prophets.
<b>Teaching Methodology</b>	The course methodologies include lectures, journal article and textbook readings, and exams.
<b>Required Textbooks</b>	Darrell L. Bock, ed. <i>Three Views on the Millennium and Beyond</i> . Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999, 2010. 978-0310201434  David S. Dockery. <i>Our Christian Hope</i> . (Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2008). ISBN-13: 978-1556357282  Walter C. Kaiser, Jr. <i>Preaching and Teaching the Last Things: Old Testament Eschatology for the Life of the Church</i> . Grand Rapids: Baker, 2011. 978-0801039270  <b>Suggested:</b>  Eckhard Schnabel, <i>40 Questions about the End Times</i> (Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2012).  Robert G. Clouse, ed. <i>The Meaning of the Millennium: Four Views</i> . (IVP: Downers Grove, IL, 1977).
<b>Course Requirements &amp; Assignments</b>	<b>The professor expects the course activity to involve 4-5 hours each week.</b>  <b>1. Weekly Quizzes:</b> The student will take weekly quizzes over the assigned readings.  <b>2. Video Lectures:</b> Some weeks will include a video lecture. Students should take notes on the lectures just as if they were attending a classroom course.

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**3. Book Summaries:** The student will read Dockery's *Our Christian Hope* and Bock's *Three Views on the Millennium and Beyond*. The due dates for the summaries are Friday, March 21 (Week 9) and Tuesday, May 13 (Final Exam week) respectively. Students will compose a minimum one page (full page and nothing less!) summary review of each chapter. A title page is expected. Reference to page numbers should be in parentheses. Footnotes will not be used.

**4. Textbook Readings:** Beginning in Week 8, students will begin reading Kaiser's *Preaching and Teaching the Last Things*. Questions on the readings will be added to the Weekly Quizzes.

**5. Exams:** The student will complete two exams. Exam questions will come from both the Weekly Quizzes and Video Lectures.

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**Grading Scale**    A: 93-100%    B: 85-92%    C: 77-84%    D: 70-76%    F: below 70%

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## OTEN 6321 Old Testament Eschatology:

*READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS SCHEDULE*

Week	Dates	Weekly Readings	Video Lectures
1	Jan. 20	Desmond Alexander. "The Old Testament view of life after death." <i>Themelios</i> 11, no. 2 (January 1986): 41-46.  James Orr. "Immortality in the Old Testament." In <i>Classical Evangelical Essays in Old Testament Interpretation</i> , ed. Walter C. Kaiser, Jr. 256-65. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1972.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course Introduction</li> <li>• The Genesis of OT Eschatology</li> </ul>
2	Jan. 26	Othmar Keel. "Spheres of Death." In <i>The Symbolism of the Biblical World: Ancient Near Eastern Iconography and the Book of Psalms</i> . 1972, 1985.  John D. Davis. "The Future Life in Hebrew Thought." <i>Princeton Theological Review</i> , 6 (1908): 246-68.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Power and Promise of the Passover – Part 1</li> </ul>
3	Feb. 2	David C. Mitchell. "God will redeem my soul from Sheol." <i>Journal for the Study of the Old Testament</i> , 2006.  Erik Galeniaks. "Seeing God with or Without the Body: Job 19:25-27." <i>Journal of the Adventist Theological Society</i> , 2007.	
4	Feb. 9	Daniel I. Block. Beyond the Grave: Ezekiel's Vision of Death and Afterlife." <i>Bulletin for Biblical Research</i> , 1992.  Charles R. Smith. "The Book of Life." <i>Grace Theological Journal</i> , 1985.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Power and Promise of the Passover – Part 2</li> </ul>
5	Feb. 18	Edward Fudge, "The final end of the wicked" <i>Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society</i> 27, no. 3 (S 1984): 325-334.  Richard W. Medina. "Life and Death Viewed as Physical and Lived Spaces: Some Preliminary thoughts from Proverbs." <i>ZAW</i> , 2010.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God is my portion – Part 1</li> <li>• God is my portion – Part 2</li> </ul>
6	Feb. 23	Wendell W. Frericks. "Death and Resurrection in the Old Testament." <i>World and World</i> 1991.  R. Laird Harris. "The Meaning of the World Sheol as shown by parallels in the poetic texts." In <i>Bulletin of the Evangelical Theological Society</i> , 1961.	
7	Mar. 2	Jon D. Levenson. "He keeps faith with those who sleep in the dust." In <i>Resurrection and the Restoration of Israel: The Ultimate Victory of the God of Life</i> . 181-200.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God given Rest</li> </ul>
8	Mar. 9	Textbook: Walter C. Kaiser. <i>Last Things</i> . Part 1.  Eugene H. Merrill. "Covenant and the Kingdom: Genesis 1-3 as foundation for Biblical Theology." <i>Criswell Theological Review</i> 1 (Spring 1987): 295-308.  Carl F. H. Henry. "Reflections on the Kingdom of God." <i>Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society</i> , 1992.	

9	Mar. 16	<b>Mid-Term Exam</b>	
		<b>Paper Due: <i>Our Christian Hope</i>, Friday, March 21</b>	
10	Mar. 23-27	<b>Spring Break</b>	
11	Mar. 30	<p>Textbook: Walter C. Kaiser. <i>Last Things</i>. Part 2.</p> <p>Dan G. McCartney. "Ecce homo: The Coming of the Kingdom as the Restoration of Human Vicegerency." <i>Westminster Theological Journal</i> 56, no. 1 (Spring 1994): 1-21.</p> <p>Elmer A. Martens. "Forward to the Garden of Eden." <i>Direction</i> 21, no. 2 (Fall 1992): 27-36.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My Servant David</li> <li>• All Things New</li> </ul>
12	April 6	<p>Textbook: Walter C. Kaiser. <i>Last Things</i>. Part 3.</p> <p>Walter C. Kaiser, Jr. "The Kingdom of God in the Old Testament theology." <i>Evangelical Theological Society papers</i>; ETS 5110. 2000.</p> <p>Martin J. Selman. "The Kingdom of God in the Old Testament." <i>Tyndale Bulletin</i> 40 (1989):161-89.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking Prophecy Literally?</li> <li>• That Great Trumpet Sound</li> </ul>
13	April 13	<p>Textbook: Walter C. Kaiser. <i>Last Things</i>. Part 4.</p> <p>Cleon L. Rogers. "The Promises to David in Early Judaism." <i>Bibliotheca Sacra</i> 150, no. 599 (July-September 1993): 285-302.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Time of Jacob's Trouble</li> <li>• The New World Order</li> </ul>
14	April 20	<p>Textbook: Walter C. Kaiser. <i>Last Things</i>. Part 5.</p> <p>Michael A. Grisanti. "The Davidic Covenant." <i>Master's Seminary Journal</i> 10, no. 2 (Fall 1999): 233-50.</p> <p>John F. Walvoord. "The Fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant." <i>Bibliotheca Sacra</i> 102, no. 406 (April-June 1945): 205-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temple – Part 1</li> <li>• Temple – Part 2</li> </ul>
15	April 27	<p>Textbook: Walter C. Kaiser. <i>Last Things</i>. Part 6.</p> <p>Richard L. Mayhue. "The Prophet's Watchword: Day of the Lord." <i>Grace Theological Journal</i> 6, no. 2 (Fall 1985): 231-46.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Messiah's Accomplishments</li> </ul>
16	May 4	<p>H. Leroy Metts. "The Kingdom of God: Background and development of a complex discourse concept." <i>Criswell Theological Review</i> 2, no. 1 (Fall 2004): 51-82.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Problem of Evil</li> </ul>
		<b>Paper Due: <i>Views of the Millennium</i>, Thursday, May 7</b>	
17	May 8-14	<b>Final Exam Week</b>	

## Selected Bibliography

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- 2013 J. Harold Ellens, ed. *Heaven, Hell, and the Afterlife: Eternity in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam*. Oxford: Praeger.
- 2012 Andrew Chester. *Future Hope and Present Reality*. Vol.1 *Eschatology and Transformation in the Hebrew Bible*. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck.
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- 1969 Nicholas J. Tromp, *Primitive Conceptions of Death and the Netherworld in the Old Testament*. Biblica et Orientalia 21 Rome: Pontifical Biblical Institute.

#### General Bibliography

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- Todd S. Beall. "History and Eschatology at Qumran: Messiah." In *Judaism in Late Antiquity*. Part 5, Vol. 2. Pp. 125-146. Leiden: Brill, 2001.
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- Carl Edwin Armerding. "Asleep in the dust." *Bibliotheca Sacra* 121, no. 482 (April-June 1964): 153-58.
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