



OTHB6307 HEBREW EXEGESIS: BOOK OF NUMBERS

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Biblical Studies Division
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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.

NOBTS Core Values

The seminary has five core values. The focal core value for 2015-2016 is Mission Focus. This course supports the five core values of the seminary.

Doctrinal Integrity: Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. Our confessional commitments are outlined in the "Articles of Religious Belief" and the "Baptist Faith and Message 2000."

Spiritual Vitality: We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.

Mission Focus: We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Characteristic Excellence: What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Servant Leadership: We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

NOBTS Core Values Addressed in This Course

Doctrinal Integrity: Knowledge and Practice of the Word of God
Characteristic Excellence: Pursuit of God's Revelation with Diligence**
Spiritual Vitality: Transforming Power of God's Word

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

NOBTS faculty members realize that all ministers need to develop specific competencies if they are going to have an effective ministry. To increase the likelihood of NOBTS graduates having an effective ministry, the faculty developed a competency-based curriculum after identifying seven essential competencies necessary for effective ministry. All graduates are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in all of the following seven areas:

Biblical Exposition: To interpret and communicate the Bible accurately. The primary curriculum competency addressed in this course is Biblical Exposition.

Christian Theological Heritage: To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.

Disciple Making: To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.

Interpersonal Skills: To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.

Servant Leadership: To serve churches effectively through team ministry.

Spiritual and Character Formation: To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.

Worship Leadership: To facilitate worship effectively.

Course Description:

This course combines an overview of the Book of Numbers and its place in the Pentateuch with an in-depth analysis of selected portions of the Hebrew text. Primary attention will be given to the grammatical, literary, historical, and theological features of the text. The study will include a discussion of the process leading to hermeneutical goals of teaching and preaching.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course the student will have demonstrated a proper knowledge of and an ability to use effectively in study, teaching and preaching:

1. The overall literary structure and content of the Book of Numbers.
2. The major theological themes and critical issues in the books.
3. The Hebrew text of the Book of Numbers.
4. Hebrew syntax and literary style

Textbooks:

Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia.

The Book of Numbers by R. Dennis Cole, NAC (Nashville: Broadman, 2000).

The Book of Numbers by Timothy Ashley, NICOT (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993).

Course Requirements:

1. Class attendance and preparation (incl. article critique) (20%).
2. Structural Analysis of Numbers Pericope (15%)
3. Mid-Term Translation Exam (25%)
4. Exegetic research paper (40%) **Due Friday August 10, 10:00pm**
Due date 27 July for graduating seniors.

Suggested Exegetical Research Paper Topics:

A Balaam Oracle	Levites (8:5-26)	15:22-31	12:1-16
16:41-50	21:4-9	25:1-18	30:1-16

Other passages may be chosen in consultation with the professor.

Article Critique— Write a 5 page critique of the interpretation of the large numbers in the Book of Numbers, based upon your analysis of the recent articles of David Fouts, “A Defense of the Hyperbolic Interpretation of the Large Numbers in the Old Testament” *JETS* 40.3 (1997), 377-87 and Colin Humphreys, “The Number of People in the Exodus from Egypt: Decoding Mathematically the Very Large Numbers in Numbers I and XXVI.” *Vetus Testamentum* 47 (1998), 196-213.

Exegetical Research Paper:

Each student is to write an exegetical research paper (15–20 pages) on a section of Numbers (approx. 10–20 verses) which will include the following elements:

1. **Introduction** – To the passage (not the entire biblical book) including the historical and cultural setting, important biblical background material, etc.
2. **Translation** – Your own translation, having the following quality goal: the precision of the *NASB* or the *NKJV*, with the readability of the *NIV* or *NLV*.
3. **Textual Footnotes**: Address the issues in important text critical notes, as well as any key words which you have translated in a nuanced manner.
4. **Exegetical Outline** – Provide an exegetical outline of the chosen passage, with at least one but no more than two sub-levels. Option: Structural Analysis Outline.
5. **Exegetical Notes and Discussion** – Explicate the meaning of the text, highlighting words studies, structural elements, pertinent background material.
6. **Homiletical Outline** – Assuming you will be teaching or preaching from this material, provide an outline of your presentation, including Title, Theme or Key Point, Outline with one sub-level, Conclusion.

Course Schedule:

Preview: Look for occurrences of $rBe\ddot{U}d"y\ddot{O}y'w"$ and $rm,aYo\gg y'w$
& Related usage of the following verse and its abbreviated forms:
 $.Wc\Box[; yKi\ hv^2`moA\tau a, hw:\ddot{Y}hy\ddot{O}\ hW:xi\ rv,\ddot{U}a\}$
 $lko\acute{y}K]á\ la\ll Dr:c]yI\ ynEB]\ Wc\acute{A}[\}Y"\hat{E}y'w"\Box\ 1.54$

I MON JULY 25 Course Introduction
AFT PM Translate Num 1:1-54 (lots of repetition!)
EVE PM Numbers Into cont.

II. TUE JULY 26
AM Translate Num 6:1-27
PM Translate Num 9:1-23

III. WED JULY 27
AM Translate Num 10:11-11:3
PM Translate Num 13:1-3, 17-33, 14:1-10

IV THU JULY 28
AM Translate Num 19:1-22
PM Translate Num 22:1-35

VI FRI JULY 29
AM Translate Num 24:10-19
PM "MID TERM" TRANSLATION EXAM

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