



OTHB6322
HEBREW EXEGESIS: JEREMIAH
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Biblical Studies Division
Online Course – Spring 2016

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Seminary 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 Description:

This course combines an overview of the Book of Jeremiah 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 Jeremiah.
2. The major theological themes and critical issues in the book.
3. The Hebrew text of the Book of Jeremiah.
4. Hebrew syntax and literary style.

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**

2015-16 Emphasis = Mission Focus: Transforming the World with the Power of God's Word

Textbooks:

Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia.

Book of Jeremiah by J.A. Thompson (NICOT) (Eerdmans)

Basic Forms of Prophetic Speech, by Claus Westermann (Westminster/John Knox)

Course Assignments:

1. Translations (20%). Weekly Assignment dates in Course Schedule.
2. Introduction to Jeremiah (10%) **Due Date: Sat Feb, 13, 2016**
3. Literary - Rhetorical Analysis (15%). **Due Date: Monday, March 28**
4. Book Reviews (10% each) **Due Dates Mondays, March 14 and April 18**
5. Exegetic research paper (25%). **Due Date Wed, May 11**
6. Discussion Board Areas: 4 Topics + Personal Introduction (10%) See schedule

Book Reviews (2) Post your Book Reviews in the Assignments

Due Dates March 14 and April 18

Choose two books from the "Books" section of the "Selected Bibliography"

Marked by the double asterisk **.

These will be shared with your classmates.

Procedures

1. **Translations** -- Weekly translations shall be submitted via the "Assignments" section in Blackboard. **See posted example in "Course Documents" These are DUE ON SATURDAY NIGHT at the conclusion of the given week of the seminary Internet course calendar.**

The translations should include:

- (1) a "rough/rote" translation of the words in the Hebrew word order in, followed by
- (2) the parsing of key verbs (not all, only those of "significance" and/or difficulty), and then
- (3) a dynamic or formal equivalency translation of the text, keeping the following model in mind: "the accuracy of the New American Standard Version with the readability of Today's New International Version."

2. **Discussion Board** -- In the Four Subject areas, **each student** is to post his or her own discussion on the given topic assignment, and then contribute **responses to the postings of at least two other students** in the course.

3. **Key Questions** - Several of the translation passages will have a "Key Question" regarding the interpretation of the given text.

EXEGETICAL RESEARCH PAPER: 20-25 pages

The student is to write an exegetical research paper on a section of the Book of Jeremiah, chosen in consultation with the professor. The passage should be approximately 12-20 verses.

Students will turn in a statement regarding their chosen passage on or before **Feb 13**.

****Rhetorical/Structural Analysis**** (Length 5-7 pages) due by **MARCH 28, 2016**.

After reading Westermann's *Basic Forms of Prophetic Speech*, and reviewing the examples posted in the "Course Documents" the student shall complete a rhetorical and structural analysis **of their chosen passage**.

See handouts for guidelines posted in "Course Documents" as well as a sample paper.

The **Exegetical Research Paper** should include the following elements:

Introduction – To the passage (not the entire biblical book) including the historical and cultural setting, important biblical background material, etc.

Translation – Your own translation, having the following quality goal: the precision of the *NASB* or the *NKJV*, with the readability of the *NIV* or *NLT*.

Textual Footnotes: Address the issues in important text critical notes, as well as any key words which you have translated in a nuanced manner.

Exegetical Outline – Provide an exegetical outline of the chosen passage, based upon your “Rhetorical / Structural Analysis” with at least one but no more than two sub-levels. The outline should reflect the prophetic literary structure of the passage.**

Exegetical Notes and Discussion – Explicate the meaning of the text, highlighting words studies, structural elements, pertinent background material. This is the most in-depth section of the paper. Include here the findings from your “Rhetorical / Structural Analysis” as well as material from word studies, syntax, etc. that aid in the interpretation of the passage as a holistic text.

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 no more than two sub-levels, Conclusion. This may or may not directly reflect your **exegetical outline**, depending upon your homiletical emphasis.

COURSE SCHEDULE HEBREW EXEGESIS: JEREMIAH

NOTE: Students should read the appropriate pages in Thompson's commentary according to the assigned passage for the given class session.

Week

- I Post Personal Introduction on Blackboard Discussion Board #1 by Jan 23**
Read Thompson pp. 1-106 Introduction to Jeremiah
Send email to Dr. Cole confirming the reading of the Introduction
- II Translate Jer 1:1-19 Call of Jeremiah Read Thompson, pp. 139-158 Jan 30**
- III Discussion Board Topic #2 Post your contribution on the subject: Feb 3**
"The Call of Jeremiah and My Call to Ministry" by Feb 3
Translate Jer 2:1-19 Israel's Unfaithfulness Feb 6
Read Thompson pp. 159-175
Email Dr. Cole with your chosen passage for your Exegetical Research Paper
- IV Submit: Introduction to the Book of Jeremiah by February Feb 13**
- V Translate Jer 2:20-37 Futility of Idolatry Feb 20**
Read Thompson pp. 175-187 Obedience over Sacrifice
Read R. Byargeon, "Thus Saith the LORD: Interpreting the Prophetic Word" in
Biblical Hermeneutics, by B. Corley, S. Lemke, G. Lovejoy (B & H)
pp. 301-315. See also handouts in "Course Documents"
Read *Basic Forms of Prophetic Speech*, by Claus Westermann
- VI Translate Jer 10:1-16 Satire on Idolatry Feb 27**
Read Thompson pp. 323-339
Book Review #1 Due Mar 14
Discussion Board Topic #3 Post your contribution on the subject of
"Idolatry in the 21st Century" by March 5
- VII Translate Jer 7:1-20 (cf. 26:1-16) Temple Sermon(s) Mar 5**
Read Thompson pp. 271-286
- VIII Translate Jer 7:21-8:3 Temple Sermon & Queen of Heaven Mar 12**
Read Thompson pp. 286-296
Discussion Topic #4 Post your contribution on the subject of
"Defining Biblical Worship" by March 21

SPRING BREAK WEEK MARCH 13-18

- IX Literary - Rhetorical Analysis of your chosen passage. Due March 24**
- X Translate Jer 28:1-17 Judgment on Hananiah, the False Prophet Apr 2**
Read Thompson on Jeremiah 28
- XI Translate Jer 21:1-14; 22:1-9 Jeremiah vs. Zedekiah & the Kings Apr 9**
Read Thompson pp. 465-475
- XII Translate Jer 22:10-12 Shallum; 22:13-19 Jehoiakim; Apr 16**
22:24-30 Coniah; Jer 23:1-8 Future Righteous King
Read Thompson pp. 475-492
Discussion Topic #5 Post your contribution by April 14 on the subject of
“The Messianic Kingship of Jesus” in light of Jeremiah’s assessment of the
Kings of Judah and their failure to live up to God’s ideal kingship model as
described in part in Deuteronomy 17.
- Book Review #2 Due April 18**
- XIII Translate Jer 31:1-22 Restoration & Judgment of Israel Apr 23**
Read Thompson pp. 563-576
- XIV Translate Jer 31:23-40 The New Nation and the New Covenant Apr 30**
Read Thompson pp. 576-585
- XV Exegetical Research Paper Due May 12, 2016**

OLD TESTAMENT EXEGETICAL STUDIES (JEREMIAH) SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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