

Ph.D. Reading Colloquium OTSR9304: Spring 2011

Old Testament Theology and Methodology

Dr. Archie W. England

I. DESCRIPTION:

The Ph.D. reading colloquiums in Old Testament consists of discussion periods covering various readings in the field of Old Testament. This colloquium centers on readings in the areas of Old Testament theology and methodology. Besides one preliminary meeting at the beginning of the semester, the colloquium will meet approximately once a month during the semester for discussion periods. The meetings will consist of student-lead discussions of the reading list books as well as other selections, if so assigned by the professor.

II. GOALS:

The goal of the colloquium is that students grasp the larger scope of OT studies in the areas covered by the readings as an augment to the material covered in the OT seminars. With this larger grasp of the field, students should be better prepared for teaching and researching across the breadth of the OT field.

III. TEXTS:

The texts for the colloquium are listed below. Colloquium members will choose which texts to lead discussion during the three remaining sessions.

Old Testament Methodology

Adam, A. K. M. *What is Postmodern Biblical Criticism?* In *Guides to Biblical Scholarship*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1995.

Alexander, T. Desmond, et al. "Part One." Pages 1-112 in *New Dictionary of Biblical Theology*. InterVarsity, 2000.

Alter, Robert. *Art of Biblical Narrative*. Basic Books, 1981.

_____. *The World of Biblical Literature*. Basic Books, 1992.

Beale G. K. and D. A. Carson, eds. *Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament*. Baker Books: 2007.

Carter, Charles E., and Carol L. Meyers, eds. *Community, Identity, and Ideology: Social Science Approaches to the Hebrew Bible*. Vol. 6, Sources for Biblical and Theological Study. Winona Lake, IND: Eisenbrauns, 1996.

Habel, Norman. *Literary Criticism of the Old Testament*. In *Guides to Biblical Scholarship*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1971.

House, Paul, ed. *Beyond Form Criticism: Essays in Old Testament Literary Criticism*. Vol. 2, Sources for Biblical and Theological Study. Winona Lake, IND: Eisenbrauns, 1992.

Krentz, Edgar. *The Historical-Critical Method*. Fortress: 1975.

McKenzie, Steven L. and Stephen R. Haynes. *To Each Its Own Meaning: An Introduction to Biblical Criticisms and their Applications*. Revised and Expanded. Westminster/John Knox, 1999.

Overholt, Thomas W. *Cultural Anthropology and the Old Testament*. In *Guides to Biblical Scholarship*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1996.

Rylaarsdam, Coert. *Tradition History and the Old Testament*. In *Guides to Biblical Scholarship*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1972.

Sanders, James A. *Canon and Community: A Guide to Canonical Criticism*. In *Guides to Biblical Scholarship*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1984.

Trible, Phyllis. *Rhetorical Criticism*. In *Guides to Biblical Scholarship*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1994.

Tucker, Gene M. *Form Criticism of the Old Testament*. In *Guides to Biblical Scholarship*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1971.

Old Testament Theology

Required Texts for Colloquium

Barr, James. *The Concept of Biblical Theology: An Old Testament Perspective*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1999.

Barton, John. *Reading the Old Testament: Method in Biblical Study*. Revised and enlarged. Louisville, KY: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1996.

Brueggemann, Walter. *Theology of the Old Testament*. Fortress, 1997. Selected readings.

Eichrodt, Walther. *Theology of the Old Testament*. 2 vols. Westminster, 1961.

Gerstenberger, Erhard S. *Theologies in the Old Testament*. Translated John Bowden. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2002.

Hasel, Gerhard. *Old Testament Theology: Basic Issues in the Current Debate*. 4th ed. Eerdmans, 1991.

_____. *New Testament Theology: Basic Issues in the Current Debate*. Eerdmans, 1990.

Hayes, John H., and Frederick Prussner. *Old Testament Theology: Its History & Development*. Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1985.

Knierem, Rolf P. *The Task of Old Testament Theology: Method and Cases*. Eerdmans, 1995.

Ollenburger, Ben C., Elmer A. Martens, and Gerhard F. Hasel, eds. *The Flowering of Old Testament Theology: A Reader in Twentieth-Century Old Testament Theology, 1930-1990*. Vol. 1, Sources for Biblical and Theological Study. Winona Lake, IND: Eisenbrauns, 1992.

Rad, Gerhard von. *Old Testament Theology*. 2 vols. Harper and Row, 1962-65.

Sun, Henry T and Keith L. Eades, eds. *Problems in Biblical Theology: Essays in Honor of Rolf Knierim*. Eerdmans, 1997.

III. REQUIREMENTS:

- A.** All colloquium members are to read all the texts on the reading lists for theology and methodology. Each student will prepare to lead two or three discussions. A brief review (2-5 pages, single spaced) of each text should be brought to class and distributed. Normally the review should include the following items: bibliographic data, a clear statement of the purpose/thesis of the book, a summary of the development of the book, and a reaction/criticism of the book. In addition, the presenter should provide 3 critical reviews of the book from recent academic journals.
- B.** Colloquium members are expected to prepare and participate actively in the discussions. Failure to participate will affect the final grade for the colloquium.
- C.** Due to the nature of the colloquium, *no absences are allowed*.
- D.** Reviews are due to the professor no later than the Wednesday before class meets—no exceptions. Copies of the reviews will be distributed to all members of the colloquium the day that class meets.

IV. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

Jan. 21 Introduction and assignments (Dr. England)
Discussion of the format and assignments

Feb 11 OT Methodology

Assignment: Everyone reads the following books. Students will NOT submit any written reports, but they will be able to dialogue about each book.

Barton, John. *Reading the Old Testament: Method in Biblical Study*. Revised and enlarged. Louisville, KY: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1996.

McKenzie, Steven L. and Stephen R. Haynes. *To Each Its Own Meaning: An Introduction to Biblical Criticisms and their Applications*. Revised and Expanded. Westminster/John Knox, 1999.

Optional texts to consult as need.
Habel, Norman. *Literary Criticism of the Old Testament*. Fortress: 1971.
Krentz, Edgar. *The Historical-Critical Method*. Fortress: 1975.
Overholt, Thomas W. *Cultural Anthropology and the Old Testament*. Fortress: 1996.

Rylaarsdam, Coert. *Tradition History and the Old Testament*. Fortress: 1972.
Tucker, Gene M. *Form Criticism of the Old Testament*. Fortress: 1971.
Alexander, T. Desmond, et al. "Part One." Pages 1-112 in *New Dictionary of Biblical Theology*. InterVarsity, 2000.

Mar 12 Old Testament Theology & Critical Issues

Assignment: Everyone read the following books.

Hasel, Gerhard. *Old Testament Theology: Basic Issues in the Current Debate*. 4th ed. Eerdmans, 1991.

Hayes, John H., and Frederick Prussner. *Old Testament Theology: Its History & Development*. Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1985.

Apr 9 Old Testament Theology

_____ James Patterson _____ Eichrodt, Walther. *Theology of the Old Testament*. 2 vols. Westminster, 1961.

_____ Scott Shirley _____ Brueggemann, Walter. *Theology of the Old Testament*. Fortress, 1997.

_____ Goldingay, or TBD

_____ Pruess, or TBD

May 7 Old Testament in the New

Assignment: Everyone reads each book.

Knierem, Rolf P. *The Task of Old Testament Theology: Method and Cases*. Eerdmans, 1995.

Barr, James. *The Concept of Biblical Theology: An Old Testament Perspective*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1999.