



OTHB9405: Old Testament Theology

Spring 2020

Wednesday 8:30-11:00 am

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Mission Statement: New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values. **Doctrinal Integrity:** Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible. **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. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry. **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. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments. **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. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry. **Servant Leadership:** We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom deportment. The core value focus for this academic year is **Spiritual Vitality**.

Curriculum Competencies

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 areas:

- 1. Biblical Exposition:** to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.
- 2. Christian Theological Heritage:** To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
- 3. Disciple Making:** To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.
- 4. Interpersonal Skills:** To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.
- 5. Servant Leadership:** To serve churches effectively through team ministry.
- 6. Spiritual and Character Formation:** To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.
- 7. Worship Leadership:** To facilitate worship effectively.

Competencies Addressed in this course: Biblical Exposition and Christian Theological Heritage

Seminar Description:

This seminar explores the various issues in the field of Old Testament theology. Emphasis is given to historical development and methodology in Old Testament theology as well as treatment of various theological emphases in the Old Testament.

Seminar Objectives:

KNOWLEDGE

1. Become aware of the various methods that have been used in the historical timeline of the growth of the field of OT Theology.
2. Become familiar with selected significant contributors and aspects of their methodological contributions to this field.

ATTITUDE

1. Appreciate the complexities of the theology and theological history of the OT.
2. Recognize the importance of sound exegesis in the development of theology.
3. Be more confident in interpreting biblical theology.

SKILLS

1. Be able to recognize and/or develop the theological themes of each OT genre by evaluating selected biblical texts.
2. Be able to demonstrate critical thought skills by reading and attempting to apply selected methodologies promoted by significant contributors of this field.

Seminar Methodology:

1. Lecture
2. Critical reading from primary source materials and anthologies presented. Bibliographic research.
3. Critical thinking and assessment of major contributors to the field of OT theology

Required Textbooks:

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

Brueggemann, Walter. *Theology of the Old Testament: Testimony, Dispute, Advocacy*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2012.

Eichrodt, Walther. *Theology of the Old Testament*. 2 vols. Translated by J. A. Parker. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1961.

Godingay, John. *Old Testament Theology*. 3 vols. Downers Grove: IVP, 2005.

Hassel, Gerhard. *Old Testament Theology: Basic Issues in the Current Debate*. 4th ed. Revised and expanded. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991.

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

Klink, Edward W., III, and Darian R. Lockett, *Understanding Biblical Theology: A Comparison of Theory and Practice*. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2012.

McKenzie, Steven L., and Stephen R. Haynes, *To Each Its Own Meaning: An Introduction to Biblical Criticisms and Their Application*, Revised and Expanded. Atlanta: WJK, 1999.

Ollenburger, Ben C., ed. *Old Testament Theology: Flowering and Future*. Revised edition. In *Sources for Biblical and Theological Study*, no. 1, Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2004.

Perdue, Leo G. *The Collapse of History: Restructuring Old Testament Theology*. In *Overtures to Biblical Theology*, ed. Walter Brueggeman, John R. Danhue, Sharyn Dowd, and Christopher R. Seitz. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1994.

———. *Reconstructing Old Testament Theology: After the Collapse of Theology*. In *Overtures to Biblical Theology*, ed. Walter Brueggeman, John R. Danhue, Sharyn Dowd, and Christopher R. Seitz. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2005

Von Rad, Gerhard. *Old Testament Theology*. 2 vols. Translated by D. M. G. Stalker. New York: Harper & Row, 1962.

Optional Textbooks:

Boda, Mark. *The Heartbeat of Old Testament Theology: Three Creedal Expressions*. Acadia Studies in Bible and Theology. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2017.

Dempster, Stephen. *Dominion and Dynasty: A Biblical Theology of the Hebrew Bible*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2006.

Dumbrell, William J. *Covenant and Creation: An Old Testament Covenant Theology*, Revised. Milton Keynes: Paternoster, 2013.

Kalimi, Isaac. *Jewish Bible Theology: Perspectives and Case Studies*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2012.

Kessler, John. *Old Testament Theology: Divine Call and Human Response*. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2013.

Merrill, Eugene. *Everlasting Dominion: A Theology of the Old Testament*. Nashville: B & H, 2014.

Rendtorff, Rolf. *The Canonical Hebrew Bible: A Theology of the Old Testament*. Blandford Forum, UK: Deo Publishing, 2011.

Routledge, Robin. *Old Testament Theology: A Thematic Approach*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012.

Seminar Requirements:

1. The first unit of the seminar is designed to introduce students to the concept of Old Testament Theology. Students will read and present material from several surveys of Old Testament Theology. Students are expected to read each of the required textbooks for the course and choose one of the optional textbooks for critical review.
 - a. For Ollenburger, students will present on one of the major divisions in the book using Powerpoint or similar presentation format. (Due by Jan 22).
 - i. Part I and Gobler response (Eric Reeves)
 - ii. Part II
 - iii. Part III
 - iv. Part IV
 - v. Part V
 - b. Students should also write a reflection paper comparing the differences between Systematic Theology, Biblical Theology, and Old Testament Theology. Paper should be 250-500 words.
2. Two major approaches to Old Testament Theology are represented by Walther Eichrodt and Gerhard von Rad. To better understand these major approaches, students will write two papers (750-1000 words each) on a passage from Hosea, Amos, Jonah, or Micah utilizing the methodology of Eichrodt and von Rad. *Due on 2/12 and 2/19.*
3. Students will also select one of the optional textbooks for critical review. The review should be 1,000-1,500 words and utilize at least 5 critical book reviews from peer reviewed publications. *Due on 3/4.*
4. Students will translate from selected portions of the 8th century prophets (Hosea, Amos, Jonah, and Micah). Translations should include both a rough and smooth translation. Any noteworthy parsings, TC notes, and syntax should also be discussed in the translation. *Translations are due on 3/11.*
5. Two paper presentations will be given in the final portion of the class. Each paper will employ a different methodology from McKenzie and Haynes and be based in one of the 8th century prophets. Total length for both papers should be approximately 16,000 words excluding front and back matter.

Method of Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated in the following areas:

1. Participation in discussion
2. Preparedness for seminar meetings
3. Presentation of book reviews
4. Presentation of papers

Course Schedule:

Date	Topic	Assignments
1/22 Week 1	Introduction to OTT Theology	Presentation of Ollenburger sections (Powerpoint) Presentation of Reflection Papers
1/29 Week 2	Introduction, Pt 2	Klink & Locket Hayes Hassel
2/5 Week 3	Introduction, Pt 3	Perdue (both volumes) Barr
2/12 Week 4	Synthetic Approach	Eichrodt Analysis of passage using synthetic approach
2/19 Week 5	Diachronic Approach	Von Rad Analysis of passage using diachronic approach
2/26 Week 6	Recent Trends in OT Theology	Brueggeman (Powerpoint) Brueggeman (Critical Review) Goldengay, vol 1 (Powerpoint) Goldengay, vol 2 (Powerpoint) Goldengay, vol 3 (Powerpoint)
3/4 Week 7	Recent Trends in OT Theology, Pt 2	Critical Book Reviews of Optional Textbooks
3/11 Week 8	Translations and Methodology	Translations Due Presentation of proposed methodologies for papers 1 & 2

3/18 Week 9	<i>Spring Break</i>	
3/25 Week 10	Application	First Paper Presentations
4/1 Week 11	Application	First Paper Presentations
4/8 Week 12	Application	First Paper Presentations
4/15 Week 13	Application	Presentation from Dr. England
4/22 Week 14	Application	Second Paper Presentations
4/29 Week 15	Application	Second Paper Presentations
5/6 Week 16	Application	Second Paper Presentations

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- Bartholomew, Craig G., and others. *Out of Egypt: Biblical Theology and Biblical Interpretation*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004.
- Beale, Gregory K. *A New Testament Biblical Theology: The Unfolding of the Old Testament in the New*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011.
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- Hasel, Gerhard Old Testament Theology: Basic Issues in the Current Debate. Fourth ed. Eerdmans, 1995.
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- Martens, Elmer A. God's Design, 3rd ed. N. Richland Hills, Tex.: BIBAL Press, 1998.
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Sociological and Anthropological Studies

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