

BS 112 – INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT
The John Leland Center for Theological Studies (Diploma Program)

Spring 2012

Course Description

This course seeks to guide the student regarding the application of critical methodology to the Biblical text to discover the basic meaning and message of the New Testament. Attention is given to the secular and religious history of the period as well as to the life and teachings of Jesus, the letters of Paul and the origins of the Christian Church.

Class Meetings

Day/Time: Fridays, 9:00am-11:50am.

Location: Grace Hills Baptist Church, Appomattox, VA

Instructor: Derik Hamby, Bachelor of Arts, Master of Divinity, Doctor of Ministry

Contact Information

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Course Textbooks

The New Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha: New Revised Standard Version, College Edition
(March 2010)

The New Testament: A Student's Introduction by Stephen L. Harris, McGraw Hill Publishing (*Earlier editions are acceptable. When you visit AMAZON go to the actual book page and look at 'other formats' and you can find previous editions under five dollars.*)

The Last Word by N.T. Wright

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & EVALUATION

Class Participation-	20%
Mid-Term-	20%
Paper/Project-	20%
Bible Study Project	20%
Final Exam-	20%

Bible Study Project: Students will choose one book of the New Testament then prepare an overview of a teaching plan for that book. The paper should contain an overview of the book, outline, summary, and major themes. The paper should then outline a four-eight week Bible study that could be used in a local church. Each class session should contain Scripture covered, major themes, and ideas to present the material. Use correct spelling and grammar.

- Papers will be 3-5 pages in length, not counting the title page and bibliography.
- Papers may be brought to class or emailed to the teacher on the due date.
- During the due date the students will be expected to discuss the material in their paper with the class.

The Last Word Project: The class will read N.T. Wright's book, *The Last Word*. We will divide the chapters up and the class will present in discussion format an overview of their assigned portion for the entire class to discuss.

Course Objectives

This course has eight primary objectives. At the end of the course it is expected that the student will be able to:

1. Be familiar with the major events and people of the New Testament.
2. Be able to articulate the purpose and message of each book of the New Testament.
3. Be able to communicate the "big picture" of the New Testament and relate the parts to the whole.
4. Be able to discuss the major theological themes of the New Testament.
5. Be able to explain the significance of the New Testament or any of its parts for a contemporary believer.
6. Be able to address the foundational significance of the New Testament to help one's study of the New Testament.
7. Have a stronger ability to teach from the New Testament in the local church.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

January 27: Introduction to the Class
An Overview of the NT
Understanding the NT
Brief Survey of the NT

February 3: How the NT was Formed and Handed Down to Us
The 2 Worlds in Which Christianity Originated
The World of Jesus
The Diverse World of the 1st Century

Chapters 1-5

February 10: Introduction to the Gospels
4 Symbols of the Gospels

Mark

Chapters 6-7

February 17: Matthew

Chapter 8

February 24: Luke
Jesus in Popular Culture and Media

Chapter 9

March 2: John
The Other Gospels
Evidence of Jesus Outside of the Gospel
Quest for the Historical Jesus Christ

Chapters 10-12

March 9: Acts of the Apostles
Pass out MID TERMS

Chapter 13

March 16: Paul- An Overview
Redeeming Paul
1 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Corinthians
Did Paul write all 13 Letters?
MID TERMS PASSED DUE

Chapters 14-15

March 23: Romans, Galatians, Philippians, Philemon
Chapter 16-17

March 30: Disputed Letters of Paul- 2 Thessalonians, Colossians, Ephesians

Chapter 18

April 6: **SPRING BREAK**

April 13: The Pastoral Epistles
BIBLE LESSON PROJECTS DUE

Chapter 18

April 20: The General Epistles
Chapter 19

April 27: Discussion of the LAST WORD

May 4: Revelation
What's up with all this Left Behind Business?
PASS OUT FINALS

Chapter 20

May 11: After the NT- What Happened Next?
Tips on How to Read the Bible
Closing Conversation

Chapters 20-21