# REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



A Survey of the Old Testament

**Exploring Ancient Israel** 

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IBS

June 15-June 28 2016 Fort Collins

#### COURSE

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Explore Israel's Background
- Explore Israel's Bible
- Explore Israel's Law
- Explore Israel's Prophets
- Explore Israel's Writings

WRITTEN TO TEACH US, SO THAT THROUGH ENDURANCE AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE SCRIPTURES WE MIGHT HAVE HOPE.

# What This Course Is About

Have you ever thought of the Old Testament as a training manual to equip you for life and ministry? That is exactly why God gave you these thirty-nine books!

The Old Testament is a unified book that tells an ancient story about God establishing his ideal for the world (Law), how that ideal was lost (Prophets) and then restored at least in part (Writings).

The story in the Old Testament is the prelude to the greatest story ever told, the story of God's ultimate restoration in Jesus Christ.



Seeing your personal story as part of this larger story is key to grasping the significance of your life and ministry.

As you grow in your understanding of the Old Testament, you will grow in your knowledge of Christ and in your likeness to him. **Welcome to the exploration!** 

# What You Can Expect to Learn

**How to read** and understand books the Old Testament and the Old Testament as a whole.

**How to live** in freedom and integrity in your relationships with God and others through the reflecting on the messages found in books of the Old Testament.

**How to find** encouragement and hope in the pages of the Old Testament.

How to use the Old Testament in your own life and your ministry.

CONTEMPORARY RELEVANCE

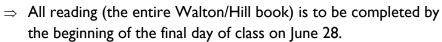
OHN H. WALTON ANDREW E. HILL

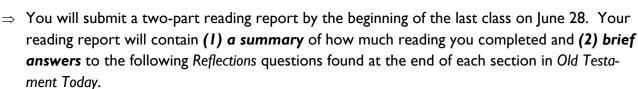
# What You Need To Read

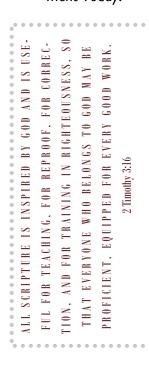
## The following textbook is required reading for the course:

- ⇒ Walton, John H., and Andrew E. Hill. Old Testament Today: A Journey from Ancient Context to Contemporary Relevance. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2014.
- ⇒ Note: There is a Nook version available at <a href="http://www.barnesandnoble.com">http://www.barnesandnoble.com</a>.

Given the fact that we will cover the whole Old Testament, it would be good to do as much of the assigned reading as possible before the first day of class.







I Orientation Fundamentals	4 Prophets
None	<b>#9</b>
2 Pentateuch	#10
#6	A question of your choice
#13	5 Wisdom and Psalms
A question of your choice	#I
3 Old Testament Narrative	#7
#3	A question of your choice
#28	6 Epilogue
A question of your choice	None

- ⇒ The first part of the report will be submitted on a 1-10 scale on Canvas.
- ⇒ The second part of the report will be a pdf uploaded to Canvas. First, type the question. Then type a brief response to the question based on your reading.

# How You Will Be Graded

### Part of your grade will be based on a final exam.

- ⇒ The exam will be online and objective.
- ⇒ The questions will be based on the lectures.
- ⇒ The exam will be worth 50 points.
- ⇒ You can take the exam any time between Wednesday, June 28 at 4:00 p.m. and Thursday, June 29 at 8:00 p.m.

### The other part of your grade will be based on your reading.

- ⇒ The reading will be worth 50 points.
- ⇒ You will receive 2 points per question and 26 points for completing 100% of the reading.
- $\Rightarrow$  You will turn in a reading report by the beginning of the last class on June 28.

# What We Will Cover

# Exploring Israel's Background: Biblical Theology, Geography, and Archaeology

Unit 01 A View from the Mountain Top: Biblical-theological Images of the Land

Unit 02 Exploring the Land: The Geography of Israel

Unit 03 Visiting the OT World: The Theology of the Canaan

#### Exploring Israel's Bible: Law, Prophets, and Writings

Unit 04 The Hebrew Canon: It's Arrangement and Theology

#### Exploring Israel's Law: The Ideal Established

Unit 05 The Primary History: Genesis to Deuteronomy

#### **Exploring Israel's Prophets: The Ideal Lost**

Unit 06 The Primary History: Joshua to Kings

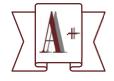
Unit 07 My Servants the Prophets: The Nature of the Prophetic Books

### **Exploring Israel's Writings: The Ideal Restored**

Unit 08 Abundant Living: Psalms

Unit 09 Wise Living: Proverbs

Unit 10 Ideal Living: The Chronicler's History



AND
BEGINNING
WITH MOSES
AND ALL THE
PROPHETS, HE
EXPLAINED TO
THEM WHAT
WAS SAID IN
ALL THE
SCRIPTURES
CONCERNING
HIMSELF.
LUKE 24:27
(NIV)

# What You Can Study In The Future

#### Introduction

⇒ Longman, Tremper III and Raymond B. Dillard. An Introduction to the Old Testament (2nd ed.; Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2007).

#### Theology

⇒ Waltke, Bruce K. An Old Testament Theology: An Exegetical, Canonical, and Thematic Approach (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2007).

## History

⇒ Merrill, Eugene H. Kingdom of Priests: A History of Old Testament Israel (2nd ed.; Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008).

### Geography

⇒ Beitzel, Barry J. The New Moody Atlas of the Bible (Chicago, IL: Moody, 2009).

#### **Archaeology**

⇒ Currid, John D. Doing Archaeology in the Land of the Bible: A Basic Guide (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1999).

#### Creation

⇒ Hagopian, David, ed. The Genesis Debate: Three Views on the Days of Creation (Mission Viejo, CA: Crux, 2000).

#### **Pentateuch**

⇒ Vogt, Peter T. Interpreting the Pentateuch: An Exegetical Handbook (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2009).

#### **Historical Books**

⇒ Chisholm, Robert B. *Interpreting the Historical Books: An Exegetical Handbook* (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2006).

#### **Psalms and Wisdom Books**

⇒ Futato, Mark D. Interpreting the Psalms: An Exegetical Handbook (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2007).

# **Prophetic Books**

⇒ Smith, Gary, and David M. Howard Jr. Interpreting the Prophetic Books: An Exegetical Handbook. (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2014).

