



Instructor:
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Prerecorded
Virtual Course

COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

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

FOR EVERYTHING THAT WAS WRITTEN IN THE PAST WAS
WRITTEN TO TEACH US, SO THAT THROUGH ENDURANCE AND THE
ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE SCRIPTURES WE MIGHT HAVE HOPE.
ROMANS 15:4

Exploring Ancient Israel

A Survey of the Old Testament

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.

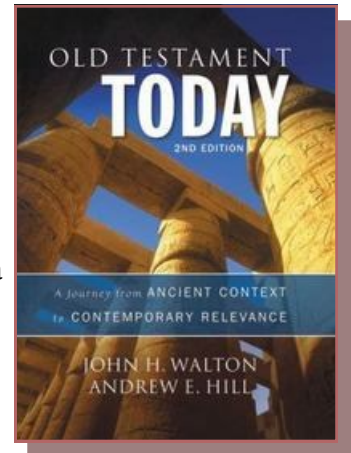
How to find encouragement and hope in the pages of the Old Testament.

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

Topics, Readings and Reflection Questions

Required Text:

- ⇒ 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.



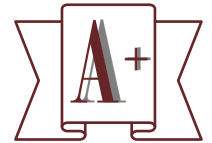
Assigned Reading and Questions to be Answered:

- ⇒ Reading is to be completed according to the schedule below with a reading report to be submitted at the end of class.
- ⇒ Answer 10 Reflections questions found at the end of the Units in *Old Testament Today* (two are of your choice).

Topics

Readings	Reflection Questions
Module 01 Theology of the Land Unit 1 (1-25), Unit 2 Ch. 2 (46-75)	
Module 02 Geography of the Land Unit 2 Intro - Ch. 1 (26-45)	
Module 03 Canaanite Theology Unit 3 Ch. 2 (163-196)	Unit 3 Reflect. #3
Module 04 Hebrew Canon No Reading Assignment	
Module 05-06 Primary History (Part 1) Unit 2 Ch. 3 - Ch. 4 (76-139)	Unit 2 Reflect. #6, #13 and choice
Module 05-06 Primary History (Part 2) Unit 3 Intro - Ch. 1, Ch 3, 4 (140-162, 197-223, 230-245)	Unit 3 Reflect. #28 and choice
Module 07 Prophets Unit 4 All (246-319)	Unit 4 Reflect. #9, #10
Module 08 Psalms Unit 5 Intro, Ch. 2-3, 4 (320-223, 332-357, 367-378)	Unit 5 Reflect. #7
Module 09 Proverbs Unit 5 Ch. 1, 4, 5 (324-331, 358-367, 378-415)	Unit 5 Reflect. #1
Module 10 Chronicler's History Unit 3 Ch. 3, Unit 6 (223-229, 416-434)	

How You Will Be Graded



Reading Walton and Hill - Due at the end of class (20%)

- ⇒ Points given based on % read

Reading Reflection Questions - Due at the end of class (10%)

- ⇒ 10 questions worth 1 point each.
- ⇒ A Reflection Questions worksheet is provided in the course.

Discussion Posts - Due at the end of each module (20%)

- ⇒ 10 posts and responses worth 2 points each. Each initial post should be 150-300 words.
- ⇒ After you have posted on a topic, you should respond to at least 2 other students posts.

Quizzes - Due at the end of each module (20%)

- ⇒ 10 quizzes with 10 questions each.
- ⇒ Quizzes will be based on lecture material only. No use of the Bible, notes or other materials.

Essay on a Minor Prophet - Due at the end of class (30%)

- ⇒ Begin work during module 7

Course Access and Due Dates

- ⇒ Access to the course (not content) will be given at registration.
- ⇒ Access to individual course modules (content) will open two weeks ahead of the course schedule. This will help ensure that students are roughly in the same place in the course and will provide for better interaction. Students may work up to a maximum of two weeks ahead to provide flexibility in planning.
- ⇒ Discussion posts and quizzes must be completed by the assigned dates or you will be given a zero for the assignment.

Grading Scale

- | | | | |
|----------|----|-------|----|
| ⇒ 94-100 | A | 80-81 | C+ |
| ⇒ 92-93 | A- | 74-79 | C |
| ⇒ 90-91 | B+ | 72-73 | C- |
| ⇒ 84-89 | B | 0-71 | F |
| ⇒ 82-83 | B- | | |
- ⇒ You will need a grade of 72 or better to pass the course and obtain the required IBS credit.

Essay on a Minor Prophet

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)

General Instructions

- ⇒ Choose Hosea, Amos, or Micah
- ⇒ Essay should be 1,500 - 2,500 words in length
- ⇒ Begin work during the week of Module 7 on Prophets
- ⇒ Read the book twice from beginning to end
- ⇒ Take notes as you read
- ⇒ Consult other study resources for help as was used in your BSM class. These include a good study Bible (such as ESV) and a full Bible Commentary (such as the South Asia Bible Commentary).
- ⇒ Remember to cite any resources consulted in the text of the document and provide a bibliography at the end.
- ⇒ Upload your work as a PDF.

Your essay should address the following subjects:

- ⇒ Main idea and background. Explain the outline and the main ideas of the book. What is the historical, religious, and social context in which the prophet ministered?
- ⇒ Content of the book. What does God say to the Israelites? What issues does He address? Discuss significant words of divine condemnation, warning, promise, and hope (and other kinds, if any) in the book you have chosen. What is the attitude of God towards His people in the words the prophet communicates? How are His feelings of anger, grief, love, jealousy, etc. expressed?
- ⇒ Find, if any, the NT passages in which this book is quoted (look in the footnotes of your Bible). Write down how this book is being used in the NT and explain why this is important for NT believers. How would you look at this book through Jesus' eyes? Be sure to consult Unit 6 (Epilogue) in your textbook for some ideas on how to do this properly.
- ⇒ What applications does this book have for you and the church today? How would you make use of them in a message or teaching?

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).
- ⇒ Curtis, Edward M. *Interpreting the Wisdom Books: An Exegetical Handbook*. (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic, 2017).

Prophetic Books

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