



Instructor:
Dr. Mark D. Futato
mfutato@rts.edu

IBS
Virtual

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.

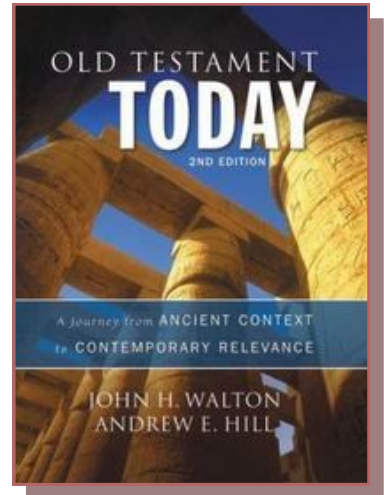
How to find encouragement and hope in the pages of the Old Testament.

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

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 <http://www.barnesandnoble.com>.
- ⇒ You are responsible for reading the entire textbook.



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.

- ⇒ All reading is to be completed by the beginning of the final day of class.
- ⇒ You will take a reading report quiz. Questions 1-2 are worth 1 point each. Questions 3-10 are worth 1.5 points each. If, for example, you read 80%, you will mark the first 8 questions True and the last 2 False. Canvas will then give you 8/10. You are on your honor.
- ⇒ You will submit a reading report by the beginning of the last class. Your reading report will contain brief answers to the following *Reflections* questions found at the end of each section in *Old Testament Today*.

ALL SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED BY GOD AND IS USEFUL FOR TEACHING, FOR REPROOF, FOR CORRECTION, AND FOR TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS, SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELONGS TO GOD MAY BE PROFICIENT, EQUIPPED FOR EVERY GOOD WORK.
 2 Timothy 3:16

1 Orientation Fundamentals	4 Prophets
None	#9
2 Pentateuch	#10
#6	A question of your choice
#13	5 Wisdom and Psalms
A question of your choice	#1
3 Old Testament Narrative	#7
#3	A question of your choice
#28	6 Epilogue
A question of your choice	None

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 TBD.



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

- ⇒ The reading will be worth 50 points.
- ⇒ You will receive 3 points per question and 14 points for completing 100% of the reading.
- ⇒ You will take a reading report quiz by the beginning of the last class on March 18th.

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).
- ⇒ 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).