



Instructor:

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School

Of

Leadership

COURSE
HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore Israel's Background
- Explore Israel's History
- Explore Israel's Poetry
- Explore Israel's Prophecy

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!

You encounter many different kinds of literature as you read your Old Testament. In this course you will explore all the dimensions of the Old Testament—**background, history, poetry, and prophecy**—looking for lessons that will empower you for effective living and serving in the world God has made.

The books of the Old Testament tell a story of God's love and design for everyone he has made. This story is the prelude to the greatest story ever told, the story of God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ. 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 the history, poetry, wisdom, and prophecy of the Old Testament.

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.

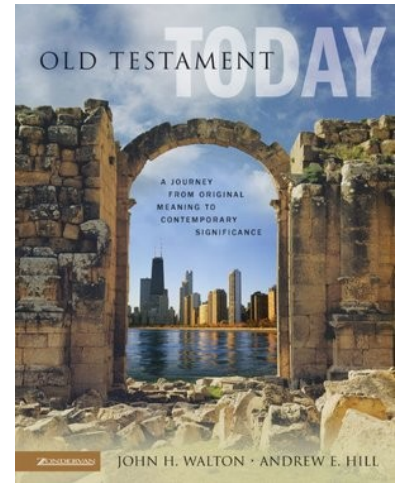
How to use the Old Testament in your own life and your ministry.

What You Need To Read

The following textbook is required reading for the course:

- ⇒ John H. Walton and Andrew E. Hill, *Old Testament Today: A Journey from Original Meaning to Contemporary Significance* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2004).
- ⇒ Note: There is a Nook version available at <http://www.barnesandnoble.com>.
- ⇒ Note: The readings are complementary to the lectures, so students should not expect overlap in the two.

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 before the submission of the final exam.
- ⇒ Your reading report will contain (1) **a summary** of how much reading you completed (e.g. “I completed ____ % of the reading”) and (2) **brief answers** to the following Reflections questions found at the end of each chapter 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 Fundamentals

None

2 Pentateuch

Chap 1 #4

Chap 2 #2

Chap 3 #1

3 Historical Literature

Chap 1 #3

Chap 2 #11

Chap 3 #1

4 Prophetic Literature

Chap 1 #1

Chap 2 #4

Chap 3 #8

5 Wisdom Literature

Chap 1 #1

Chap 2 #8

Chap 3 #9

6 Psalms

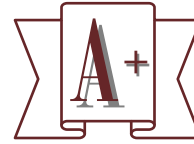
Chap 1 #5

Chap 2 #1

Chap 3 #7

- ⇒ All answers are to be typed.
- ⇒ First, type the question.
- ⇒ Then type a brief response to the question based on your reading.

How You Will Be Graded



Quizzes and Exam.

- ⇒ There are 10 quizzes worth 10 points each, totaling 100 points = 50% of your grade.
- ⇒ There is a Final Exam worth 40 points = 20% of your grade. The final will be online and objective. It will be open for one week after the completion of the lecture portion of the course. The questions will be based on the lectures.

Ministry Reflection.

- ⇒ There 10 ministry reflections worth 2 points each, totaling 20 points = 10% of your grade. Each reflection is to be between 250 and 500 words and must show an application of the lecture material to your ministry. You will also post 3 critiques per session of other students' posts.

Reading.

- ⇒ The reading responses are worth 1 point each, totaling 15 points and the reading itself is worth 25 points making all reading total 40 points = 20% of your grade.

What We Will Cover

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

- Session 01 *A View from the Mountain Top: Biblical-theological Images of the Land*
- Session 02 *Exploring the Land: The Geography of Israel*
- Session 03 *Visiting the OT World: The Archaeology and Theology of the ANE*

Exploring Israel's History: Genesis to Esther

- Session 04 *The Primary History: Genesis to Kings (Part 1)*
- Session 05 *The Primary History: Genesis to Kings (Part 2)*
- Session 06 *The Chronicler's History: Chronicles to Ezra-Nehemiah*

Exploring Israel's Poetry: Job to The Song of Songs

- Session 07 *Abundant Living: Psalms*
- Session 08 *Wise Living: Proverbs*

Exploring Israel's Prophecy: Isaiah to Malachi

- Session 09 *My Servants the Prophets: The Nature of the Prophetic Books*
- Session 10 *God's Mission, Our Response: The Message of Jonah*

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

- ⇒ McConville, Gordon. *Exploring the Old Testament: A Guide to the Prophets* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2003).