



BTS Mission:

Providing sound Biblical and practical theological training to equip leaders for Christ's Church.

2200 Briarwood Way • Birmingham, Alabama 35243 • (205) 776-5650

Semester:	Fall 2020	Course:	NT 2033 New Testament III (Non-Pauline)
Day & Time:	Tue. 5:30-7:00 pm	Room:	A201
Professor:	Matthew Aernie Ph.D.	Credits:	2 Hours
E-mail:	maernie@gmail.com	Phone:	205-901-4445

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to the General Epistles (non-Pauline) in the New Testament. This course specifically focuses on the books of Hebrews-Revelation taking into account the literary techniques employed by each author to communicate the theological message of each book.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Students will be able to think through the arguments for Hebrews and the General Epistles.
2. Students will learn the themes, purpose, and message, and outline for Hebrews and the General Epistles.
3. Students will learn some of the literary techniques necessary for a proper interpretation of Hebrews and the General Epistles.
4. Students will increase in their proficiency at interpreting Hebrews and the General Epistles.
5. Students will learn and understand the role and significance of knowing the historical cultural background information necessary for proper interpretation for Hebrews and the General Epistles.
6. Students will apply Christ's teaching about gleaned from Hebrews and the General Epistles to their present and future ministry settings.

REQUIRED COURSE TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Beale, G.K. *God Dwells Among Us: Expanding Eden to the Ends of the Earth*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2014.

Jobes, Karen. *Letters to the Church: A Survey of Hebrews and the General Epistles*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011. ISBN: 9780310267386

Martin, Ralph P, and Peter Davids, *Dictionary of the Later New Testament and Its Development*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1997. ISBN: 978-0-8308-1779-5

OTHER SUGGESTED READINGS

Lockett, Darian. *An Introduction to the Catholic Epistles*. London: T & T Clark, 2012.

Wilder, Terry L., J. Daryl Charles, Kendell Easley. *Faithful to the End: An Introduction to Hebrews through Revelation*. Nashville: B & H, 2007.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

All work must be submitted on the prescribed due dates. Carefully **proofread** your work before submitting, all submissions must be error free.

This class will meet weekly students are expected to set aside a minimum of 2-3 hours each week in preparation for the 2-hour class time. That figure includes readings, writing assignments, and work on your final paper. Note that each lesson may not require the same amount of time designated for coursework. Read the syllabus thoroughly; Proper Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance

Textbook and Scripture Readings. Students are expected to accomplish all the required reading for the course. You will be asked to submit a reading report at the end of the semester.

Participation in class discussions. At the graduate level courses are typically conducted in a seminar style format. This means that the professor initiates and facilitates the discussion. Students are expected to actively participate in the class discussion. Failure to engage in class dialogue will be reflected in the student's final course grade.

A book critique is to be a **critique** of the book. Do not merely summarize the contents; rather evaluate the book's strengths and weaknesses. The book you will critique is: G.K. Beale, *God Dwells Among Us: Expanding Eden to the Ends of the Earth*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2014.

As you read, ask yourself and answer these questions, read **critically**:

- ☞ Begin your critique with **the bibliographic information** (Title, author, publisher, place and date of publication) of the book you have chosen to critique.
- ☞ Write a **brief summary** of the **main** theme and any **major secondary themes** of the author. I do not want a book review. I already know the content. Just give me enough to show you have read and digested the material.
- ☞ Include your **analysis** of the arguments the author sets forth. Your analysis should be focused primarily upon **how faithfully you think the author has interpreted and applied the Scripture**.
- ☞ **Evaluate** how they have either **succeeded or failed** in taking into account **all** of Scripture (in other words, is it a systematic argument or simply a use of some isolated proof texts?) **citing instances** from the book to support your evaluation.
- ☞ Tell me **why you agree or disagree** with their conclusion(s), using the Scriptures to support

any differing views you may hold.

- ☞ Conclude with a paragraph that states **what you have gained personally and professionally** from reading this book.

The book critique is **due November 10** (preferably sooner).

Please be aware that any form of plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the book critique.

Please refer to the BTS Student Handbook section on plagiarism for guidance.

Midterm and Final Exams: Please see course schedule

GRADING WEIGHT & COMMENTS

COURSE REQUIREMENT	GRADE WEIGHT	COMMENTS
Textbook and General Epistles Readings	20 points	There will be a reading report due at the end of the semester
Midterm Exam	30 points	
Final Exam	30 points	
Book Critique	20 points	
Total	100 points	

COURSE SCHEDULE (Tentative)

DAY	DATE	AGENDA / TOPIC
Tuesday	9/8	<p>In Class Lecture and Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • Review Syllabus • What are the General Epistles? <p>Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin reading the book of Hebrews • Read Jobes pages 1-19
Tuesday	9/15	<p>In Class Lecture and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin discussion of Hebrews <p>Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue reading Hebrew • Read Jobes pages 23-77 • Read DLNT “Hebrews,” pages 443-458
Tuesday	9/22	<p>In Class Lecture and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue discussion of Hebrews <p>Assignments</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Jobes pages 79-113
Tuesday	9/29	<p>In Class Lecture and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclude discussion of Hebrews <p>Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Jobes pages 116-143
Tuesday	10/6	<p>In Class Lecture and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin discussion of James <p>Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the epistles of James • Read Jobes pages 148-181 • Read DLNT “James,” pages 545-560
Tuesday	10/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NO CLASS.....Fall Break
Tuesday	10/20	<p>In Class Lecture and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclude discussion of James <p>Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Jobes pages 184-232
Tuesday	10/27	<p>In Class Lecture and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin discussion of 1-2 Peter and Jude <p>Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the epistles of 1-2 Peter and Jude • Read Jobes 233-297
Tuesday	11/3	<p>In Class Lecture and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclude Discussion of 1-2 Peter and Jude <p>Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the epistles of 1-2 Peter and Jude • Read Jobes pages 300-390 • Midterm Exam is due
Tuesday	11/10	<p>In Class Lecture and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of 1-3 John <p>Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the epistles of 1-3 John • Read Jobes pages 396-450
Tuesday	11/17	In Class Lecture and Discussion

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin discussion of Revelation <p>Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin Reading the book of Revelation • Beale book critique due
Tuesday	11/24	NO CLASS.....Thanksgiving Break
Tuesday	12/1	<p>In Class Lecture and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue discussion of Revelation <p>Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue reading the book of Revelation • Read DLNT “Revelation, Book of,” pages 1025-1038
Tuesday	12/8	<p>In Class Lecture and Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclude of Revelation • Final thoughts and Final exam discussion <p>Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final exam is due Friday December 11 at 5:00 pm central time.

BTS FORMAT, STYLE, AND WRITING STANDARDS

BTS has adopted Turabian as the standard form and style for writing formal papers. However, professors retain discretion in determining how “formal” a paper must be. Students should reference Kate Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 9th Edition*. A Turabian Supplement is available through the seminary. Students should also refer to the BTS Student Handbook on academic integrity/plagiarism. Below is a Paper Grading Rubric for formal papers:

A to A-	B to B-	C to C-	D to D-
Correct spelling and grammar/punctuation	Minor errors in spelling or grammar/punctuation	Many errors in spelling or grammar/punctuation	Difficult to read due to English writing errors
Smooth writing that provides for effective and efficient reading	Writing is acceptable, but not as organized and coherent	Writing is not smooth, sometimes confusing and inconsistent	Writing lacks clarity, focus, structure, and is incoherent
Person and format are proper for assignment	Person and format are inconsistent	Person and format are not appropriate	Person and format are totally inappropriate
Scripture, paraphrases, quotes, and summaries are appropriately used, cited, and clearly	Scripture, paraphrases, quotes, and summaries are appropriate but need more depth and	Scripture, paraphrases, quotes, and summaries are inadequate for main argument and do	Scripture, paraphrases, quotes, and summaries are improperly used, overused, under used,

supports main argument	use of critical thinking	not reflect understanding	or cited in error
Paper completely conforms to Turabian's <i>Manual for Writers</i>	Paper generally conforms to Turabian's <i>Manual for Writers</i>	Paper somewhat conforms to Turabian's <i>Manual for Writers</i>	Paper does not conform to Turabian's <i>Manual for Writers</i>

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to demonstrate punctuality and attend all class sessions. Any absences should be communicated to the professor and/or seminary office prior to the absence. In the absence of professor approval, a student will be permitted two absences per semester in a course. Tardiness may be recorded and three unexcused tardies will be counted as one unexcused absence. Unexcused absences and tardies exceeding the allowance may result in the student being dropped from the course with an “F” grade.

CLASS POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Refer to Student Handbook:

<https://bts.education/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Student-Handbook-2016-Current.pdf>

ANNOTATED SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY (Major Commentaries)

HEBREWS

Attridge, H. *The Epistle to the Hebrews* (Hermeneia). Philadelphia: Fortress, 1989.

Ellingworth, P. *The Epistle to the Hebrews* (NIGTC). G. R.: Eerdmans, 1993.

Lane, W. L. *Hebrews* (WBC), 2 vols. Dallas: Word, 1991.

Bruce, F. F. *The Epistle to the Hebrews* (NICNT). G. R.: Eerdmans, 1990.²

deSilva, D. A. *Perseverance in Gratitude: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on the Epistle to the Hebrews*. G.R.: Eerdmans, 2000.

Hughes, P. E. *A Commentary on the Epistle to the Hebrews*. G.R.: Eerdmans, 1977.

Johnson, L. T. *Hebrews: A Commentary* (NTL). Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 2006.

Koester, C. R. *Hebrews* (AB). New York: Doubleday, 2001.

Witherington, B., III. *Letters and Homilies for Jewish Christians: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on Hebrews, James and Jude*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2007.

Guthrie, G. H. *Hebrews* (NIVAC). G.R.: Zondervan, 1998.

McKnight, E. V. and C. Church. *Hebrews-James* (SHBC). Macon: Smyth & Helwys, 2004.

Thompson, J.W. *Hebrews* (Paideia). G.R.: Baker, 2008.

JAMES

Blomberg, C. L. and M. J. Kamell (ZECNT). Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2008.

Davids, P. H. *The Epistle of James* (NIGTC). G.R.: Eerdmans, 1982.

Martin, R. P. *James* (WBC). Waco: Word, 1988.

Brosend, W. F. II. *James and Jude* (NCBC). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004.

Hartin, P. J. *James* (SP). Collegeville: Liturgical, 2003.

Johnson, L. T. *The Letter of James* (AB). New York: Doubleday, 1995.

Moo, D. J. *The Letter of James* (PNTC). G.R.: Eerdmans, 2000.

Wall, R.W. *Community of the Wise: The Letter of James* (NTinC). Valley Forge: Trinity, 1997.

Witherington, B., III. *Letters and Homilies for Jewish Christians: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on Hebrews, James and Jude*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2007.

Baker, W. R. and T. D. Ellsworth. *Preaching James*. St. Louis: Chalice, 2004.

Nystrom, D. P. *James* (NIVAC). G.R.: Zondervan, 1997.

Stulac, G. M. *James* (NTC). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1993.

1 PETER

Achtemeier, P. D. *1 Peter* (Hermeneia). Minneapolis: Fortress, 1996.

Feldmeier, R. *The First Letter of Peter*. Waco: Baylor University Press, 2008.

Jobes, K. H. *1 Peter* (BECNT). G.R.: Baker, 2005.

Michaels, J. R. *1 Peter* (WBC). Waco: Word, 1988.

Davids, P. H. *The First Epistle of Peter* (NICNT). G.R.: Eerdmans, 1990.

Elliott, J. H. *1 Peter* (AB). N.Y.: Doubleday, 2000.

Green, J. B. *1 Peter* (THNTC). G.R.: Eerdmans, 2007.

Schreiner, T. R. *1, 2 Peter, Jude* (NAC). Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2003.

Witherington, B., III., *Letters and Homilies for Hellenized Christians, vol. 2: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on 1-2 Peter*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2007.

Grudem, W.A. *The First Epistle of Peter* (TNTC, rev.). G.R.: Eerdmans, 1998.

Marshall, I. H. *1 Peter* (NTC). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1991.

McKnight, S. *1 Peter* (NIVAC). G.R.: Zondervan, 1996.

2 PETER AND JUDE

Bauckham, R. *Jude, 2 Peter* (WBC). Waco: Word, 1983.

Green, G.L. *Jude & 2 Peter* (BECNT). G.R.: Baker, 2008.

Charles, J. D. "2 Peter," "Jude." In *EBC Revised*, ed. D. E. Garland and T. Longman III, vol. 13, 357-411, 539-69. G.R.: Zondervan, 2006.

Davids, P. H. *The Letters of Second Peter and Jude* (PNTC). G.R.: Eerdmans, 2006.

Green, E. M. B. *The Second Epistle of Peter and the Epistle of Jude* (TNTC). G.R.: Eerdmans, 1990.²

Kelly, J. N. D. *A Commentary on the Epistles of Peter and Jude* (HNTC). San Francisco: Harper, 1969.

Neyrey, J. H. *2 Peter, Jude* (AB). New York: Doubleday, 1993.

Reese, R. A. *2 Peter and Jude* (THNTC). G.R.: Eerdmans, 2007.

Schreiner, T. R. *1, 2 Peter, Jude* (NAC). Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2003.

Horrell, D. G. *The Epistles of Peter and Jude* (EC). London: Epworth, 1998.

Moo, D. J. *2 Peter, Jude* (NIVAC). G.R.: Zondervan, 1996.

Lucas, D. and C. Green. *2 Peter & Jude* (BST). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1995.

1, 2, 3 JOHN

Akin, D. L. *1, 2, 3 John* (NAC). Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2001.

Brown, R. *The Epistles of John* (AB). Garden City: Doubleday, 1982.

Burge, G. M. *The Letters of John* (NIVAC). G.R.: Zondervan, 1996.

Kruse, C. G. *The Letters of John* (PNTC). G.R.: Eerdmans, 2000.

Lieu, J.M. *I, II, & III John* (NTL). Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 2008.

Marshall, I. H. *The Epistles of John* (NICNT). G.R.: Eerdmans, 1978.

Schnackenburg, R. *The Johannine Epistles*. New York: Crossroad, 1992.

Smalley, S. S. *1, 2, 3 John* (WBC). Waco: Word, 1984.

Strecker, G. *The Johannine Letters* (Hermeneia). Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993.

Thompson, M. M. *1- 3 John* (NTC). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1992.

Yarbrough, R.W. *1-3 John* (BECNT). G.R.: Baker, 2008.

Witherington, B., III. *Letters and Homilies for Hellenized Christians, vol. 1: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on Titus, 1-2 Timothy and 1-3 John*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2006.

REVELATION

Aune, D. E. *Revelation* (WBC), 3 vols. Dallas: Word, 1997; Nashville: Nelson, 1998.

Beale, G. K. *The Book of Revelation* (NIGTC). G. R.: Eerdmans, 1999.

Boxall, I. *The Revelation of Saint John* (BNTC). Peabody: Hendrickson, 2006.

Johnson, D. E. *Triumph of the Lamb: A Commentary on Revelation*. Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed, 2001.

Keener, C. S. *Revelation* (NIVAC). G. R.: Zondervan, 2000.

Michaels, J. R. *Revelation* (NTC). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1997.

Mounce, R. H. *The Book of Revelation* (NICNT). G.R.: Eerdmans, 1997.

Osborne, G. R. *Revelation* (BECNT). G.R.: Baker, 2002.

Smalley, Stephen S. *The Revelation to John*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2005.

Witherington, B., III. *Revelation* (NCBC). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.



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STUDENT SIGNATURE

Your signature below indicates that you have read this syllabus, understand it, and willing accept the requirements and responsibilities for successfully completing this course.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____