

Anglican School of Ministry
New Testament Survey Syllabus
BIB 502
Spring 2012

Course Title: BIB 502 Survey of the New Testament
Credit Hours: 3
Instructor: Dr. Henry Baldwin
501-801-3410
henry.baldwin@anglicanschoolofministry.org

Course Texts:

Texts for this course will be in electronic format and must be purchased by the student. They will prove to be invaluable resources for years to come.

F.F. Bruce. *The New Testament Documents are they reliable?* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1981.
E-edition, 2010.

F.F. Bruce. *Paul: An Apostle with the Heart Set Free.* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1977. E-edition, 2000.

Robert H. Gundry. *A Survey of the New Testament.* 4th ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.
E-edition, 2009.

Everett Ferguson. *Backgrounds of Early Christianity.* 3rd Ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.
E-edition, 2003.

James S. Jeffers. *The Greco-Roman World of the New Testament Era: Exploring the Background of Early Christianity.* Downers Grove: IVP, 1999. E-edition, 1999.

I.H. Marshall. *A Concise New Testament Theology.* Downers Grove: IVP, 2008. E-edition, 2007.

Instructor:

Dr. Henry Baldwin is a retired Naval Officer whose knowledge of Scripture and its impact on the life of the individual were greatly enhanced by many years of close contact with The Navigators' vision for discipleship. He has studied New Testament at Westminster Theological Seminary and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He holds a Ph.D. in New Testament Theology. He and his wife Shirley served as missionary educators for more than 15 years in Asia and Europe. He is an Anglican Presbyterian in the Anglican Province of Rwanda and a member of the Staff Team of ASM.

Course Description:

This course is a broad introduction of the record of the life of Jesus Christ and the birth of the New Covenant people of God. The course will emphasize biblical content, knowledge of the historical background to the New Testament events and documents, and acquaintance with basic concepts of New Testament theology.

Course Objectives:

1. The student will gain a deeper understanding of the history and the development of the early church as it can be discerned from the Book of Acts.
2. The student will be able to briefly explain the issues surrounding both the preservation of text and the formation of the New Testament Canon. He/she will be able to explain the apologetic and the spiritual authority issues related to these two matters.
3. The student will be able to enumerate the date of writing, the setting, and the best assessment of the authorship for each NT book and where these matters stand with respect to Acts.
4. The student will identify the major themes of each NT book and the key concerns of the corpus of each NT writer. He/she will memorize 6 verses (one from the Gospels; one from Acts; two from Paul; one from the Catholic Epistles and one from Revelation) which summarize the major themes identified in these materials. These will be rehearsed on the final examination.
5. The student will attempt to create a coherent portrayal of NT theology taken as a whole when viewed as God's Word for the Church.
6. The student will be able to express familiarity with the various approaches to the problem of the NT's relationship to the OT, and be able to defend the traditional Anglican approach as expressed in our Formularies.
7. The student will be familiar with and be able to recall and engage a number of published textbooks which help provide data on the background and social setting of the NT period.
8. The student will be articulate how a conceptual knowledge of the NT framework relates to a devotional and personal reading of Scripture.

Work Assumptions:

This is a 3 credit course. In general terms, each credit for diploma-level classes is equal to about 30 total hours of work, including class, reading, assignments, and exam preparation time. Thus we have 90 [135] hours total available to us to cover a huge amount of material!

[the numbers in brackets represent the graduate level standards for these matters]

The ancient western world had about 55 million people in it. Geographically it ran from the north of Britain to about the Spanish Sahara and from the Azores to about modern Iraq. It included a vast number of people groups. Conceptually, it was even bigger: products appeared in the marketplace of Rome from as far away as India, Tanzania, and Malaysia – even the Court of the Han. Ships regularly plied the Atlantic, the Red Sea, and the Indian Ocean in pursuit of these goods. Also educated people were in various stages of awareness that outside the *pax Romana* lived numerous nations of barbarians in various levels of adaption/rejection of the Roman way of life.

Besides all this material, we must face the prime foundation for our work - the text, both Old and New Testaments. The NT text has its own content and history and organization. It is clear that we shall only be able to take a broad overview of these matters!

Here's what I will ask you to do:

| | |
|---|---------------|
| CLASS MEETINGS (11 x 2 hrs.) | 22 hours [20] |
| READING (including NT) (= approx. 800 [800] print pages x 20 [15]pages/hr.) | 40 hours [60] |
| RESPONSE PAPERS (A & B) & OTHER RESPONSES (300-400 words each x 3 hrs. x 2 papers) | 9 hours [15] |
| NT THEOLOGICAL PAPER (8 pages MAX; double-spaced, not including notes or bibliography) | 15 hours [25] |
| REVIEW & PREP FOR FINAL EXAMINATION | 4 hours [15] |

Course Schedule & Assignments:

The schedule & course requirements are laid out in calendar/topical form below Overleaf. They are summarized on pages 6 & 7.

| CLASS SCHEDULE | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| | Class Date | Key Activity | Reading Required BEFORE this Class | Assignment Due & Date |
| Weekly Topic(s) | | | | |
| Pre-session technology check out and Q&A's | TBD Week of 16 th Jan | | I. Obtain: (i) internet headset; (ii) Textbooks, electronic or print media. II. Be sure you have: (i) sound card installed; (ii) webcam installed and working | |
| Course Intro/ Backgrounds: Historical | Day of week TBD Week of 23 rd Jan | PPT: Historical Setting | | |
| Backgrounds of NT: Jewish & Greek | Week 30 th Jan | PPT's: Judaism & Hellenism | Ferguson 2,3,4,5 (less "Jewish Literature"),6 Matthew, Mark Read | |
| Backgrounds: Roman Text of NT | Week 6 th Feb | PPT's: Romanitas & Text Criticism | Jeffers 1-3, 6, 7, 12, 13 Bruce, <i>Docs</i> - "Does it Matter?"/ "Date"/"Canon" Gospel of John Read | 1. First Mentor Work Sheet due Henry |
| NT Canon | Week 13 th Feb | Discussion of Canon | All of Gundry Read Luke-Acts Read | |
| Acts & setting of NT | Week 20 th Feb | PPT: Acts | Bruce, <i>Paul</i> 1-5, 16, 17, 20, 26, 28, 31,32 | 1. Second Mentor Work Sheet due Henry 2. Response A Due on 2nd March to blog |
| More on Acts | Week 27 th Feb | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| The Synoptic "Problem" Authorship & Authority in the NT Materials | Week 5 th Mar | Discussion | All the rest of the NT | 1. Third Mentor Work Sheet due Henry 2. Post Verses on Blog Site |
| Themes & Key Verses in the NT Materials | Week 12 th Mar | Discussion | | Assigned Replies to Response A |
| What is Theology? What is NT Theology? | Week 19 th Mar | Student Response Papers | | 1. Response B Due on 6th April to blog 2. Fourth Mentor Work Sheet due Henry |
| Anglican Hermeneutics | Week 26 th Mar | Discussion | Marshall 1, 2, 6, 18, 21, 27 | |
| Holy Week – No Classes | | | | |
| Bridging The Old & New Testaments | Week 8 th April | Discussion Sharing of Key verses | Ferguson 5 ("Jewish Literature") | 1. Fifth Mentor Work Sheet due Henry |
| Final Examination (Response D) | Week of 23rd April | | | 1. Final Examination due by 29th April |
| Theological Paper (Response C) | By 15 th May | | | 1) Paper due by 15th May 2) Sixth Mentor Work Sheet due Henry |

Class/WebEx Attendance

Students must participate in every class session. Students will participate on the internet via WebEx. They will need access to a computer with soundcard and a video-cam, plus an internet headset. They must download the PPT materials before each class session and have them ready for use if not using video during the video-conference.

Reading

(the student must submit an email before the start of the requisite class session certifying that the assigned materials have been read. The readings are here collated.)

Bruce, *Documents* – First three chapters: “Does it Matter?” “Dates & Authorship” “Canon”

Bruce, *Paul* – Chapters 1-5, 16 – 20, 25 – 29, 31, 32, 36

Gundry, *Survey* – All

Ferguson, *Backgrounds* – Chapters 2 – 6

Jeffers, *Greco-Roman* – Chapters 1-3, 6, 7, 12, 13

Marshall, *Theology* – Chapters 1, 2, 6, 18, 21, 27.

Entirety of the New Testament

Responses (all responses are to be typed and submitted electronically)

1. By week 5th March post to the blog the verses chosen for memory.
2. The student will produce two 500-800 word responses on the topics assigned and submit by the date indicated. These are to be emailed to the instructor **and posted on the blog site.**
 - a. The first response (Response A) shall be to the following two questions unbelievers often have. Give approximately 300-400 words to each:
 - i. How can we be sure that we really have what Paul or Luke actually wrote – that was a very long time ago?
 - ii. How do we know that the NT, as we currently have it, is not the product of a churchly conspiracy in the IV-V Century AD – as Dan Brown asserts that it is?
 - b. The second response (Response B) is to produce a chart or grid giving for each book of the NT:
 - i. The best assignment of authorship
 - ii. The best estimate for its date and origin of writing
 - iii. The key theme (or up to three themes) of the book
 - iv. Your key verse (these serve as the source for the 6 verses you are to memorize which are discussed above)
3. The student will produce one term paper (Response C) of a **maximum** of 8 double-spaced pages (not including notes and/or bibliography) on the general topic of NT Theology, specifically the theology of one of the following: Luke/Acts or The Revelation to John or the Book of Hebrews.

Additional bibliography that may be of help for this assignment could be:

- a. Luke-Acts
 - i. Fitzmyer, Joseph. *Commentary on the Gospel According to Luke I-IX: Introduction, Translation, and Notes*. The Anchor Bible Commentary Series, Vol. 28. New York: Doubleday, 1982 (The theology section is in Vol. 1).
 - ii. Guthrie, Donald. *NT Theology*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1981.
 - iii. Green, Joel B. *The Theology of the Gospel of Luke*. Cambridge Univ. Press, 1995.
- b. Hebrews
 - i. Lindars, B. *The Theology of the Letter to the Hebrews*. CUP, 1993.
 - ii. Brown, Raymond. *The Message of Hebrews*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1984.
 - iii. Bruce, F.F. *The Epistle to the Hebrews*. The New International Commentary on the New Testament Series. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990.
- c. Revelation
 - i. Bauckham, Richard. *The Theology of the Book of Revelation*. CUP, 1993. Kindle ed., 2003.
 - ii. Mounce, Robert H. *The Book of Revelation*. The New International Commentary on the New Testament Series. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, rev. ed. 2010. Kindle ed. 2010.

All these works have at least one section on the theology of the NT author concerned.

Final Examination

Students will take an near-open book, self-timed, final examination (Response D) distributed by the instructor near the end of the course.

Grading Policy:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Class/WebEx™ Attendance & Mentoring | 15% |
| Reading w/ certification | 20% |
| Responses | |
| 1. Response Paper #1 | 5% |
| 2. Response Paper #2 | 5% |
| 3. Theological Paper | 25% |
| Examination | 30% |

Mentoring Activities:

ASM is a community of spiritual and ministry formation. That means we are interested in YOU as a person and your growth in Christ, not to the exclusion of your brain, but to the inclusion of your heart and character. That is why Mentoring is a part of every semester at ASM. In order to do this in some

organized way (as well as one *can* orchestrate and organize what the Holy Spirit wants to do in your life), we have a plan. So please do the following:

1. Read “Document 1 – Mentoring Manual & Instructions” sent to you by email. Send a copy to your mentor.
2. Complete “Document 2 – Mentoring Information Worksheet” and “Document 3 - Mentoring Covenant Form” (both sent to you by email) with the advice and consent of your mentor and return them to Dr. Quay: mark.quay@anglicanschoolofministry.org .
3. You and your mentor, separately, complete “Document 4 - Pre-Course Survey Form” sent to you by email and return them to Dr. Quay: mark.quay@anglicanschoolofministry.org.
4. Send a copy of this syllabus to your mentor.
5. Complete and send to me “Document 5 – Mentor-Student Course Work sheet” at the required due dates indicated on the class schedule: henry.baldwin@anglicanschoolofministry.org