



# TYNDALE

• SEMINARY •

Course Syllabus

**Winter 2013**

**NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY & HISTORY**

**NEWT 0522**

WEDNESDAYS, 1:00 – 3:50 PM

JANUARY 16 – APRIL 10, 2013

INSTRUCTOR: DR. VAN JOHNSON

Telephone number: 416 291 9575

Email: [vjohnson@tyndale.ca](mailto:vjohnson@tyndale.ca)

To e-mail assignments, send to Ben: [sendmeyourpaper@gmail.com](mailto:sendmeyourpaper@gmail.com)

**Office Hours:** Consultation available by appointment, please e-mail me to arrange.

To access your course material, please go to <http://mytyndale.ca>

## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the New Testament focusing on its over-arching vision of God's mission in the world and how human beings are called to respond. Each book will be placed in its historical and cultural setting as we focus on its distinctive contribution to the New Testament. Along the way students will be introduced to critical methods for studying the New Testament and will reflect on how we can integrate scholarly perspectives with a conviction that the New Testament is the word of God.

Recommended: BIBL 0501

## II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, the student will:

- Use appropriate NT critical methodologies when studying the NT;

Draft

- Employ different interpretive approaches for the various genres of NT literature;
- Teach the NT more effectively through awareness of its overarching themes, the general content of the NT corpus, and the various theological perspectives of the NT writers;
- Read and teach the NT with sensitivity to the seminal role of apocalyptic eschatology throughout the NT;
- Be prepared to pursue further NT work; and
- Respond to God’s mission personally, having heard the NT witness to Christ.

### III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### A. REQUIRED TEXTS

The New Testament, in a non-paraphrase translation (i.e., not *The Living Bible*, nor *The Message*, nor *New English Bible*), and preferably: NIV, NRSV, NASB, or ESV.

Achtemeier, Paul et al. *Introducing the New Testament: Its Literature and Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001. ISBN: 802837174

VanderKam, James. *An Introduction to Early Judaism*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001. ISBN: 802846416

#### B. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

##### 1. Textbook readings and weekly reports: Due weekly; 12.5% of final grade.

*The readings are intended to complement the lectures, reinforcing central ideas as well as providing detail that is not given in the lectures. There are 2 reasons why I ask for a short weekly response to the textbook readings. 1) I am evaluating your ability to identify primary issues, and 2) your questions will alert me to what issues need more explanation.*

Each week a 1-page response will be submitted electronically to:

[sendmeyourpaper@gmail.com](mailto:sendmeyourpaper@gmail.com). Ben, the TA for the course, will collect and return these to you by email.

You are responding to the assigned pages from the textbooks.

These are due **before 1.00 p.m. on the day of class**, starting with week #2.

In each report, identify and explain 2 main concepts that are significant for your understanding of the NT and 1 question that you would like more discussion about. For each main concept, write one paragraph that explains the concept sufficiently so that a non-NTTH student would understand it. In other words, how would you explain the idea and its importance to a Sunday School class? Then write a question: one that asks for clarification about an idea in the textbook, or one that asks about the implications of an idea for biblical/theological understanding, or one that asks about the applicability of an idea for ministry.

Draft

1% will be awarded each week that the reading and response is completed on time, with 2.5% awarded at the end as a bonus if all 10 reading reports were submitted on time. *There is no grade given for completing textbook readings after their assigned due dates.*

**See course outline for reading schedule and due dates.** Note: INT stands for *Introducing the New Testament*, and EJ for *Early Judaism*.

**2. NT readings:** Due weekly; 12.5% of final grade.

*The NT text itself is the primary document of this course. Appropriate to a survey course on the NT is the reading of the entire corpus. Reading the text within a semester will highlight common elements, but also reveal the contrasting styles and content of the twenty-seven books.*

Students will read through the NT in 10 sections. For reading the assigned NT passage before the weekly due date, 1% will be awarded (with bonus of 2.5% with completion of all readings on time). **No written report required.** You will be asked to fill in a sheet that records the completion of the weekly readings. Any missed NT readings (not completed when assigned) may be credited with .5% if done before April 10. On April 10, a sheet will be circulated in class where a student may record the completion of a missed NT reading.

**See course outline for due dates.**

**3. Examination of NT Eschatology: Already/Not Yet**

*A formative eschatological perspective underlies all NT writings. The assignment requires that you read a NT book with sensitivity to the eschatological understanding that affects its shape and content.*

**3.1 Write an analysis of the eschatological expressions in one NT book:** Due on March 6; 30% of final grade.

Students will be assigned different NT books. The biblical text is the only resource required for this assignment. The student will prepare a 5-page summary in table format, which depicts how the NT book reflects the “already/not yet” perspective of the early church. Each relevant passage is to be classified with 5 points of information: 1. Scripture reference; 2. Eschatological marker; 3. Timing (already; not yet; or both); 4. Function (encouragement; exhortation; or evangelism); and 5. Explanation (brief summary of columns 1-4). Also, the student should evaluate whether the biblical book shows more concern for “the already” or for the “not yet.”

This assignment is to be **submitted in paper form**, and is due at the beginning of class on March 6.

### **3.2 Class Participation:** On March 6; 5% of final grade.

5% is reserved for students' 2-3 minute oral presentation on March 6. For those who are prepared to present their work on the assigned day, 3-5 points will be awarded. The range of 3-5 allows the instructor to rank the clarity of the points made and the quality of the examples given. Each student is to give one example of the "not yet," one example of the "already," and an overall assessment as to which eschatological reference is more prominent in the assigned NT book.

### **4. Teachings notes for a NT book:** Due on April 3; 40% of final grade.

*One of the goals of this course is that you teach the NT effectively. By preparing a lecture, you will be asked to think through what is most important and how to communicate it. You will be ready for your first Sunday School class.*

Prepare a lecture for an adult Sunday School class that explains one NT book (the student may choose any NT book other than the one assigned in #3), describing: 1) how the book fits into the NT canon [genre; chronology]; 2) the situation that it responds to; 3) the structure and flow of the book; 4) central themes; and 5) how the central themes relate to current concerns. Although the assignment is presented in point form, references should be cited and bibliography included according to the Chicago Manual of Style.

Please submit electronically to [sendmeyourpaper@gmail.com](mailto:sendmeyourpaper@gmail.com). Ben, the TA for the course, will collect and return these to you by email.

## **C. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK**

### **Academic Integrity**

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism. Tyndale University College & Seminary takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty.

Students should consult the current [Academic Calendar](#) for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System. The Academic Calendar is posted at <http://tyndale.ca/registrar>.

For proper citation style, consult the [Chicago-Style Quick Guide](#) (Tyndale e-resource) or the full edition of the [Chicago Manual of Style Online](#), especially [ch. 14](#). For citing scripture texts, refer to sections 10.46 to 10.51 and 14.253 to 14.254.

#### D. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

1. Weekly textbook readings	12.5 %
2. Weekly NT readings	12.5 %
3.1 Eschatology, written report	30%
3.2 Eschatology, oral report	5%
4. Teaching notes for NT book	40%
Total grade	100%

#### E. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT & READING SCHEDULE

##### **CONTENT: Lecture Outline**

1. The New Testament Text
  - 1.1 Reading the NT (historical criticism)
  - 1.2 How we got the NT
    - 2.1 Transmission of NT books (text criticism)
    - 2.2 Selection of NT books (canonicity)
  
2. Matrix of NT: Judaism and Greco-Roman world
  - 2.1 History of Second Temple period
  - 2.2 Judaism, its unity and diversity
  - 2.3 Greco-Roman culture
  - 2.4 Apocalyptic Eschatology: Jewish and Christian
  
3. Jesus and the gospels –
  - 3.1 Background issues
    - 3.1.1 Genre (Ancient Biography)
    - 3.1.2 Reading the Gospels
    - 3.1.3 Oral Stage and Form Criticism
    - 3.1.4 Written Stage and Synoptic Problem
    - 3.1.5 History of Search for Historical Jesus
    - 3.1.6 Redaction Criticism
  - 3.2 Reading the gospels
    - 3.2.1 Matthew
    - 3.2.2 Mark

Draft

### 3.2.3 John

## 4. NT Letters

### 4.1 Background Issues

#### 4.1.1 Greco-Roman Letters

#### 4.1.2 Epistolary conventions

### 4.2 Authorship

#### 4.2.1 Paul

#### 4.2.2 New Perspective on Paul and the Law

### 4.3 Reading the Letters

#### 4.3.1 Social Setting & Rhetorical Criticism

#### 4.3.2 Romans

#### 4.3.3 General Letters: James

## 5. NT History

### 5.1 Luke/Acts

## 6. NT Apocalyptic

### 6.1 Jewish Apocalyptic

### 6.2 Revelation

## **READING SCHEDULE**

**Jan 16:** no reading due

**Jan 23:** (Reading #1): Galatians; James

INT: 355-76; 491-512; 589-608

EJ: 1-87

**Jan 30:** (Reading #2): Matthew

INT: 15-87;

EJ: 88-174

**Feb 6:** (#3): Mark

INT: 89-147; 207-243

EJ: 175-218

**Feb 13:** (#4): John

INT: 175-205

**Feb 20:** (#5): 1&2 Thess; 1&2 Cor

INT: 271-297; 327-353; 427-445

**Feb 27:** (#6): Romans

Draft

INT: 299-326

**Mar 6:** Class discussion of “Already, Not Yet” in NT books

**Reading Week (Mar 11-15)**

**Mar 20: (#7):** Luke; Acts

INT: 149-174; 245-270

**Mar 27: (#8):** Phil; Col; Eph; Phm; 1&2 Timothy; Titus

INT: 377-426; 447-464

**Apr 3: (#9):** Hebrews; 1-3 John; 1-2 Peter; Jude

INT: 465-490; 513-554

**Apr 10: (#10):** Revelation

INT: 555-588

**V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

It is recommended that the student consult *An Introductory Bibliography for Biblical Studies*, Dept of Biblical Studies, Tyndale Seminary, 2003. For a survey course of the NT, it is not feasible to produce a bibliography covering all of the relevant reference works. The resource mentioned above will provide this.

Follow this link to the "New Testament Reading Room" for other online resources:

<http://www.tyndale.ca/seminary/mtsm modular/reading-rooms/newt> .

The entries under *Monographs and Articles* are those referred to specifically in class lectures.

**Dictionaries:**

Aune, D., ed. [\*Westminster Dictionary of New Testament and Early Christian Literature and Rhetoric\*](#). Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2003.

Evans, C. and Porter, S., eds. *Dictionary of New Testament Background: A Compendium of Contemporary Biblical Scholarship*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 2000.

Freedman, D., ed. *The Anchor Bible Dictionary*. New York: Doubleday, 1992.

Draft

Green, J. and S. McKnight, eds. [Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels](#). Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1992.

Hawthorne, G. and R. Martin, eds. *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1993.

Martin, R. and P. Davids, eds. *Dictionary of the Later New Testament and Its Developments*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1997.

### **Monographs and Articles:**

Aland, K. and B. Aland. [The Text of the NT. An Introduction to the Critical Editions and to the Theory and Practice of Modern Textual Criticism](#). 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989.

Allison, D. "Was there a 'Lukan Community'?" *Irish Biblical Studies* 10 (1988), 62-70.

Arrington, F., and R. Stronstad. *Full Life Bible Commentary to the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999.

Bauckham, R. "The Delay of the Parousia." *Tyndale Bulletin* 31 (1980), 3-36.

\_\_\_\_\_, ed. [The Gospels for all Christians: Rethinking the Gospel Audiences](#). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

Brown, R. *The Gospel of John*. Anchor Bible. 2 Vols. New York: Doubleday, 1966.

Bultmann, R. [Theology of the New Testament](#). Translated by Kendrick Grobel. 2 vols. New York: Scribner, 1951-55.

Burridge, R. "About People, by People, for People: Gospel Genre and Audiences." In [The Gospels for all Christians: Rethinking the Gospel Audiences](#), edited by R. Bauckham, 113-145. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

Conzelmann, H. *The Theology of St. Luke*. London: SCM, 1982.

Davies, W.D. *Paul and Rabbinic Judaism: Some Rabbinic Elements in Pauline Theology*. London: SPCK, 1955.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Paul and the People of Israel." *New Testament Studies* 24 (1977-78), 20.

Diessmann, A. [Bible Studies](#). Translated by Alexander Grieve. Edinburgh: Clark, 1901.

Draft



- \_\_\_\_\_. [\*Light from the Ancient East: The New Testament Illustrated by Newly Discovered Texts from the Graeco-Roman World\*](#). Translated by L. Strachan. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1910.
- Dodd, C.H. [\*The Interpretation of the Fourth Gospel\*](#). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1968.
- Dunn, J. [\*Jesus, Paul, and the Law\*](#). Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1990.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Unity and Diversity in the NT: An Inquiry into the Character of Earliest Christianity*. 2nd ed. London: SCM, 2002.
- Ferguson, E. [\*Backgrounds of Early Christianity\*](#). 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.
- Gerhardsson, B. [\*Memory and Manuscript\*](#). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.
- Green, J., ed. [\*Hearing the NT: Strategies for Interpretation\*](#). Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2004.
- Guthrie, D. *New Testament Introduction*. 3rd ed. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1970.
- Hengel, M. *Judaism and Hellenism: Studies in their Encounter in Palestine in the Early Hellenistic Period*. Translated by John Bowden. London, UK: SCM Press, 1974.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Studies in the Gospel of Mark*. Translated by John Bowden. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1985.
- Holmberg, B. *Sociology and the NT*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1990.
- Jacobson, A. *The First Gospel: An Introduction to Q*. Sonoma, CA: Polebridge, 1992.
- Johnson, V. "Romans." *Full Life Bible Commentary to the New Testament*. F. Arrington and R. Stronstad, eds. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999.
- Kloppenborg, J. [\*The Formation of Q: Trajectories in Ancient Wisdom Collections\*](#). Minneapolis: Fortress, 1987.
- Kloppenborg, J. *Q Parallels: Synopsis, Critical Notes and Concordance*. Sonoma, CA: Polebridge, 1988.
- Longenecker, R.N. [\*Paul, Apostle of Liberty\*](#). New York: Harper & Row, 1964.

- Malbon, E. and E. McKnight, eds. *New Literary Criticism and the NT*. Valley Forge, PA: Trinity, 1994.
- Malbon, E. [\*Hearing Mark: A Listener's Guide\*](#). Harrisburg, PA: Trinity Press Intl, 2002.
- Malherbe, A. *Social Aspects of Early Christianity*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1983.
- Malina, B. and Rohrbaugh, R. [\*Social Science Commentary on the Synoptic Gospels\*](#). Fortress, 1992.
- Malina, B. [\*The Social World of Jesus and the Gospels\*](#). New York: Routledge, 1996.
- Marshall, I.H. *Luke: Historian and Theologian*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989.
- Meeks, W. *The First Urban Christians. The Social World of the Apostle Paul*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1983.
- Metzger, B. *The Text of the New Testament. Its Transmission, Corruption, and Restoration*. 3rd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Bible in Translation. Ancient and English Versions*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.
- Neyrey, J., ed. *The Social World of Luke-Acts*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1991.
- Osiek, C. and Balch, D. [\*Families in the NT World. Households and House Churches\*](#). Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1997.
- Outler, A. "The "Logic" of Canon-making and the Tasks of Canon-Criticism" in *Texts and Testaments*, ed. W. March. Trinity University, 1980.
- Pervo, R. *Profit with Delight: The Literary Genre of the Acts of the Apostles*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1987.
- Praeder, S. "Luke-Acts and the Ancient Novel." *SBL Abstracts and Seminar Papers* (1981), 269-92.
- Riesner, R. *Jesus als Lehrer: Eine Untersuchung zum Ursprung der Evangelien-Überlieferung*. Tübingen: Mohr, 1981.
- Sanders, E.P. [\*The Tendencies of the Synoptic Tradition\*](#). Cambridge: CUP, 1969.
- Sanders, E.P. [\*Paul and Palestinian Judaism: A Comparison of Patterns of Religion\*](#). Minneapolis: Fortress, 1977.

Draft

- Schweitzer, A. [\*The Quest of the Historical Jesus\*](#). Translated by W. Montgomery, J. Coates, S. Cupitt, and J. Bowden. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2001. First published 1906 by J.C.B. Mohr.
- \_\_\_\_\_. [\*Paul and his Interpreters: A Critical History\*](#). London: A & C Black, 1912.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Mysticism of Paul the Apostle*. New York: Henry Holt and Co., 1931.
- Stambaugh, J. and D. Balch. [\*The NT in Its Social Environment\*](#). Philadelphia: Westminster, 1986.
- Stronstad, R. *The Charismatic Theology of St. Luke*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1984.
- Stuhlmacher, P. *Historical Criticism and Theological Interpretation of Scripture*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1977.
- Swete, H.B. [\*The Gospel According to St. Mark\*](#). 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. London: Macmillan, 1909.
- Talbert, C.H. *Reading Luke: A Literary and Theological Commentary on the Third Gospel*. New York: Crossroad, 1982.
- Talbert, C.H. [\*What is a Gospel?\*](#) Minneapolis: Fortress, 1977.
- Tuckett, C. *Q and the History of Early Christianity*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1996.
- Vanderkam, J. and P. Flint. [\*The Meaning of the Dead Sea Scrolls\*](#). New York: Harper Collins, 2002.
- Witherington, B. *Conflict and Community in Corinth: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on 1 and 2 Corinthians*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.