

BI/TH363—Biblical Theology

Syllabus and Course Outline

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www.bible-resources.org

I. Syllabus

A. Important Dates on the Schedule

These are due dates for the course work. Work due on must be submitted by the required method by no later than class time on assignment day. In the case of your research paper work, that generally means submission on this course's listing on www.TurnItIn.com.

1. *Enroll on TurnItIn for this course*

Wednesday, January 16th

- * Go to www.TurnItIn.com
- * *New Users:* Follow the menu choices to add yourself as a student
- * *Previous Users:* Log in using e-mail and password
- * Enroll for BI363 Biblical Theology Spring 2008
Course ID: 213383
Course Password: BI363

2. *Research Paper Topic Choice*

Friday, January 18th

3. *Research Paper Outline and Tentative Bibliography*

Friday, February 1st

4. *First Draft of Research Paper*

Wednesday, February 27th

5. *Midterm Exam*

Friday, February 29th

6. *Final Draft of Research Paper*

Friday, April 18th

7. *Final Exam*

Tuesday, April 29th (10:30–12:00 noon)

B. Description

3 hours. A survey of the biblical story in its progressive unfolding of the history of redemption against the backdrop of creation and sin. The connection between the Old and New Testaments will be studied with a goal of giving an account of the elements of continuity and discontinuity. Emphasis is placed on the Bible as a unified story of God's purposes for the people of the world as they reach their fulfillment in Christ. Prerequisite: BI163 Introduction to the Gospels; BI143 Pentateuch; BI243 Hermeneutics I.

C. Objectives

1. *Upon completion of this course, the instructor will have done the following things:*
 - a. Explained the methodology of theology, especially as it reflects the progressive revelation in the Old and New Testaments.
 - b. Presented the various options for how theologians deal with the problem of unity and diversity in the Christian canon of Scripture.
 - c. Set out a typological model for tracing themes and motifs throughout Scripture.
 - d. Applied the biblical theological model to each section of the Old and New Testaments, especially with a view to shaping sermons around biblical theological reflection.
2. *Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to do the following things:*
 - a. Explain the characteristics of the biblical theological method, which define it as a distinct discipline in biblical and theological studies.
 - b. Analyze and critique the various suggested organizing principles of biblical theology.
 - c. Explain the typological method, and apply it to specific biblical texts, themes, and motifs, while avoiding the opposing dangers of *moralizing* and *allegorizing*.

- d. Apply the biblical theological method to portions of Scripture from anywhere in the Christian canon.
- e. Know how to teach the biblical theological method to the laity of a local congregation, in fulfillment of the pastor-teacher's mandate.

D. Resources

1. *Textbook*
Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture: The Application of Biblical Theology to Expository Preaching* Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 2000.
2. *Additional Recommended Reading*
Other useful introductions or surveys of biblical theology (Vos 1948; VanGemeren 1988; Goldsworthy 2002; Clowney 2003; Scobie 2003; Bartholomew and Goheen 2004; Hafemann and House 2007); and see the citations throughout the course outline.
3. *Web*
 - <http://www.bible-resources.org> - Brueggemann's site, with course resources.
 - <http://www.beginningwithmoses.org> - focuses on the role of biblical theology in preaching.
 - <http://www.monergism.com> - Lots of excellent resources on biblical theology.
 - <http://www.biblicaltheology.org> - To provide the uncollected works of Geerhardus Vos.
 - <http://dawningrealm.org> - Provides discussion of various key biblical theological topics.
 - <http://www.kerux.com> - An on-line biblical theology journal
 - <http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk> - An excellent site for general biblical studies.

E. Requirements

1. *Attendance*
I will enforce the CBC attendance policy.
2. *Reading*
Read all the **required reading** on schedule. Reading quizzes will follow this schedule.
3. *Quizzes*
Do all the exercises or quizzes on schedule (on-line, or in-class, as assigned). If the quiz is on-line, it must be completed *before* the class date to which it is associated. As we proceed I'll try to provide exact dates when quizzes are posted and when each will no longer be available.
4. *Exams*
Take the mid-term and final exams on their scheduled dates.
5. *Paper*
 - a. *Topic*
It should trace the typology of an assigned typological theme or motif. You must declare a topic and get it approved by the assigned date (*supra*).
 - b. *Length*
Submit a 10-page research paper that's the product of your own research and writing. It should be properly formatted, double-spaced, twelve-point type, following the required style guide used at CBC (see Brueggemann 1999).
 - c. *Research and Documentation*
This paper should be properly research and documented, with footnotes and bibliography that cite a good mix of reliable resources (e.g., substantial commentaries, monographs, and biblical-theological journals; for guidance on picking commentaries to use, see Longman 2007; Carson 2007).
 - d. *Policy on Late Papers*
I will grade this paper down $\frac{1}{3}$ of a grade for every calendar day it is late. If it's due at 5:00 PM and it comes in at 6:00 PM on the due date, it's late. That would drop a C+ paper to C. The next day would drop it to C-, and so on to D+, D, and so on until it actually wouldn't be worth submitting it. If that happens, you fail the course. Please don't come with excuses for late papers. I've heard them all, from my doggie—or my little sister—ate my final draft (in the 1980s) to my hard-drive crashed. They generally amount to desperation borne of last-minute paper writing; otherwise the problem would have been solved. A suggested time line for working on your paper is intersticed throughout this outline.

F. Grading

1. *Reading Quizzes and Exercises*
These will be worth ¼ of your grade.
2. *Midterm Exam*
This will be worth ¼ of your grade.
3. *Final Exam*
This will be worth ¼ of your grade.
4. *Typological Study Paper*
This will be worth ¼ of your grade.

II. Course Outline

I have included estimated dates throughout the outline, so you will know when required readings must be done so that you can do the scheduled reading quizzes. I also interstice progress benchmarks for producing your research paper throughout the schedule that follows. For example, you should have Goldsworthy chapters 1–2, and 5–9 read for August 27th, Goldsworthy chapter 3 for August 29th, and so forth.

A. Theory

1. Introduction

Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, chs. 1–2)

- a. Biblical Theology and Preaching
Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, ch. 4); recommended reading (Clowney 1961; Greidanus 1970; Greidanus 1988; Adam 2000)
- b. Relation of Biblical Theology to Systematic Theology
Recommended reading (Gabler 1787; Gaffin 1976; Hasel 1984)
- c. Relation of Biblical Theology to History
Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, ch. 6); recommended reading (Wright, G. E. 1952; Wright, G. E. 1969; Sailhamer 1995; Satterthwaite 2000)
- d. Organizing Biblical Theology
Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, ch. 8); recommended reading (Hasel 1975; Hasel 1991)
- e. Christian use of the Old Testament
Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, chs. 5, 7, and 9); recommended reading (Baker 1991; Goldsworthy 2006)

2. *Biblical Theology as a Distinct Discipline*

Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, ch. 3); recommended reading (Brueggemann 2006, ch.

- 1)
 - a. Early “Biblical Theology”
Recommended reading (Bray 1996; Grant and Tracy 1984)
 - b. Approaches to Biblical Theology
 - (1) Non-Evangelical Approaches to Biblical Theology
 - (a) Liberal Approaches
 - (b) Neo-Orthodox Approaches
Recommended reading (von Rad 1962; Bultmann 1964)
 - (c) Post modern Approaches
 - (2) An Evangelical Approach to Biblical Theology
Recommended reading (Sailhamer 1995)
 - (a) *Text* or Event?
Recommended reading (Wright, G. E. 1952)
 - (b) Criticism or *Canon*?
Recommended reading (Childs 1979; Childs 1986; Childs 1992; Childs 1995; Waltke 1981; Poythress 1986; Poythress 1988; Poythress 1988)
 - (c) Descriptive or *Confessional*?
Recommended reading (Gabler 1787; Stendahl 1962; Dulles 1965; Ollenburger 1986)
 - (d) *Diachronic* or *Synchronic*?
Recommended reading (Vos 1948; Goppelt 1976; Goppelt 1982)
 - c. History of Biblical Theology

Recommended reading (Brueggemann 2006, ch. 2; Scobie 2000)

- (1) Earlier History
Recommended reading (Bray 1996; Grant, et al. 1984)
- (2) Biblical Theology Said to be in “Crisis”
Recommended reading (Childs 1970)
- (3) Biblical Theology Declared “Dead”
Recommended reading (Smart 1979)
- (4) Resurgence of Biblical Theology
Recommended reading (Childs 1986; Childs 1992; Childs 1995)

3. *Models for Doing Biblical Theology*

Recommended reading (Brueggemann 2006, ch. 3)

- a. Organizing around Topics from Systematic Theology
Recommended reading (Baab 1949)
- b. Finding a “Center”
 - (1) Covenant
Recommended reading (Eichrodt 1961; Niehaus 1995; Kline 1963; Kline 1972; Kline 1981, 1983)
 - (2) Kingdom of God
Recommended reading (Bright 1953; Pannenberg 1969; Goldsworthy 1981)
 - (3) Promise
Recommended reading (Kaiser 1981; Kaiser 1977; Kaiser 1995; Kaiser 1985; Kaiser 1983; Kaiser 1972)
 - (4) “God”
Recommended reading (Dentan 1968)
 - (5) “Christ”
Recommended reading (Hengstenberg 1847; Hengstenberg 1956)
- c. Continuity of Development through Redemptive History
Recommended reading (Gese 1977; Stuhlmacher 1977)

4. *Relating the Old Testament and the New Testament*

Recommended reading (Brueggemann 2006, ch. 4; Ellis 1977; Ellis 1990; Ellis 1992)

- a. Suggested Approaches
Recommended reading (Baker 1991)
 - (1) Treating the Old Testament as the Essential Bible, or the real Christian canon, and treating the New Testament as a sort of “explanatory gloss” on the Old Testament.
Recommended reading (van Ruler 1971; Reventlow 1986, 54–64)
 - (2) Treating the New Testament as the Essential Bible
Recommended reading (Baumgärtel 1963; Bultmann 1964)
 - (3) Treating the Old and New Testament as One Salvation-History
Recommended reading (Wright, G. E. 1952; Pannenberg 1963; Pannenberg, Rendtorff, Rendtorff and Wilkens 1968)
 - (4) Treating both the Old and New Testament as Equally Scripture
Recommended reading (Vischer 1949; Barth 1991; Childs 1992)
- b. Continuity and Discontinuity between the Old and New Testament
Recommended reading (Ellis 1977; Feinberg 1988; Goldsworthy 2000)
- c. The Question of Biblical-Theological Meaning
Recommended reading (Brueggemann 1985)
 - (1) Authorial Intent
Recommended reading (Hirsch 1967)
 - (2) Meaning Discovered in Community
Recommended reading (Wittgenstein 1961; Fish 1980)
 - (3) Meaning Unfolding in the Progressive Revelation of Redemptive History
Recommended reading (Vos 1948)

5. *Typological Method and Practice*

Required reading (Brueggemann 2006, ch. 5); recommended reading (Fairbairn 1900; Lampe 1957; Goppelt 1976; Goppelt 1982; von Rad 1962, 2:319–429; von Hofmann 1972; Currid 1994; Clowney 2003, ch. 1)

a. Theory

- (1) Biblical Basis for Typology
Recommended reading (Woollcombe 1957; Goulder 1964; Seitz 2001)
- (2) Historical Developments of Typology
Recommended reading (Fairbairn 1900; Woollcombe 1957; Baker 1976)
- (3) Modern Proponents of Typology
Recommended reading (Fairbairn 1900; Vos 1948; Lampe 1957; Woollcombe 1957; Clowney 1961, 98–112; Eichrodt 1963; von Rad 1963; Goppelt 1982; Clowney 1988; Hugenerberger 1994; Seitz 2001; Clowney 2003)
- (4) Hermeneutics of Typology
 - (a) Sensus Plenior and Typology
Recommended reading (Brown 1955; Brown 1963; Brown 1968; LaSor 1978)
 - (b) Clowney “Triangle” and “Rectangle”
Recommended reading (Clowney 1961, 98–112; Hugenerberger 1994)
- (5) Times of Fulfillment
Recommended reading (Cullmann 1951; Cullmann and Sowers 1967)

B. Practice

1. *Analysis of Typological Motifs and Themes*

Recommended reading (Brueggemann 2006, ch. 6)

2. *Key Biblical Theological Themes*

Recommended reading (Brueggemann 2006, ch. 7)

a. Decalogue

Recommended reading (Kline 1963; Kline 1972; Kline 1981, 1983)

b. Day of the LORD

Recommended reading (Niehaus 1995)

c. Kingdom of God

Recommended reading (Bright 1953; Pannenberg 1969; Goldsworthy 1981; Glasser, van Engen, Gilliland and Redford 2003)

d. Messiah and Messianic Kingdom

Recommended reading (Hengstenberg 1847; Briggs 1886; Ringgren 1956; Bruce 1968; Hayes 1968; Russell 1968; Kaiser 1974; Juel 1987; Clements 1989; van Groningen 1990; Merrill 1993; Wright, C. J. H. 1995; Satterthwaite, Hess and Wenham 1995; Kaiser 1995; Greidanus 1999; Goulder 2000; Block 2003)

e. Servant of the LORD

Recommended reading

f. Holy Spirit

Recommended reading

g. Remnant

Recommended reading (Hasel 1972)

3. *Biblical Theological Approach to Sections of the Canon*

a. Old Testament

Recommended reading (Brueggemann 2006, ch. 8)

(1) Old Testament Law

Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, ch. 11) (Goldsworthy 2000, ch. 14); recommended reading (Poythress 1991; Clowney 2003, chs. 4–7)

(2) Historical Narratives

Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, ch. 10); recommended reading (Greidanus 1970; Sailhamer 1992; Pratt 1993; Clowney 2003, chs. 8–9)

(3) The Prophets

Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, ch. 12)

- (4) Old Testament Wisdom
Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, ch. 13); *recommended reading* (Goldsworthy 1987)
- (5) The Psalter
Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, 14); *recommended reading* (Kistemaker 1961; Harmon 1969; Brueggemann 2005; Clowney 2003, chs. 12–13)
- b. Apocalyptic Literature
Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, ch. 15)
- c. New Testament
Recommended reading (Brueggemann 2006, ch. 9)
 - (1) New Testament Gospels
Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, 16); *recommended reading* (Goulder 1964; Stronstad 1980; Stronstad 1984; Brueggemann 2005; Clowney 2003, chs. 3, 10, 11, 14–15)
 - (2) New Testament Epistles
Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, 17; Clowney 2003, ch. 1); *recommended reading* (Ellis 1961; Kistemaker 1961; Harmon 1969)
- 4. *Preaching Biblical Theology*
Required reading (Goldsworthy 2000, ch. 18); *recommended reading* (Brueggemann 2006, ch. 10; Clowney 2003, ch. 2)

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- _____. "Typology and the Christian Use of the Old Testament." *Scottish Journal of Theology* 29 (1976): 137–57. A key article on typology among contemporary Evangelicals.
- Barth, Christoph. *God with Us: A Theological Introduction to the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1991. Barth sees nine divine acts that are the essential subject matter of the OT: (1) God created heaven and earth. (2) God chose the fathers of Israel. (3) God brought Israel out of Egypt. (4) God led His people through the wilderness. (5) God revealed Himself at Sinai. (6) God granted Israel the land of Canaan. (7) God raised up kings in Israel. (8) God chose Jerusalem. (9) God sent His prophets. He believes a true Old Testament theology is open-ended, that is, it finds its fulfillment in the New Testament.
- Bartholomew, Craig G., and Michael W. Goheen. *The Drama of Scripture: Finding Our Place in the Biblical Story*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 2004.
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