

Hebrew 3
Basic Hebrew Exegesis:

FROM ANCIENT TEXT



TO CONTEMPORARY LIFE



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REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
OT 506 ELECTRONIC TRACK
Fall 2007 RTS Atlanta

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Dates: August 22 to December 3
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-12

PURPOSE, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES

Purpose: To encourage you in enjoying an abundant life to the glory of God!

Goals:

- To equip you to study the Old Testament with greater depth and accuracy.
- To reinforce the basic verb paradigms.
- To reinforce your basic vocabulary.
- To deepen your knowledge of the verb patterns.
- To introduce you to the syntax of the noun and the verb.

Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course you will:

- Know more about the message of the book of Jonah.
- Know your Hebrew verb forms better by having reviewed the paradigms learned in Hebrew 1 and 2.
- Know your Hebrew vocabulary better by having reviewed the vocabulary learned in Hebrew 1 and 2.
- Know how to use a basic Hebrew reference grammar by having studied sections in
 - Robert B. Chisolm, Jr. From Exegesis to Exposition: A Practical Guide to Using Biblical Hebrew (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1999).
 - Gesenius, Wilhelm. Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar (Oxford: Oxford, 1910). [Embedded in BibleWorks]
- Know how to apply the basic meanings of the verb patterns.
- Know how to apply the basic uses of nouns and verbs.
- Know how to use commentaries discerningly by analyzing Smith, Billy K. and Frank S. Page. Amos Obadiah Jonah (NAC 19b; Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 1995).
- Be more like God in terms of your vision for God's work in the world.

- Be more like God in your compassion on those who are not like you.

TEXTS USED IN THE COURSE

In addition to BibleWorks 7.0

- Robert B. Chisolm, Jr. From Exegesis to Exposition: A Practical Guide to Using Biblical Hebrew (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1999). ISBN: 978-0801021718.
- Smith, Billy K. and Frank S. Page. Amos Obadiah Jonah (NAC 19b; Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 1995). ISBN: 978-0805401424.

ASSIGNMENTS

Audio

- Listen to the lectures/audio files on Psalm 121 and 134:1-3.
- Listen to the lectures/audio files on Hebrew syntax.
- Listen to the lectures/audio files on the book of Jonah.
- You can access the audio file by going to www.rts.edu > Faculty and Staff > > Resident Faculty > Dr. Mark D. Futato > Visit Home Page (at the bottom of the page) > Courses: Hebrew 3 (Hebrew Exegesis Electronic Track) > Audio.

Reading

- Read the material assigned in Chisholm.
- Read the material assigned in Smith and Page.
- There will be several articles mentioned in the Notebook Questions. These will be available at Course Documents on Blackboard.

Notebook

- Answer all the questions listed in the Notebook Preparation section of the syllabus.

Discussion

- Participate in the online discussion forums: eleven posts and eleven replies.
- The discussion forums will be based on your preparation of the assigned portion of Jonah and the corresponding reading in Smith and Page.

ASSESSMENTS

Notes:

1. All scores will be posted on IQWeb.
2. All quizzes, posts, and exams will be submitted on Blackboard.
3. All Notebook assignments will be submitted via email to your TA.

Quizzes

- There are 11 quizzes.
- The quizzes cover:
 - Vocabulary from Basic Hebrew 1-20
 - Verb forms from Basic Hebrew 1-20
 - Syntax material from Chisolm, Gesenius, and the audio files.
- Each quiz is worth 5 points and the total constitutes approximately 21% of your course grade.

Notebook

- The Notebook assignments are turned in weekly.
- Each week's work is worth 5 points and the total constitutes approximately 21% of your course grade.

Discussion

- Submit one post per discussion question and submit at least one reply to a classmate's post.
- Each discussion post is worth 2 points and the total constitutes approximately 16% of your course grade.

Exams

- There will be a midterm and a final exam, covering the assignments on Jonah, Psalm 121, and Psalm 134:1-3.
- Each exam is worth 55 points and constitutes approximately 21% of your course grade.

SCHEDULE

Week 1 (Sept 6)

New Material:

Audio Introduction to Course

Psalm 121:1 (Audio)

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 01

Chisholm:

Nouns, pp. 58-66

Qal, p. 79 (Audio)

Gesenius §§79-80, 87

Week 2 (Sept 13)

Quiz #1:

Vocabulary: Lessons 1g-2g

Verbs: Qal Regular

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 01

Chisholm:

Nouns, pp. 58-66

Qal, p. 79

New material:

Psalm 121:2 (Audio)

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 02

Chisholm:

Niphal, p. 79

Perfect, pp. 86-89

Gesenius §§51, 106

Jonah 1:1-3

Audio

Smith, 203-230

Week 3 (Sept 20)

Quiz #2:

Vocabulary: Lessons 3g-4g

Verbs: Niphal Regular

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 02

Chisholm:

Niphal, p. 79

Perfect, pp. 86-89

New material:

Psalm 121:3 (Audio)

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 03

Chisholm:

Piel, pp. 80-81

Imperfect (Objective [Indicative]),

pp. 89-92

Gesenius §§52, 107a-n

Jonah 1:4-6

Audio

Smith, 231-233

Week 4 (Sept 27)

Quiz #3:

Vocabulary: Lessons 5g-6g

Verbs: Piel Regular

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 03

Chisholm:

Piel, pp. 80-81

Imperfect (Objective [Indicative]),

pp. 89-92

New Material:

Psalm 121:4 (Audio)

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 04

Chisholm:

Hithpael, p. 82

Imperfect (Subjective [Subjunctive]),

pp. 92-94

Gesenius §§54, 107o-x

Jonah 1:7-9
Audio
Smith, 234-236

Week 5 (Oct 4)

Quiz #4:

Vocabulary: Lessons 7g-8g

Verbs: Hithpael Regular

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 04

Chisholm:

Hithpael, p. 82

Imperfect (Subjective [Subjunctive]),
pp. 92-94

New Material:

Psalms 121:5 (Audio)

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 05

Chisholm:

Hiphil, pp. 82-83

Waw-relative Imperfect, pp. 94-99

Gesenius §§53, 111

Jonah 1:10-13

Audio

Smith, 237-238

Week 6 (Oct 11)

Quiz #5:

Vocabulary: Lessons 9g-10g

Verbs: Hiphil

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 05

Chisholm:

Hiphil, pp. 82-83

Waw-relative Imperfect, pp. 94-99

New Material:

Psalms 121:6 (Audio)

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 06

Chisholm: Waw-relative Perfect, pp99-103

Gesenius §112

Jonah 1:14-2:2

Audio

Smith, 238-248

October 15

Mid-term

Week 7 (Oct 18)

Quiz #6:

Vocabulary: Lessons 11g-12g

Verbs: Jussives (all patterns)

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 06

Chisholm:

Waw-relative Perfect, pp99-103

New Material:

Psalm 121:7 (Audio)

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 07

Chisholm: Volitives, pp. 103-107

Gesenius §§108-110

Jonah 2:3-11

Audio

Smith, 248-255

Week 8 (Oct 25)

Quiz #7:

Vocabulary: Lessons 13g-14g

Verbs: Imperatives (all patterns)

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 07

Chisholm:

Volitives, pp. 103-107

New Material:

Psalm 121:8

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 08

Chisholm: Volitives in sequence, pp. 108-112

Jonah 3:1-5

Audio

Smith, 257-267

Week 9 (Nov 1)

Quiz #8:

Vocabulary: Lessons 15g-16g

Verbs: Cohortatives (all patterns)

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 08

Chisholm: Volitives in sequence, pp. 108-112

New Material:

Psalm 134:1a (Audio)

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 09

Chisholm: Narrative Frame, pp. 119-123

Jonah 3:6-9

Audio

Smith, 267-272

Week 10 (Nov 8)

Quiz #9:

Vocabulary: Lessons 17g-18g

Verbs: Perfect: Qal, Niphal, Piel, Hiphil

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 09

Chisholm: Narrative Frame, pp. 119-123

New Material:

Psalm 134:1b (Audio)

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 10

Chisholm: Nonstandard Const., pp. 123-128

Jonah 3:10-4:3
Audio
Smith, 272-278

Week 11 (Nov 15)

Quiz #10:

Vocabulary: Lessons 19g-20g

Verbs: Imperfect: Qal, Niphal, Piel, Hiphil

Syntax:

Audio Lesson 10

Chisholm: Nonstandard Constructions, pp. 123-128

New Material:

Psalms 134:2 (Audio)

Syntax: Audio Lesson 11

Jonah 4:4-7

Audio

Smith, 279-283

November 22

Thanksgiving

Week 12 (Nov 29)

Quiz #11

Vocabulary: All vocabulary

Verbs: All verbs

Syntax: Audio Lesson 11

New Material:

Psalms 134:3 (Audio)

Jonah 4:8-11

Audio

Smith, 283-288

December 4

Final Exam

DUE DATES

Week 1 Thurs, Sept 6 at 4pm
Nothing due!

Week 2 Thurs, Sept 13 at 4pm
Post and reply 01
Quiz #01
Notebook 01

Week 3 Thurs, Sept 20 at 4pm
Post and reply 02
Quiz #02
Notebook 02

Week 4 Thurs, Sept 27 at 4pm
Post and reply 03
Quiz #03
Notebook 03

Week 5 Thurs, Oct 4 at 4pm
Post and reply 04
Quiz #04
Notebook 04

Week 6 Thurs, Oct 11 at 4pm
Post and reply 05
Quiz #05
Notebook 05

October 15 Midterm

Week 7 Thurs, Oct 18 at 4pm
Post and reply 06
Quiz #06
Notebook 06

Week 8 Thurs, Oct 25 at 4pm
Post and reply 07
Quiz #07
Notebook 07

Week 9 Thurs, Nov 1 at 4pm
Post and reply 08
Quiz #08
Notebook 08

Week 10 Thurs, Nov 8 at 4pm
Post and reply 09
Quiz #09
Notebook 09

Week 11 Thurs, Nov 15 at 4pm
Post and reply 10
Quiz #10
Notebook 10

November 22 Thanksgiving

Week 12 Thurs, Nov 29 at 4pm
Post and reply 11
Quiz #11
Notebook 11

December 4 Final Exam

1 אִשָּׁא עֵינַי אֶל־הַהָרִים מֵאֵין יבֹא עֲזָרִי:

2 עֲזָרִי מֵעַם יְהוָה עֲשֵׂה שָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ:

3 אֶל־יִתֵּן לַמּוֹט רִגְלֶךָ אֶל־יָנוּם שֹׁמְרֶךָ:

4 הֲנֵה לֹא־יָנוּם וְלֹא יִישָׁן שׁוֹמֵר יִשְׂרָאֵל:

5 יְהוָה שֹׁמְרֶךָ יְהוָה צִלְּךָ עַל־יַד יְמִינֶךָ:

6 יוֹמָם הִשָּׁמֵשׁ לֹא־יִכָּפֵה וַיְרַח בְּלִילָה:

7 יְהוָה יִשְׁמְרֶךָ מִכָּל־רָע יִשְׁמַר אֶת־נַפְשֶׁךָ:

8 יְהוָה יִשְׁמַר־צִאתְךָ וּבואְךָ מֵעַתָּה וְעַד־עוֹלָם:

NOTEBOOK QUESTIONS

01 JONAH 1:1-3

1. How many times does יוֹנָה occur in the OT? [Note: Run the following search: יוֹנָה@n*]
2. How many times does יוֹנָה occur as a proper noun ("Jonah") in the OT? [Note: Run the following search: יוֹנָה@np*]
3. How is "dove" used symbolically in our culture and in the OT? [Note: Consult the DBI article on "dove."]
4. What does בְּ-אֲנֹתֵי mean? [Hint: What does the suffix י_ mean and what is the meaning of the noun the suffix is on? See Holladay.]
5. What is the semantic range of the next to the last word in verse 2?
6. Verse 3 is a chiasm. Can you figure out the chiastic structure?

02 JONAH 1:4-6

1. Parse the next to the last word in verse 4 and list the semantic range according to Holladay. Compare the possible meanings in Holladay with a number of translations. What do you think the meaning of this verb in this context?
2. Find every occurrence of the English verb "threw" (NIV/NAU) in Jonah. (To search both versions at the same time, have both the NIV and the NAU in the Browse Window, then click on the Search Menu, then click on Choose Search Version, then in the drop down menu click on Search All Display Versions.) What is the Hebrew word underlying "threw" in verse 5? Where else does this verb occur in addition to the hits you found with your English based search? What is the significance of the repetition?
3. What is the Hebrew underlying "But Jonah had gone down" (v5), and why do all the translations use "But"? [See Chisholm p. 126 (5).]
4. Find the previous occurrences of קָרָא and קָרָא (verse 6) in Jonah. What is the significance of the repetition?

03 JONAH 1:7-9

1. Parse the first three verbs in verse 7. How are the second two verbs being used? [See Chisholm pp. 108-110.]

2. What is the meaning of הִרְעָה in verse 7. Compare with the use in verse 2.
3. What is the significance of the word order in יִרְאֵ אֱלֹהֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם אֲנִי יִרְאֵ
[See Chisholm, "Nonstandard Constructions," pp. 123-127.] [Hint: One use of this construction not mentioned by Chisholm is to focus on the identity of a character.]
4. What is the significance of the confession that the Lord created the sea and the dry land? [Hint: Jonah is trying to flee from the Lord by crossing the sea.]

04 JONAH 1:10-13

1. Find any previous (in the book of Jonah) occurrences of the first verb in verse 10. What is the difference between the two sentences in which this verb occurs?
2. What is the function of the question asked by the sailors in verse 10?
3. Parse the next to the last word in verse 10 and describe its syntactic use, e.g., a rhetorical perfect. [See Chisolm.]
4. Where do the translations get the idea that the storm is getting worse by the minute at the end of verse 11?
5. Find every occurrence of the first verb in verse 13 in the Hebrew Bible. What is the meaning of this verb in every text outside of Jonah 1:13 and what is the meaning in verse 13?

05 JONAH 1:14-2:2

1. Parse נִאֲכָרָה (verse 14) and find all occurrences of the all qal forms of this verb in the previous verses. Who is the subject of this verb?
2. Find all occurrences in the Hebrew Bible of the Hebrew expression translated "do not put innocent blood on us" (verse 14; NAU). What does this expression mean?
3. Find all occurrences of the verb יִירָא in the previous verses in Jonah. How is each occurrence different? What pattern do you see?

06 JONAH 2:3-11

1. Where was Jonah when he offered the prayer recorded in Jonah 2:3-10? Where was Jonah when he called to God for help in Jonah 2:3? Is the prayer of Jonah 2:3-10 a request for help needed or thanksgiving for help received?

2. What is the semantic range of שָׁאוֹל (verse 3) and what does it mean in this text? (Compare the treatments in TWOT, TLOT, and NIDOTE.)
3. Parse יִרְדְּתִי (verse 7) and find all the occurrences of the all qal forms of this verb in the book of Jonah. What picture is being painted in verse 7a?
4. Compare the translations of the end of verse 9. Find all of the pertinent occurrences of this expression in the OT. What does it mean here?

07 JONAH 3:1-5

1. Compare 3:1 and 1:1. What is the point of the high level of repetition?
2. Parse the next to the last word in verse 2. How is this verb being used?
3. What is the sense of לְאֱלֹהִים in verse 3 according to the translations? Can you defend this?
4. How is the Ninevites' repentance portrayed in verse 5?

08 JONAH 3:6-9

1. What are the possible referents of הִתְבַּר in verse 6 and which is more likely in context?
2. Parse the first verb in verse 6. How is it being used? Defend your answer from Chisholm.
3. What is "zeugma" and can you find any examples in verses 6-9?
4. Parse וַיִּנְחַם in verse 9. What is the semantic range of this verb in this pattern? Find all the occurrences in the OT of this verb in this pattern and note the various English glosses in the NAU. What does this word mean here?

09 JONAH 3:10-4:3

1. Find all of the occurrences of the verb נָחַם when used in the Niphal in the OT and when used with עַל הִרְעָה (see verse 9). Which of these texts are helpful in understanding Jonah 3:10?
2. Parse הִבָּר (verse 10), list its semantic range according to TWOT, and choose the English translation that best captures the sense here. Defend your answer from context.
3. Can you find other OT texts that are parallel to Jonah's confession in 4:2? What is the significance?
4. In what way is 4:3 ironic?

10 JONAH 4:4-7

1. What Hebrew word is translated "angry" (NAU) in Jonah 4:4? What is the literal meaning of this word?
2. What is implied about Jonah's external condition in Jonah 4:5?
3. What is implied about the quality of Jonah's booth in Jonah 4:6a?
4. Compare Jonah 4:6b and 4:1. What is the significance of the grammatical correspondence between these two verses?

11 JONAH 4:8-11

1. Find all the occurrences of יָמַן (Jonah 4:8) in Jonah. What is the theological significance of this repetition?
2. Find every occurrence of "east wind" in the NAU of the OT. What is the theological significance of this phrase?
3. What is the Hebrew word translated "compassion" (NAU) in Jonah 4:10, 11. Find all the occurrences of this word in the OT. How is this word usually used, and what is the significance of this usage in Jonah?