

# Greek Exegesis (4NT506) – 2 hours

## Syllabus – Fall 2008

### INSTRUCTOR

Dr Bruce Lowe received his first doctorate in Analytical Chemistry and taught, consulted and researched in a university setting over several years in both the Chemistry and Chemical Engineering departments. He then completed his M. Div at RTS Orlando, becoming an ordained Presbyterian minister and working in university ministry, as a youth pastor and in church revitalization. He is in the final stages of a doctorate in New Testament Studies / Ancient History, where his thesis has focused on the cultural backdrop to Romans. At last year's annual meetings of the Society of Biblical Literature he presented a paper on the Greek text of Romans 3.9. He has also published in the Journal of Theological Studies on the Greek text of Rom 4.23-25. Bruce is excited about knowledge of Greek enriching our understanding of Scripture.

< Office hrs: **M**, 3-5:30; **Th**, 10.00-12:30. Email me for an appointment; [blowe@rts.edu](mailto:blowe@rts.edu) >

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course aims to hone exegetical skills through better understanding how to *use* the Greek. So often, students finish their formal studies in Greek and still feel “none the wiser” on how to actually apply it to their reading and teaching of the Bible. This course seeks to focus on this very issue, showing the great blessing and benefit of “dialoguing” with the Greek text, for a better understanding God's word.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. *To become more at ease* with Koine Greek through an inculcation of Greek Grammar, Syntax and Vocabulary roots.
2. *To gain an excitement* for how Greek can enrich your understanding of the Scriptures in general, and thereby *produce a burden* to use the Greek more and more throughout one's future ministry.
3. *To apply this learning* of Greek to Galatians, in order to demonstrate the language's practical usefulness
4. *To understand Galatians better.*
5. *To better preach, teach and apply* God's word to others.

## ASSIGNED TEXTS

Wallace, D. B., *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, 2003).

Robinson, T. A., *Mastering New Testament Greek* (Peabody MA: Hendrickson, 2007).

Goodrich, R. J. & Lukaszewski, A. L., *A Reader's Greek New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed). ISBN: 0310273781

## OPTIONAL:

Bauer, Arndt, Gingrich, Danker, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. (Chicago; University of Chicago Press, 2000).

This text is excellent! But it is also very expensive (approx. \$150) and I will therefore not require it for this class. You should be able to get by with the above books and different computer software if you have it.

## TERM SCHEDULE

Wk	Date	Lecture / Assessment	Translation/ Dialogue HW
1	S8	<b>Lecture:</b> Focus on “ <u>Letter Frames</u> ” & “ <u>Verbal Aspect</u> .” We will also talk about what Galatians is actually about. Further opportunity to practice songs and apply them to our text.	1.1-2.21  (Not homework)
2	S15	<b>Lecture:</b> Focus on “ <u>Verbal Aspect</u> .” We will also talk about what Galatians is actually about. Further opportunity to practice songs and apply them to our text.	1.1-2.21
3	S22	<b>Lecture:</b> Focus on “ <u>Word Order</u> ” & “ <u>Repetition</u> ” and apply these to our text of focus so far.	1.1-2.21
4	S29	<b>Assessment:</b> 50 minute <i>exam</i> , focused on translation and answering questions about Galatians 1:1-10; 6:1-18 <15%>	3.1-29
5	O6	<b>Lecture:</b> “ <u>Secondary Literature</u> ” and further application to our text for today	3.1-29

6	O13	<b>Lecture:</b> “ <u>Etymology</u> ” & “ <u>Mirror Readings</u> ” and further application to our text for today	3.1-29
Mid-Term Break			
7	027	<b>Assessment:</b> 50 minute <i>exam</i> , focused on translation and answering questions about Galatians 3:1-29 <15%>	4.1-31
8	N3	<b>Lecture:</b> “ <u>Text Criticism</u> ”	4.1-31
9	N10	<b>Lecture:</b> “ <u>OT Echoes</u> ”	4.1-31
10	N17	<b>Assessment:</b> 50 minute <i>exam</i> , focused on translation and answering questions about Galatians 4.:1-31 <15%>	5.1-26
Thanksgiving Week			
11	D1	<b>Lecture:</b> “ <u>Narrative Strategies</u> ”	5.1-26
12	D8	<b>Lecture:</b> Putting your Exegetical essay together.	5.1-26
13	D15	<b>Assignment:</b> 50 minute <i>exam</i> , focused on translation and answering questions about Galatians 5:1-26 <15%>	6.1-18

### ASSESSMENT

- [1] 4 x 15% Tests (see above), testing numerous aspects including previous vocabulary,  
[2] Exegesis assignment on Galatians 6.1-18; (40%) – to be emailed me no later than three weeks after last class ( i.e. midnight January 5<sup>th</sup>.)