

HEBREW 3
HEBREW EXEGESIS:
FROM ANCIENT TEXT



TO CONTEMPORARY LIFE



DR. MARK D. FUTATO
REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
OT 506 ELECTRONIC TRACK
Fall 2009

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Dates: August 26 to December 7
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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 forms of the verb.
- To deepen your knowledge of the meaning of the verb patterns.
- To deepen your knowledge of 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 and how to study Old Testament narratives with greater depth and accuracy.
- Know the Hebrew verb forms better.
- Know how to apply the basic meanings of the verb patterns and how to apply the basic uses of nouns and verbs, having studied Putnam, Frederic Clarke. *Hebrew Bible Insert: A Student's Guide to the Syntax of Biblical Hebrew* (Quakertown, PA: Stylus Publishing, 2002).
- Know how to use commentaries discerningly by analyzing:
 - Futato, Mark D. *Jonah: A Commentary* (Unpublished).
 - 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

All Available as Logos Books

- Futato, Mark D. *Jonah: A Commentary* (Unpublished).
 - This will be downloadable from Blackboard (Course Documents) as a Logos book.
- Putnam, Frederic Clarke. *Hebrew Bible Insert: A Student's Guide to the Syntax of Biblical Hebrew* (Quakertown, PA: Stylus Publishing, 2002).
 - This is already included in the Original Languages, Scholar's, Scholar's Silver, and Scholar's Gold Libraries.
- Smith, Billy K. and Frank S. Page. *Amos Obadiah Jonah* (NAC 19b; Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 1995). ISBN-13: 978-0805401424.
 - This is already included in the Scholar's Silver and Scholar's Gold Libraries or can be purchases from Logos.com.

Note: At various points in the course material I will be referencing Futato, Mark D. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew* (Winona Lake, WI: Eisenbrauns 2003). This is part of the Original Languages and Scholar's Gold Libraries or can be purchases from Logos.com. It will be helpful but is not required for the course.

ASSIGNMENTS

Reading

- Read the material assigned in Futato, *Jonah*.
- Read the material assigned in Putnam, *Syntax*.
- Read the material assigned in Page, *Jonah*.

Notebook

- Answer all of the questions in the Notebook Questions (see below).

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 Futato and Page.

Reflection Posts

- You will post seven reflections, one on each of the seven sections of Jonah.
- The reflections are due the week after the final verse of the section is covered, which means the due dates are not evenly spaced and that the final reflection is due on the day when papers are normally due.
- The reflections are to be more personal than exegetical. They are to reflect that you have grown in your understanding of the text through your exegetical study, but they are to focus on how each text applies to your life and ministry.
- The Minimum length of each post is 200 words and the maximum length is 250 words.

ASSESSMENTS

Notes:

1. All scores will be posted on IQWeb.
2. All quizzes, posts, and exams will be submitted on Blackboard and are due on Thursdays at 4pm (except the final Reflection, which is due on Wednesday, December 9 at 4pm).
3. All Notebook assignments will be submitted via email.

Quizzes

- There are 11 quizzes to be taken weekly.
- The quizzes cover:
 - Vocabulary from Basic Hebrew 1-20
 - Verb forms from Basic Hebrew 1-20
- Each quiz is worth 3 points and the total constitutes approximately 16% of your course grade.

Notebook

- There are 11 notebook assignments to be turned in weekly.
- In the top left corner of each Notebook document, put your name and notebook number, e.g.,
Mark Futato
Notebook 01
- Copy and paste the questions from the Notebook Questions (see below) into your Word document.
- Use the following for the title for each file: Last name_First name_Notebook_##, e.g.,
Futato_Mark_Notebook_01
- Each week's Notebook is worth 6 points and the total constitutes approximately 33% of your course grade.

Discussion

- There are 11 discussion posts and replies to be submitted weekly.
- Submit one post per discussion question and submit at least one reply to a classmate's post.
- Each discussion post with its reply is worth 2 points and the total constitutes approximately 11% of your course grade.

Reflection

- There are 7 reflection posts to be submitted.
- See Schedule for the due dates.
- Each reflection post is worth 7 points and the total constitutes approximately 24% of your course grade.

Exams

- There is a midterm and a final exam.
- These exams cover the syntax material from Putnam.
- Each exam is short and is worth 15 points and the total constitutes approximately 15% of your course grade.

WEB LABS

Note:

- At the time of finalizing this syllabus, I am experimenting in Hebrew 2 with the use of web labs as an enhancement to the course. Over the summer I will be working on what web labs might look like for Hebrew three. If I incorporate web labs they will be optional this year.

SCHEDULE

Week 1 (Aug 27)

New Material:

Introduction to Course

Setting up your Workspace

Using Note Files

Syntax:

Putnam, Nouns (1.1-1.4) + Qal Pattern (2.1.1)

Jonah:

Futato, Introduction to Commentary

Page, Introduction to Commentary

Week 2 (Sept 3)

Quiz #1:

Vocabulary: Lessons 1g-2g

Verbs: Qal (Futato, *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*, chaps. 6, 11, 20, 21, 24)

New material:

Syntax:

Putnam: Niphal Pattern (2.1.3) + Perfect Conjugation (2.2 + 2.2.1)

Jonah 1:1-3

Futato on 1:1-3

Page on 1:1-3

Week 3 (Sept 10)

Quiz #2:

Vocabulary: Lessons 3g-4g

Verbs: Niphal (Futato, *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*, chap. 36)

Reflection #1: Jonah 1:1-3

New material:

Syntax:

Putnam: Piel Pattern (2.1.4) + Imperfect Conjugation (2.2.2a)
Jonah 1:4-6
Futato on 1:4-6
Page on 1:4-6

Week 4 (Sept 17)

Quiz #3:

Vocabulary: Lessons 5g-6g

Verbs: Piel (Futato, *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*, chap. 28)

New Material:

Syntax:

Putnam: Hithpael Pattern (2.1.6) + Imperfect Conjugation (2.2.2b)

Jonah 1:7-9

Futato on 1:7-9

Page on 1:7-9

Week 5 (Sept 24)

Quiz #4:

Vocabulary: Lessons 7g-8g

Verbs: Hithpael (Futato, *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*, chap. 39)

New Material:

Syntax:

Putnam: Hiphil Pattern (2.1.7) + Wci Conjugation (2.2.3)

Jonah 1:10-13

Futato on 1:10-13

Page on 1:10-13

Week 6 (Oct 1)

Quiz #5:

Vocabulary: Lessons 9g-10g

Verbs: Hiphil (Futato, *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*, chap. 31)

New Material:

Syntax:

Putnam: Volitional Conjugations (2.2.4)

Jonah 1:14-2:1 [Hebrew 1:14-2:2]

Futato on 1:14-2:1 [Hebrew 1:14-2:2]

Page on 1:14-2:1 [Hebrew 1:14-2:2]

Week 7 (Oct 8)

Mid-term on Putnam

Oct 15 Reading Week

Week 8 (Oct 22)

Quiz #6:

Vocabulary: Lessons 11g-12g

Verbs: Perfect: Qal, Niphal, Piel, Hiphil

Reflection #2: Jonah 1:4-16

New Material:

Syntax:

Putnam: Participle (2.2.5)

Jonah 2:2-10 [Hebrew 2:3-11]

Futato on 2:3-11

Page on 2:3-11

Week 9 (Oct 29)

Quiz #7:

Vocabulary: Lessons 13g-14g

Verbs: Imperfect: Qal, Niphal, Piel, Hiphil

Reflection #3: Jonah 1:17-2:10 [Hebrew 2:1-11]

New Material:

Syntax:

Putnam: Infinitive Construct and Infinitive Absolute (2.2.6 and 2.2.7)

Jonah 3:1-5

Futato on 3:1-5

Page on 3:1-5

Week 10 (Nov 5)

Quiz #8:

Vocabulary: Lessons 15g-16g

Verbs: Participle: Qal, Niphal, Piel, Hiphil

Reflection #4: Jonah 3:1-3a

New Material:

Syntax:

Putnam: Disjunctive Clauses (3.2.2)

Jonah 3:6-9

Futato on 3:6-9

Page on 3:6-9

Week 11 (Nov 12)

Quiz #9:

Vocabulary: Lessons 17g-18g

Verbs: Infinitives Construct: Qal, Niphal, Piel, Hiphil

Reflection #5: Jonah 3:3b-10

New Material:

Syntax:

Putnam: **אֲשַׁר** Clauses (3.3.2)

Jonah 3:10-4:3
Futato on 3:10-4:3
Page on 3:10-4:3

Week 12 (Nov 19)

Quiz #10:
Vocabulary: Lessons 19g-20g
Verbs: Imperatives: Qal, Niphal, Piel, Hiphil
New Material:
Syntax:
Putnam: ׀ Clauses (3.3.5)
Jonah 4:4-7
Futato on 4:4-7
Page on 4:4-7

Nov 26 Thanksgiving

Week 13 (Dec 3)

Quiz #11
Vocabulary: All vocabulary
Verbs: All verbs
Reflection #6: Jonah 4:1-4
New Material:
Syntax
Putnam: Masoretic Accents (4.1-4.4)
Jonah 4:8-11
Futato on 4:8-11
Page on 4:8-11

Dec 9 (Paper Due Date)

Reflection #7: Jonah 4:5-11

NOTEBOOK QUESTIONS

01 Jonah 1:1-3

1. What is the Hebrew word that underlies "Jonah" and how many times does this word occur in the OT? [Note: Your search needs to be for a proper noun.]
2. What does this same noun mean and how many times does it occur in the OT as a common noun? [Note: Your search needs to be on the common noun "ceremonially clean יונה, which will be n#2 (AF).]
3. How is this word used symbolically in the OT? [Note: Consult the DBI article on "dove."]
4. What does אָמַתִּי mean? [Hint: The base noun is אָמַת and has the 1cs suffix.]
5. What is the Hebrew word that underlies "evil" in verse 2 and what is the semantic range of this word?
6. What is the Hebrew word that underlies "went down" and "went on board" in verse 3?

02 Jonah 1:4-6

1. Parse the next to the last word in verse 4 and list the semantic range of this verb in this pattern according to DBLH. Compare the possible meanings in DBLH 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/NASB) in Jonah.
3. What is the Hebrew word underlying "threw" in verse 5?
4. Where else does this Hebrew verb occur in addition to the hits you found with your English based search? What might be the significance of the repetition?
5. What is the Hebrew underlying "But Jonah had gone down" (v5), and why do all the translations use "But"? (see BHRG 47.2(ii)e).
6. Find the occurrences of קוּם and קָרָא prior to verse 6 in Jonah. What might be the significance of the repetition?

03 Jonah 1:7-9

1. Parse לָבוּ and נִפְּלָה in verse 7.
2. How is the second verb being used? [see "Indirect Volitive in Lesson 14g and BHRG 21.5.1(i)]
3. What is the meaning of רָעָה in verse 7.
4. Compare the meaning of רָעָה in verse 7 with the meaning in verse 2.
5. What is the significance of the word order in וְאֵת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם אֲנִי יָרָא [see BHRG 47.2.(i)a]
6. What might be the ironic significance of Jonah's 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 grammatical difference between the first use and the use in verse 10, and what might the significance be?
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 procedural perfect. [See Putnam.]
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?
6. Parse **לְהָשִׁיב** in verse 13. Verbs in this pattern are transitive, meaning they take a direct object. Note that the direct object is left out. What would you supply as the direct object and why?

05 Jonah 1:14-2:2

1. Parse **נִאֲבְדָה** (verse 14) and find all occurrences of the all qal forms of this verb in the previous verses.
2. Who is the subject of **נִאֲבְדָה**?
3. Find all occurrences in the Hebrew Bible of the Hebrew expression translated "do not put innocent blood on us" (NASB in verse 14), by finding every place text that uses this Hebrew verb (any form) with this Hebrew preposition with this Hebrew direct object.
4. What does the Hebrew expression translated "do not put innocent blood on us" mean?
5. Find all occurrences of the verb **וַיִּירָאוּ** (precise form) in Jonah 1:4-16.
6. How is each occurrence of **וַיִּירָאוּ** in Jonah 1:4-16 different and what pattern do you see in these repetitions?

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?
2. Is the prayer of Jonah 2:3-10 a request for help needed or thanksgiving for help received?
3. What is the semantic range of **שְׂאוּל** (verse 3) and what does it mean in this text? Compare the treatments in NIDOTTE, TLOT, and TWOT, which are available at Course Documents. If you have Scholars, Silver, or Gold, you have TWOT in Logos.
4. 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?
5. Compare and list the translations of **חֲסָדִים יַעֲזֹבוּ** in the ESV, NASB, NIV, and NRSV of verse 8.

- Find and list all of the occurrences of this expression in the OT. [You will need to search for the verb when followed by the noun and vice versa to find all occurrences.] Which translation do you think best captures the sense in Jonah 2:8, and why do you think so?

07 Jonah 3:1-5

- Compare 3:1 and 1:1. What is the point of the high level of repetition?
- Parse the next to the last word in verse 2. How is this verb being used syntactically (see BHRG 20.3)?
- What is the sense of לְאֱלֹהִים in verse 3 according to the ESV, NASB, NIV, and NRSV?
- How does Futato translate this phrase and what do you think?
- Find every occurrence in the Hebrew Bible of the Hebrew verb for "believe" when used with the Hebrew prepositional phrase translated "in God."
- In referenced to the clause וַיֵּאֱמִינוּ אֲנָשֵׁי נִינְוָה בְּאֱלֹהִים, Page says, "The Hebrew phrase means only that they believed what Jonah's God said would happen." Evaluate this claim in light of your results in #5.

08 Jonah 3:6-9

- To what does הִדְבֵּר in verse 6 possibly refer and which possibility is most likely in context?
- Parse the first verb in verse 6. How is it being used syntactically? Cite Putnam in your answer.
- What is "zeugma" and can you find any examples in verses 6-9?
- Parse וַיִּנְחַם in verse 9. What is the semantic range of this verb in this pattern according to DBLH?
- Find all the occurrences in the OT of וַיִּנְחַם in this pattern and in all conjugations.
- List the various English glosses of this word from the ESV, NIV, and NRSV. What do you think this word mean in Jonah 3:9?

09 Jonah 3:10-4:3

- Find all of the occurrences of the verb וַיִּנְחַם when used in the niphal in the OT and with עַל-הָרָעָה (see verse 9). Which of these texts are helpful in understanding Jonah 3:10?
- Parse דָּבַר (verse 10). How is this word translated in the ESV, NASB, NIV, NLT, and NRSV?
- Copy the note found in DBLH about translation options of דָּבַר. Which translation(s) best captures the sense? Defend your answer from context.
- Can you find other OT texts that are parallel to Jonah's confession in 4:2? How did you find them?
- What is the significance of the parallels found in #4?

6. In what way is 4:3 ironic? Why do you say so?

10 Jonah 4:4-7

1. What Hebrew word is translated "angry" (ESV) in Jonah 4:4? Read the article on this word in TWOT. What concept is the word for anger related to?
2. What is implied about Jonah's external condition in Jonah 4:5?
3. What is the connection between Jonah's external condition and your answer to #1?
4. What is implied about the quality of Jonah's booth in Jonah 4:6a?
5. What do you think רָעָה means in Jonah 4:6? Defend your answer from context.
6. Compare the syntax of Jonah 4:6b and 4:1. What syntactic feature is used in both? What is the significance of the syntactic correspondence between Jonah 4:6b and 4:1?

11 Jonah 4:8-11

1. Find and list all the occurrences of יָמַן (see Jonah 4:8) in Jonah. What is the theological significance of this repetition?
2. Find and list every occurrence of the phrase "east wind" in the ESV of the OT. What is the theological significance of this phrase for its use in Jonah?
3. What is the Hebrew word translated "pity" (ESV) in Jonah 4:10, 11, and what is its semantic range according to DBLH?
4. Find and list all the occurrences of this Hebrew verb in the OT.
5. How is this verb usually used, and what is the significance of this usage for its use in Jonah?
6. How do Futato and Page interpret וַבַּהֲמָה רָבָה, and what do you think?

DUE DATE CHECKLIST

- | | |
|--|---|
| Week 1 Thurs, Aug 27 at 4pm
Nothing due! | Week 9 Thurs, Oct 29 at 4pm
Post and reply 07
Quiz #07
Notebook 07
Reflection #3: Jonah 1:17-2:10 |
| Week 2 Thurs, Sept 3 at 4pm
Post and reply 01
Quiz #01
Notebook 01 | Week 10 Thurs, Nov 5 at 4pm
Post and reply 08
Quiz #08
Notebook 08
Reflection #4: Jonah 3:1-3a |
| Week 3 Thurs, Sept 10 at 4pm
Post and reply 02
Quiz #02
Notebook 02
Reflection #1: Jonah 1:1-3 | Week 11 Thurs, Nov 12 at 4pm
Post and reply 09
Quiz #09
Notebook 09
Reflection #5: Jonah 3:3b-10 |
| Week 4 Thurs, Sept 17 at 4pm
Post and reply 03
Quiz #03
Notebook 03 | Week 12 Thurs, Nov 19 at 4pm
Post and reply 10
Quiz #10
Notebook 10 |
| Week 5 Thurs, Sept 24 at 4pm
Post and reply 04
Quiz #04
Notebook 04 | Nov 26 Thanksgiving |
| Week 6 Thurs, Oct 1 at 4pm
Post and reply 05
Quiz #05
Notebook 05 | Week 13 Thurs, Dec 3 at 4pm
Post and reply 11
Quiz #11
Notebook 11
Reflection #6: Jonah 4:1-4 |
| Week 7 Thurs, Oct 8 at 4pm
Mid-term | Dec 9
Reflection #7: Jonah 4:5-11 |
| Reading Week Oct 15 | Dec 10 – 15
Final Exam |
| Week 8 Thurs, Oct 22 at 4pm
Post and reply 06
Quiz #06
Notebook 06
Reflection #2: Jonah 1:4-16 | |