

The Divine Warrior 6OT607/2¹

Course Syllabus

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1. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will analyze the theme of the “divine warrior” using the Biblical-theological method. In so doing, the images of God as the divine warrior will be explored as it is described in various points in the history of salvation as well as in key literary passages in both the Old and New Testaments. Special attention will also be paid in the identity of the elect who carry on this “divine warrior” motif, particular battles and wars that are outstanding in the history of salvation, and ways in which the church can combat in the current state of spiritual warfare.
2. **COURSE GOALS:**
 - a. To trace the development of the identity of God as a divine warrior.
 - b. To trace the theme of the people of God as those who are in the image of God as the divine warrior.
 - c. To analyze the ways in which NT writers interpreted OT texts that describe the Divine Warrior and their subsequent appropriation of those texts/themes.
 - d. To examine the major wars that involve both God and His elect as warriors.
 - e. To discuss relevant matters of the theme of the divine warrior in scholarship.
3. **DATES FOR THE CLASS:**
 - a. The class will meet on Friday evening from 7:30pm to 10:00pm and Saturday from 8:00am to 4:00pm on each the following weekends:
 - Feb. 24-25
 - Mar. 30-31
 - Apr. 27-28
 - b. Attendance is mandatory.
4. **REQUIRED READING:**
 - a. Longman Tremper; Reid, Daniel G. *God is a Warrior*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
 - b. Enns, Peter. *Inspiration and Incarnation: Evangelicals and the Problem of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.
 - c. Beale, Greg K. *The Erosion of Inerrancy in Evangelicalism: Responding to New Challenges to Biblical Authority*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.
 - d. Beale, Greg K. *Right Doctrine from the Wrong Texts?: Essays on the Use of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994

¹ This course syllabus describes the requirements for the “Divine Warrior” as a 3 Credit Hour class in fulfillment of the Advanced Biblical Exegesis course.

- e. Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Gospel-Centered Hermeneutics: Foundations and Principles of Evangelical Biblical Interpretation*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2006.
- f. Additional articles (these will be provided on the first day of class)
 - Beale, G. K. "Positive Answer to the Question Did Jesus and His Followers Preach the Right Doctrine from the Wrong Texts?." Pages 387-404 in *The Right Doctrine from the Wrong Texts?: Essays on the Use of the Old Testament in the New*. Edited by G. K. Beale. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.
 - Dodd, C. H. "The Old Testament in the New." Pages 167-81 in *The Right Doctrine from the Wrong Texts?: Essays on the Use of the Old Testament in the New*. Edited by G. K. Beale. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.
 - Gaffin, R. B. "The Usefulness of the Cross." *Westminster Theological Journal* 41 (1979): 228-46.
 - Gaffin, R. B. "Systematic Theology and Biblical Theology." *Westminster Theological Journal* 38 (1976): 281-299.
 - McCartney, D. G. "The New Testament's Use of the Old Testament." In *Inerrancy and Hermeneutic*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1988.
 - Poythress, V. S. "The Presence of God Qualifying our Notions of Grammatical-Historical Interpretation." *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 50 (2007): 87-103.
 - Poythress, V. S. "Divine Meaning of Scripture." In *The Right Doctrine from the Wrong Texts?: Essays on the Use of the Old Testament in the New*. Edited by G. K. Beale, 82-113. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.

5. ASSIGNMENTS:

- a. Exams
 - There will be three exams for the class, one at the end of each weekend (see below for details on the schedule).
 - Each exam will be taken at home with the presence of a proctor (details regarding the exams will be provided on the first day of class).
- b. Term paper
 - Students may select a passage of their choice, but this paper must show utilization in both Hebrew and Greek texts (12-15 pages).
 - Suggestion: Eph. 6:10-20 in its NT and OT allusions.
- c. Mini-papers
 - Provide a survey-description of the major positions on how NT writers interpret OT texts (8-10 pages).
 - Compare and contrast Enns, Beale, and Poythress in their positions of NT writers use of OT texts (10 pages).

6. For details or additional questions concerning the course, contact Dr. Lee at plee@rts.edu.

Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes

Course: The Divine Warrior (3 credits)
 Professor: Peter Y. Lee
 Campus: Washington, D. C.
 Date: January 31, 2012

<u>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</u>		<u>Rubric</u> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Moderate	1. Brief historical discussion on the theme of the course 2. There are major required writing assignments
Scripture	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	1. Materials depend upon the original texts (Greek, Hebrew, Aramaic) of Scripture 2. The NT use of key OT texts on given subject
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	1. Discussions on the theme of the final battle, holy war and its place in reformed eschatology.
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	1. Encouragement to perceive the life of the believer in a state of spiritual warfare
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Moderate	1. Brief comparison of Israelite holy war with modern "jihad."
Winsomely Reformed/ Evangelistic	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Minimal	1. Alternative views in the critical school on the origins of holy war. 2. Alternative views on the NT use of OT texts.
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Moderate	1. Conscious effort to portray God as a victorious warrior that can be communicated from the pulpit.
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	None	
Shepherd	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	Minimal	1. Encouragement to perceive the ministry of the church in a state of spiritual warfare
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	1. Present a Christian perspective to Biblical themes of war and violence.