COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will (1) continue to study Biblical Hebrew morphology, grammar, and syntax; (2) continue to acquire new Hebrew vocabulary; and (3) learn how to use Hebrew to study the Bible – the science of Hebrew Exegesis! Prerequisites: Hebrew 1 and Hebrew 2

COURSE PROTOCOLS

1. *Grading Schedule.* The letter grading scale is stipulated by the institutional catalogue and is summarized below.

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<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>97-100%</td>
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2. *Attendance and Late Assignments.* Attendance is a requirement. Due to the condensed nature of the course offering, absence is not permitted. Students are expected to be on time and prepared for each class session. Late assignments are docked one letter grade per day.

3. *Special Needs.* In order to ensure full class participation, any student with a disabling condition requiring special accommodations (e.g. tape recorders, special adaptive equipment, special note-taking or test-taking needs) is strongly encouraged to contact the professor at the beginning of the course.

4. *Computers.* The use of a computer in class is not recommended. They may be used, if necessary, for note taking purposes. The playing of games, the use of the Internet, or work unrelated to the course is prohibited. A first offence will result in the loss of a letter grade. A second offence will result in course failure.

5. *Disclaimer.* This syllabus is intended to reflect accurately the learning objectives, instructional format and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. However, during the course of the term, the instructor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as may appear necessary because of events and circumstances that occur during the semester.
TEXTBOOKS

Hebrew Bible (preferably Biblia Sacra).

Hebrew Lexicon (KB/HALOT)


COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Hebrew Reading. We will read Jonah, selected Psalms, and Isaiah 43. See course schedule for details – 40% of final grade.

2. Hebrew Vocabulary. During this semester, we will learn all Hebrew words that occur 50 or more times in the OT. See the course schedule for details – 10% of final grade.

3. Hebrew Exegesis. There will be weekly assignments that culminate in a final exegesis paper. See the course schedule for details – 50% of final grade.

COURSE SCHEDULE

February  3  Introduction and Syllabus

   Assignment: (1) Translate Exodus 17:1-7; (2) Read Chisholm, pp. 7-12.

   8      Jonah 1:1-4; Introduction to BHS
          Jonah 1:5-8; Textual Criticism

          Assignment: (1) Select and translate one of the following two passages for your exegesis paper – Exodus 33:12-23 or Numbers 20:1-13;
                                (2) Read Stuart, pp. 1-33.

   10     Jonah 1:9-12; Textual Criticism
          Jonah 1:13-16; Textual Criticism

          Assignment: (1) Enter the Hebrew text of your passage into your word processor and, in footnotes, translate the textual apparatus of BHS and comment on any other textual issues; (2) Read Brotzman, pp. 17-132.
22 Jonah 2:1-4; Lexical Data or Word Studies
Assignment: (1) Select two important words from your Exegesis text and conduct a thorough word study of each. Turn in a one page (double-spaced) summary of your finding for each word; (2) Read Chisholm, 31-56

March 1 Jonah 2:9-11; Grammatical and Syntactical Analysis
3 Jonah 3:1-5; Grammatical and Syntactical Analysis
Assignment: (1) Make a list of 25 grammatical and syntactical observation related to your exegesis text. Each entry must make reference to either Chisholm, pp. 57-117, Arnold and Choi (A Guide to Biblical Hebrew Syntax), Waltke and O’Connor, Joüon- Muraoka, or GKC.

8 Jonah 3:6-10; Structure and Outline
10 Jonah 4:1-3; Structure and Outline
11 BibleWorks Seminar: 9-12, 1-4
Assignment: Outline your passage. This should be done in three stages. First, use the technique known as “phrasing” or “macrosyntactical” analysis. Second, produce a formal outline (I., II., A., B., 1., 2., a., b.) based upon your macrosyntactical analysis. Third, write a one paragraph summary describing the structure of the text.

15 Jonah 4:4-7; Literary Context
17 Jonah 4:8-11; Literary Context; Vocabulary Exam (VGBH #507–580)
Assignment: Using any necessary secondary literature (See Stuart, pp. 118-122), identify the category of literature to which your text belongs and demonstrate the significance or value of this literary type for your text.

22 Spring Break – begin your verse by verse commentary work.
24 Spring Break – begin your verse by verse commentary work.

29 Psalm 1:1-3; Historical Context
31 Psalm 1:4-6; Historical Context
Assignment: Write a one page summary describing the historical context of your text. Be certain to comment on both (1) secular historical issues and (2) redemptive historical issues. Normally, this material will appear in your introduction to the text.

April 5 Psalm 23:1-3; Biblical (Theology) Context
6 Psalm 23:4-6; Biblical (Theology) Context
Assignment: Identify the appearance of your passage elsewhere in either the Old Testament or the New Testament. Do these other texts interpret, explain, or apply your text? Make a list of references and briefly explain what these passages contribute to your understanding and interpretation of the text.
12 Psalm 134:1-3; (Systematic) Theology
14 Psalm 136:1-13; (Systematic) Theology
Assignment: To what categories of systematic theology does your passage contribute? Select one appropriate category from systematic theology and write a one page summary detailing how your passage contributes to this area of study.

19 Psalm 136:14-26; Secondary Literature (Library Field Trip)
21 Isaiah 43:1-3; Secondary Literature; Vocabulary Exam (VGBH #581-642)
Assignment: Create the bibliography for your exegesis paper. List only those works cited in the footnotes or body of your paper. Be certain that your bibliographical entries comply to the appropriate format.

26 Isaiah 43:4-7; Application
28 Isaiah 43:8-10; Application
Assignment: Apply the message of your passage to the life of the modern day believer. How does this passage speak to us today?

May 3 Isaiah 43:11-14; From Exegesis to Exposition!
5 Isaiah 43:15-21; From Exegesis to Exposition!
Assignment: Create a one page sermon outline.

10 Isaiah 43:22-28; Turn in your final exegesis papers. See the attached handout for paper guidelines.
16-19 Final Exam: Translation and Vocabulary (VGBH #1–642).
EXEGESIS PAPER

Your exegesis paper must include the following items. Before you turn in your final paper, you must have a fellow student read, edit, and sign the last page of the bibliography.

1. **Title Page.** See the attached example.

2. **Hebrew Text.** The first step is to import the Hebrew text into your word processing application. At this point, footnote and discuss any relevant text critical issues that appear in the textual apparatus or secondary literature.

3. **English Translation.** Provide your own idiomatic translation of the Hebrew text into English. Footnote any relevant information that relates to your translation. For example, you may comment on how your translation differs from one or more of the standard English translations.

4. **Introduction and Outline.** Give a basic introduction to the content and structure of your passage. In other words, give me the big picture before you begin the verse by verse commentary. Your outline must stem from the Hebrew text and you must be able to defend your outline based upon the (narrative) syntax of the passage.

5. **Verse by Verse Commentary.** Describe the basic contents of each verse. Detailed analysis of grammar and syntax, word studies, the discussion of historical or social issues, and the contribution that the individual verse makes to the whole are possible categories for discussion.

6. **Theological Summary and Conclusions.** Tie it all together! This is the “so what?” section of the paper. What is the biblical-theological contribution of this passage to the larger narrative complex or to the whole of scripture? How does your passage contribute to the development of systematic theology? What does your passage teach us about Christian living? Ultimately, we must determine and describe the presentation of the Gospel in the passage.

7. **Sermon Outline.** Create a one page sermon outline from which you could preach.

8. **Bibliography.** Provide a complete listing of all secondary literature cited in your paper. Entries may include Hebrew grammars, lexicons, word study books, monographs, dissertations, journal articles, or commentaries. Note that one’s consultation of commentaries should be restricted to the final stages of preparation and study. At this stage in your training, it is more important that you develop your own exegetical skill rather than rely upon the work of others with similar training.
THAT DAMNED ROCK!
A STUDY OF EXODUS 17:1-7

A Paper
Presented to
Miles V. Van Pelt
Reformed Theological Seminary
Jackson, Mississippi

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for Hebrew Exegesis (OT 506)

by
Joe Student
RTS Box 8675309
May 10, 2005