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BT 825 Biblical Theology and Theological Hermeneutics

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BT825
Biblical Theology and Theological Hermeneutics

Draft Version 3.0

Joel B. Green, Instructor
9:00 am – 4:00 pm – 10-14 Dec 07

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Course Description

An exploration of the development of modern “biblical theology,” current models of engaging in the task of “biblical theology,” obstacles to a “biblical theology,” and the contemporary recovery of a theological hermeneutics in relation to the biblical theology movement.

Prerequisites

Enrollment in either the ThM (Biblical Studies) or the PhD (Biblical Studies) program.

Course Objectives

Having successfully completed this course, participants will be able to:

- Summarize critically issues related to the “biblical theology” project;
- Articulate the significance of an ecclesial context for biblical interpretation;
- Compare and critically assess varied approaches to theological hermeneutics; and
- Propose and/or defend (an) approach(es) to the task of “biblical theology” and/or theological interpretation of Christian Scripture.

Course Requirements

On questions of style, especially with regard to paper organization and references, see Patrick H. Alexander, et al., eds., *The SBL Handbook of Style for Ancient Near Eastern, Biblical, and Early Christian Studies* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1999).

Given the seminar nature of this course, on-time submission of materials is mandatory. Late materials will not be accepted.

E-copies of all assignments should be submitted to the instructor formatted as a Word document (*.doc); WordPerfect (*.wpd) and PDF files are also acceptable.

(1) Seminar Attendance, Preparation, and Participation: See the schedule of reading for each class session. Note that assigned reading should be completed by the day listed. Attendance at and readiness to participate in all sessions of the seminar is assumed. (15%)

Note: Because of the intensive nature of this course, students are urged to complete all reading prior to 10 December 2007!

(2) Seminar Presentation: A descriptive and critical presentation on one of the assigned readings (see the Course Schedule) — *ca.* 1500–2100 words, typed, double-spaced, with a 12-point font like Times New Roman. Presenters should conclude their papers by proposing 5–10 questions designed to help guide seminar discussion. Due in e-form to the instructor and the respondent (see below) no less than 24 hours before, and to all members of the seminar at the beginning of, the session for which the reading is assigned. (Post an e-copy to the Course Center: NT920W1 [FA07].) [Participants may sign-up for any open session beginning 15 October 2007 by sending their preferences to the instructor at \[joel_green@asburyseminary.edu\]\(mailto:joel_green@asburyseminary.edu\).](#) (25%)

(3) Seminar Response: A critical response to a presentation on one of the assigned readings offered in fulfillment of Course Requirement (2) — *ca.* 600–900 words, typed, double-spaced, with a 12-point font like Times New Roman. Due in written form to the instructor and presenter at the beginning of the session for which the reading is assigned. (In addition, post an e-copy to the instructor: NT920W1 [FA07]-Office.) [Participants may sign-up for any open session beginning 15 October 2007 by sending their preferences to the instructor at \[joel_green@asburyseminary.edu\]\(mailto:joel_green@asburyseminary.edu\).](#) (15%)

(4) Final Paper: A research paper arguing a thesis related to any one (or more) of the objectives of this course (see above) — 6000–8000 words (including footnotes and bibliography), typed, double-spaced, with a 12-point font like Times New Roman. For my expectations regarding Research Papers, see the document entitled “Some Comments on Research Papers” in the Course Center. E-copy due (to joel_green@asburyseminary.edu) no later than 11:59 pm, Eastern Time, 15 January 2008. (45%)

Course Schedule		
Date		Subjects, Seminar Presentations, and Required Reading
10 Dec	1	<p>(A) Introduction to the Course</p> <p>(B) Biblical Theology and Theological Hermeneutics: Issues</p> <p><i>Recommended Reading:</i> John Sandys-Wunsch and Laurence Eldredge, "J.P. Gabler and the Distinction between Biblical and Dogmatic Theology: Translation, Commentary, and Discussion of His Originality," <i>SJT</i> 33 (1980): 133-58; Krister Stendahl, "Biblical Theology, Contemporary," in <i>IDB</i>, 1:418-32; Loren T. Stuckenbruck, "Johann Philipp Gabler and the Delineation of Biblical Theology," <i>SJT</i> 52 (1999): 139-57; C. Kavin Rowe, "New Testament Theology: The Revival of a Discipline," <i>JBL</i> 152 (2006): 393-410.</p>
11 Dec	2	<p>(A) Brevard S. Childs, <i>Old Testament Theology in a Canonical Context</i> (Philadelphia: Fortress, 1985).</p> <p>(B) Walter Brueggemann, <i>Theology of the Old Testament: Testimony, Dispute, Advocacy</i> (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1997), 1-114; James Barr, <i>The Concept of Biblical Theology: An Old Testament Perspective</i> (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1999), 172-208; John Goldingay, <i>Old Testament Theology</i>, vol. 1: <i>Israel's Gospel</i> (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2003), 1-41; R.W.L. Moberly, "Theology of the Old Testament," in <i>The Face of Old Testament Studies: A Survey of Contemporary Approaches</i> (ed. Bill T. Arnold and David W. Baker; Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1999), 452-78.</p> <p>(C) John J. Collins, <i>Encounters with Biblical Theology</i> (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2005).</p>
12 Dec	3	<p>(A) Peter Balla, <i>Challenges to New Testament Theology: An Attempt to Justify the Enterprise</i> (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1997), 1-146.</p> <p>(B) Peter Balla, <i>Challenges to New Testament Theology: An Attempt to Justify the Enterprise</i> (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1997), 147-254.</p> <p>(C) N.T. Wright, <i>The New Testament and the People of God</i> (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1992), 1-144.</p>
13 Dec	4	<p>(A) Joel B. Green and Max Turner, eds., <i>Between Two Horizons: Spanning New Testament Studies and Systematic Theology</i> (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2000), 1-107, 143-204.</p> <p>(B) Markus Bockmuehl, <i>Seeing the Word: Refocusing New Testament Study</i> (STI; Grand Rapids: Baker, 2006)</p> <p>(C) Richard E. Burnett, <i>Karl Barth's Theological Exegesis: The Hermeneutical Principles of the <u>Römerbrief</u> Period</i> (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004), 1-124.</p>
14 Dec	5	<p>(A) Richard E. Burnett, <i>Karl Barth's Theological Exegesis: The Hermeneutical Principles of the <u>Römerbrief</u> Period</i> (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004), 125-261.</p> <p>(B) Ellen F. Davis, and Richard B. Hays, eds., <i>The Art of Reading Scripture</i> (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2003), 1-159.</p> <p>(C) A.K.M. Adam, et al., <i>Reading Scripture with the Church: Toward a Hermeneutic for Theological Interpretation</i> (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2006).</p>