

Course Syllabus: BLS 501XN

Genesis — Song of Songs (Part-1)

In-Ministry Version

1. Course Description

This course will survey of the biblical books of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible with emphasis upon the historical context, structure, and message of each book as well as the major theological themes developed in their canonical context. 2 hours

2. Required Textbooks

- An English Bible of the student's choice: you are encouraged to pick a translation that is different from the one you usually read [e.g. the English Standard Version, New Revised Standard Version].
- Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart, *How to Read the Bible Book by Book: A Guided Tour* (Zondervan, 2002). ISBN#0310211182, Price: \$18.99

3. Course Goals

This course is designed to:

Cognitive

- 3.1. Familiarize the student with the structure, literary genre, purpose, contents, and theology of the books of the Old Testament.
- 3.2. Demonstrate the integrity of the entire Old Testament canon by relating each of these books to one another and to the overall themes of the Old Testament.

Synthetic

- 3.3. Assist the student in recognizing and identifying key figures, names, places, events, and passages contained in the Old Testament.
- 3.4. Enable the student to engage critically with difficult texts and interpretive issues relating to the Old Testament.

Affective

- 3.5. Give the student a greater appreciation for the theological and cultural heritage represented in the Bible.

4. Course Requirements

4.1 Reading

The student will read the entirety of Genesis–2 Kings, and the relevant pages of Fee and Stuart (pages 1-98), keeping track of his/her reading on the attached "Reading Log" sheet. For each chapter, enter:

- Zero [0] if you did not read it entirely;
- A check-minus [✓-] if you skim-read it in its entirety;
- A check [✓] if you read it carefully in its entirety, in a serious fashion.

The student's "Reading Log" will be handed in *at the dates designated in the course calendar. **No late work will be allowed following those dates.***

4.2 Exams

No exams will be given.

4.3 Project This is a two-part course: BLS 501XN (July-Oct) and BLS 501YN (Dec-Mar). Two credits for each course. Each course will require the following project.

4.3.1 For each course, the student will submit a project in which each s/he creates a personal study and teaching tool for **EACH** book of the Bible being studied for the course (Genesis — 2 Kings). The format for each book will include the following, clearly organized according to this pattern:

- Title of the biblical book
- A statement of the main idea of the book, given in a single, grammatically-complete sentence.
- An explanation of the main idea, given in 2-3 well-developed paragraphs. This should both explain the main idea of the book and *why* it accounts for all the material in the book.
- State the purpose of the book, together with an explanation of the reason for why you have drawn this conclusion.
Note: the main idea of the book and its purpose are not identical, though they will be related.
- Present 3-6 of the leading themes of each book, with 1-2 paragraphs explanation for each theme.
- A page-length proposal which explains how the message and themes of book relate to contemporary needs and issues of individuals, church, and society.
- Develop 6-12 well-crafted study questions that could be used in a home Bible study. These questions should be clearly subdivided into two kinds of questions:
 - (a) those that enable the participants to be drawn into reading the text more carefully and gaining insight into its message and content, and
 - (b) those that help them to explore the relevance of the message to their own personal lives.
- List 3-5 resources/bibliography that would be helpful for you and others in studying the book further. *Note: since this syllabus contains a bibliography for each of these books, you may draw from that list. These titles are primarily intended for doing graduate-level research, exegesis, and analysis. However, on this assignment, for your own list to be practical, you should include only those titles that are most appropriate for your MINISTRY use.*
- *For each book, the student **must** clearly identify any and all ideas and wording drawn from ALL secondary sources (including internet resources, study Bible notes, class notes, books, articles, and any unpublished sources such as sermons, recordings, or written correspondence) through the use of footnotes (or equivalent). **Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism and will result in complete loss of credit. The use of secondary resources will NOT be a factor in your grade, but do cite them when used.***

The notebooks may be either single- or double-spaced, and should be carefully proofread, checking for spelling, grammatical, and typographical errors.

4.3.2 DUE DATES: NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED

The due date this part of the course is Friday, Nov 26

This notebook must contain: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Samuel (as one book), and Kings (as one book)

4.4 Grading Format

Reading Log #1	40%
Project, Part I	60%

5. Attendance & Late Work

The student must attend every class session, arriving on time. The project and reading log must be turned in on time. **Late work will not be accepted.**

6. Grading Scale

93-100	A
86-92	B
76-85	C
66-75	D
-65	Uh-oh

7. Course Calendar

7.1 BLS 501XN Fall 2010

August 23	Course, part I begins
Sept 15	8a.m. - 5 p.m. Class Intensive: Genesis - 2Kings
Sept 16	8a.m. - 5 p.m. Class Intensive: Genesis - 2Kings
Sept 17	8a.m. - Noon Class Intensive: Genesis - 2Kings
Nov 26	Reading Log I and Project I DUE

8. Bibliography

General Reference Works for Hermeneutics & OT Study

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- Kaiser, Walter C., Jr. *Toward an Exegetical Theology: Biblical Exegesis for Preaching and Teaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981.
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- Kohlenberger, John R. III & Swanson, James A. Swanson. *The Hebrew-English Concordance to the OT*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
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- Van Gemeren, Willem A., ed. *New International Dictionary of OT Theology & Exegesis*. 5 vols. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997.
- *Vanhooser, Kevin J.. *Is There a Meaning in This Text: The Bible, the Reader, and the Morality of Literary Knowledge*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.

Commentary Sets

- Baker Exegetical Commentary on the NT*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1993- .
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- Harrison, R. K. [ed] *New International Commentary on the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1976- .
- Hubbard, David Allan & Glenn W. Barker [eds.]. *Word Biblical Commentary*. 52 Vols. Waco: Word, 1982- .
- Terry Muck [ed.], *NIV Application Commentary*. Zondervan.

Commentaries on Individual Books

Genesis

- *Borgman, Paul C. *Genesis: The Story We Haven't Heard*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2001.
- Ross, Allen P. *Creation & Blessing: A Guide to the Study and Exposition of Genesis*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1988.
- Sailhamer, John H. "Genesis" pp. 1-284 in *Expos. Bib. Comm.* Vol. 2. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990.
- Waltke, Bruce K. *Genesis: A Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.

Exodus

- Childs, Brevard S. *The Book of Exodus* [OT Library]. Philadelphia: Westminster 1974.
- Durham, John I. *Exodus* [W.B.C.]. Waco: Word, 1987.
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- Meyer, Lester. *The Message of Exodus: A Theological Commentary*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1983.

Leviticus

- Gerstenberger, Erhard S. *Leviticus*. [OTL] Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1996.
- Harris, R. Laird. "Leviticus" pp.499-654 in *Expos. Bib. Comm.* Vol. 2. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990.
- *Milgrom, Jacob. *Leviticus 1-16, Leviticus 17-22, Leviticus 23-27*. 3 vols. [Anchor 3,3A,3B]. New York: Doubleday, 1991, 2000.
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Numbers

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Cole, R. Dennis. *Numbers*. [NAC 38] Nashville: Broadman, 2000.

*Harrison, R. K. *Numbers* [Wycliffe Exegetical Commentary] Chicago: Moody, 1990.

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Deuteronomy

*Craigie, Peter C. *The Book of Deuteronomy* [NICOT]. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1976.

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Joshua

Boling, Robert G. & Wright, G. E. *Joshua* (Doubleday, 1982, Anchor Bible).

Butler, Trent C. *Joshua* [W.B.C.] Waco: Word, 1983.

*Howard, David M., Jr. *Joshua*. NAC 5. Broadman, 1998.

Woudstra, Marten H. *The Book of Joshua*. [NICOT] Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1981.

Judges

Block, Daniel I. *Judges, Ruth*. [NAC 6] Nashville: Broadman, 1999.

Cundall, Arthur E. & Leon Morris. *Judges & Ruth* [Tyndale O.T. Comm.] Downers Grove: IVP, 1968.

Hamlin, E. G. *At Risk in the Promised Land*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990.

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Block, Daniel I. *Judges, Ruth*. [NAC 6] Nashville: Broadman, 1999.

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Fretheim, Terence E. *First and Second Kings*. WeBC. Westminster John Knox, 1999

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Esther

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Job

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Psalms

Brueggemann, Walter. *The Message of the Psalms: A Theological Commentary*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1984.
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Alden, Robert L. *Proverbs: A Commentary on an Ancient Book of Timeless Wisdom*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1983.
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* _____. *Book of Proverbs 16-31*. NICOT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005

Ecclesiastes

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Murphy, Ronald E. *The Song of Songs*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1990.
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Provan, Iain. *Ecclesiastes/Song of Songs*. [NIVAC] Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.

Reading Log #1 Genesis - 2 Kings BLS 501XN

*For each chapter listed below, mark 0 if you have not read it **in its entirety**, mark a check-minus if you have skim-read it completely, mark a check if you have read it thoughtfully, studied it, marked it, etc.*

Genesis

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49	50										

Exodus

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40					

Leviticus

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27			

Numbers

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36									

Deuteronomy

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34											

Joshua

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24						

Judges

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21									

1 Samuel

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31														

2 Samuel

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24						

1 Kings

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22								

2 Kings

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25					

Fee and Stuart, *How to Read the Bible Book by Book*

Genesis	
Exodus	
Leviticus	
Numbers	
Deuteronomy	
Joshua	
Judges	
1-2 Samuel	
1-2 Kings	

This record of my reading is truthful and accurate

/ 334 points possible

(signature) _____