

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION

DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours

Western Seminary – Portland Campus

Fall 2010

DIS 505 Biblical Theology of Mission

Fall 2010

Tuesday 6:00-9:00 PM, September 14 – November 16
Bueermann Hall 207

Western Seminary -- Portland Campus
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Course Description

This is the study of the theological foundations of mission. It examines both the Old and New Testaments, including Israel's responsibility to the nations, the mandates of Jesus Christ, and Pauline missiology. The course also considers the contemporary issues of ecumenism, syncretism, and universalism, as well as the emerging theologies of indigenous churches in diverse cultures.

Course Goals

As a result of this course, participants should be able to:

1. Trace God's mission & purpose through the Old and New Testaments from a Kingdom perspective.
2. Identify the major themes that drive and empower God's plan and passion for His world.
3. Develop a biblically based philosophy of and vision for ministry in our pluralistic world.
4. Identify and evaluate some of the theological issues and contemporary trends in the study and practice of missions today.
5. Embrace a motivation to active prayer for, support of and direct involvement in some aspect of global missions.
6. Understand and articulate the integration of the cultural and redemptive mandates.
7. Examine non-Western approaches and consider new paradigms in mission in the 21st Century.
8. Explore the impact of globalization on Christian mission.

Course Format

The format for this course combines lecture, discussion, required reading, and library (including web) research. Because of the interactive nature of the course, attendance at each session is necessary. However, each student will be allowed the absence of two class hours *without grade penalty*. Beyond this limit, please refer to the current Catalog for other absence policies.

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

This is a course of collaborative learning. Based upon class size, we will either create learning communities or function as a *single* learning community, on the assumption that each of us has something to contribute and to learn in a reciprocal learning process. It is my role and responsibility to appropriately facilitate this learning experience.

Course Materials

Federal law now requires institutions to provide the ISBN numbers and retail prices for all required books. Western Seminary encourages students to visit our campus bookstore, Windows Booksellers, in order to obtain these titles at a reduced rate.

Primary Course Text:

Glasser, Arthur. *Announcing the Kingdom*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2003, ISBN# 978-0801026263, \$30 retail.

The New International Version of the Bible

Additional Reading Materials (On Reserve in the Library):

Bassham, Roger. *Mission Theology: 1948-1975. Years of Worldwide Creative Tension: Ecumenical, Evangelical, and Roman Catholic*.

Bosch, David J. *Transforming Mission*.

Burns, Terry. "Creating a Learning Community."

Calenberg, Rick. "New Views about the Destiny of the Unevangelized."

Escobar, Samuel. *The New Global Mission*.

Fernando, Ajith. *Global Missiology for the 21st Century*.

Glasser, Arthur F. *Announcing the Kingdom*.

Hedlund, Roger E. *The Mission of the Church in the World*.

Kaiser, Jr, Walter C. *Mission in the Old Testament*.

Kostenberger, Andreas J. and Peter T. O'Brien. *Salvation to the Ends of the Earth*.

Larkin Jr, William J. and Joel F. Williams, eds. *Mission in the New Testament*.

Moreau, A. Scott. *Deliver Us*.

_____, Gary R. Corwin, and Gary B. McGee. *Introducing World Missions*.

Pedersen, Marie Wiberg, Holger Lam, and Peter Lodberg, eds. *For All People*.

Senior, Donald and Carroll Stuhlmüller. *The Biblical Foundations for Mission*.

Taylor, William D, ed. *Global Missiology for the 21st Century*.

Winter, Ralph and Steven C. Hawthorne, eds. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement: A Reader (Revised Edition)*

Wright, Christopher J. H. *The Mission of God*.

Other resources as suggested by participants.

Course Requirements

1. Class Attendance & Participation (30 hours)

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

2. Reading (25 hours)

Reading will be assigned from the biblical text and a number of other resources. A reading completion record with date and time will be kept on a **Course Reading Log**. All assigned reading is to be completed by **November 16**. Incomplete reading at the end of the course will result in a half letter reduction of the final course grade.

3. Biblical Observation/Interaction Papers (15 hours)

In conjunction with reading assigned biblical texts, five short observation/interaction papers will be written and submitted on the date the reading is due. All papers must be typed and well organized using #12 font print. Choose from the following options and submit them on the due date (See late paper policy below):

- Read Genesis 1:1-12:3. Paper Option 1: Read Genesis 1-11 and develop a list of 10 missiological implications from the events of the Creation, Fall, Judgments, Flood and Scattering of the Nations. Explain each implication you list. Option 2: Write a four (4) page explanation/commentary on the topic "Why the Abrahamic Covenant is a Foundational Biblical Text for Missions," explaining the meaning and implications for the rest of human history of God's promises to Abraham. **Due September 21**
- Read one of the following books: Joshua, Judges, Ruth and Esther, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, or Ezra and Nehemiah. Write a four (4) page paper on "God's Unusual Missionary Methods." Discuss the methods (sometimes unusual), that God employed to spread the good news of His kingdom and redemption beyond the Nation of Israel. What principles are we to learn? (See examples in 2 Kings 5:1-14, 17:24-28.) **Due October 5**
- Read Psalms 33, 66, 67, 72, 96, 98, 117,145 and Isaiah 40-66. Then choose one of the following options and write a four (4) page paper: Option 1: Exposit one of the psalms from a missiological perspective and develop implications and applications. Option 2: Comment on the global vision and missiologically significant statements and their implications found in Isaiah 40-66. What was the context of this passage and how would these statements have impacted the recipients? **Due October 26**
- Read Acts and trace one of the following themes through the book and then write a four (4) page summary paper on that theme as evidenced in Acts. Choose from the Holy Spirit, Prayer, Suffering/Persecution, and Contextualization of the Gospel. **Due November 16**
- Read Revelation and choose one of the following:

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
 DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
 Western Seminary – Portland Campus
 Fall 2010

Option 1: For each chapter in Revelation comment on at least one missions related truth or theme.

Option 2: Write a three (3) page devotional on some aspect of missions in Revelation (e.g. Missions Challenge to the Churches, The Glory of God in the Judging of the Nations, Worship of the Nations, The Knowledge of God in the Final Kingdom, Salvation of God’s People, God’s Grand Finale of History, etc.);

Option 3: Write a sermon on “Missions and the Book of Revelation” (or a title you choose). **Due November 23**

4. Term Project (20 hours)

The Term Project should be a well organized 8-10 typed page study with a bibliography that includes a minimum of six sources. It should cover a biblical theme or theological topic touching on missions and reflect thorough study, biblical research and careful biblical exposition. The project should draw relevant applications and principles for ministry today.

Topics must be submitted for approval with a tentative outline by **October 5**.

The final project is due **December 3**.

Suggested Topics:

- A series of 3 sermons on “The Why of Mission” (Biblical theology of Mission)
- Develop a missiological theme in the OT, NT or a biblical writer/commentator
- The evangelistic, social and cultural mandates
- Pluralism and Mission
- Destiny of the unevangelized
- Suffering, Persecution and the *missio dei*
- Mission as centripetal and centrifugal
- The use of OT wisdom literature in cross-cultural evangelism in the 21st century
- Discuss the relation of Jesus’ parables in relation to the *missio dei* and the Kingdom of God
- Examine how God has used the Jewish diaspora to further His Kingdom purposes
- Discuss the relation of the Church to the Kingdom of God
- The Kingdom of God in relation to the powers of the world
- The Kingdom of God as “already and not yet”
- Liberation, African, Asian or Hispanic Theology and Missiology

Preliminary Course Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS DUE
Sept. 14	Introductions and Syllabus Assignment of Learning Communities Theological Foundations for Mission Missionary as Theologian Themes and Motifs in Mission	Glasser, 1-55. Moreau, <i>Introducing World Missions</i> , pp. 71-89.

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

	Theology	Wright, <i>The Mission of God</i> , pp. 29-32; 48-69.
Sept. 21	Mission and the Patriarchs Discussion of O/I Paper #1 (Learning Communities)	Genesis 1-12 Glasser, 56-68 Submit Observation/Interaction Paper #1
Sept. 28	Missions in O. T. History	Read one of the OT Historical Books (see list above) Glasser, <i>Announcing the Kingdom</i> , pp. 71-124; 125-179
Oct. 5	Mission in O.T. Poetry and Prophecy Discussion of O/I Paper #2 (Learning Communities)	Read selected Psalms and sections of Isaiah (see list above) Read Kaiser, <i>Mission in the Old Testament</i> , pp. 29-38, 51-63 Submit Observation/Interaction Paper #2 Submit term paper/project proposal
Oct. 12	Mission in the Life and Teachings of Christ Mid-Course Evaluation	Glasser, 183-256 Read "Mission in Jesus' Teaching" in Larkin and Williams, <i>Mission in the New Testament</i> , pp. 30-49.
Oct. 19	Ecumenical Missiological Issues The Evangelistic, Cultural, Social Mandates Missions in Acts The Holy Spirit and Mission	Bassham, <i>Mission Theology</i> , 332-367 Glasser, 259-284; 299-311 Acts 1-28
Oct. 26	The Holy Spirit and Mission (Cont'd.) Discussion of O/I Paper #3 (Learning Communities)	Fernando, "The Holy Spirit: The Divine Implementer of Mission" in Taylor, <i>Global Missiology for the 21st Century</i> , pp. 223-237. Submit Observation/Interaction Paper #3

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

Nov. 2	Pauline Missiology	<p>Glasser, 285-298; 312-325</p> <p>Kostenberger and O'Brien, <i>Salvation to the Ends of the Earth</i>, pp. 161-201</p> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p>Senior and Stuhlmueller, <i>The Biblical Foundations for Missions</i>, pp. 161-190.</p>
Nov. 9	<p>Mission in Hebrews, the General Epistles, and Revelation</p> <p>Spiritual Warfare & Mission Prayer & Mission</p>	<p>Glasser, 329-373</p> <p>Revelation 1-22</p> <p>Kostenberger and O'Brien, <i>Salvation to the Ends of the Earth</i>, pp. 227-250</p> <p>Moreau, <i>Deliver Us</i>, xvii-27; 117-126</p>
Nov. 16	<p>Pluralism, Universalism The Destiny of the Unevangelized</p> <p>Discussion of term projects, course reading, course format</p> <p>Course Evaluations</p>	<p>McQuilken, "Lost" and Van Engen, "The Uniqueness of Christ," in Winter and Hawthorne, <i>Perspectives on the World Christian Movement</i>, pp. 156-168</p> <p>Calenberg, "New Views About the Destiny of the Unevangelized." (Handout)</p> <p>Submit Observation/Interaction Paper #4</p>
Nov. 23	No Class	Submit Observation/Interaction Paper #5
Dec. 3		TERM PROJECTS AND COURSE READING LOG DUE (via the class web-site)

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

Western Seminary Classroom

All assignments for this course are to be submitted to an on-line classroom web-site that will be designated prior to the beginning of the semester. I will read and mark your work electronically and will return it in this format. This not only saves trees and eliminates the cost of ink cartridges; it also facilitates marking your work and the return of your assignments.

Availability of Disability Services at Western Seminary

Western Seminary is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as outlined in both the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Western students are assisted individually as their needs dictate. It is the responsibility of students with disabilities to identify themselves and the nature of the disability. Any student who has a disability should contact the seminary's Disability (Section 504) Coordinator, Ken Epp, at 503-517-1815/1-877-517-1800, ext. 1815. His office is at the Portland campus. Students at the northern California campuses may contact Carrie Priest (Student Services Coordinator – San José) or PJ Oswald (Director of Student Development – Sacramento), or they may contact Dr. Epp directly. Appropriate forms will be provided and must be submitted to the Disability Coordinator's office.

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

Course Bibliography

Introduction

This bibliography represents a compilation of works by numerous faculty members who have taught this course during the past five years. I have highlighted key texts in bold print, but *you* may find others that you think are worthy of similar mention. If you do, please see me during the course and we may add them to the list.

General Texts and Articles

Allen, Roland. *The Ministry of the Spirit*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1960.

Anderson, Gerald, Ed. *The Theology of Christian Mission*. NY: McGraw Hill, 1961.

Banks, William L. *In Search of the Great Commission*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1991.

Bassham, Roger. *Mission Theology: 1948-1975 Years of Worldwide Creative Tension: Ecumenical, Evangelical, and Roman Catholic*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1979.

Beals, Paul A. *A People for His Name*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1988.

Blauw, Johannes. *The Missionary Nature of the Church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1962.

Bosch, David. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Missions*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 1991.

Bosch, David J. *Witness to the World: Mission in Theological Perspective*. Atlanta: John Knox, 1980.

Crossman, Meg, ed. *Worldwide Perspectives: Biblical, Historical, Strategic, and Cultural Dimensions of God's Plan for the Nations*. Seattle, WA: YWAM Publishing, 2003.

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

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- Dempster, Murray A., Byron Klaus, and Douglas Petersen, eds. *Called and Empowered: Global Mission in Pentecostal Perspective*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1991.
- Dobbie, Robert. "The Biblical Foundation of the Mission of the Church: The Old Testament." *International Review of Mission*, Vol 51, April, 1962, 196-205.
- Dryness, William A. *Let the Earth Rejoice: A Biblical Theology of Holistic Mission*. Westchester, IL: Crossway Books, 1983.
- DuBose, Frances. M., Ed. *Classics in Christian Missions*. Nashville, TN: Broadman, 1979.
- Escobar, Samuel. *The New Global Mission*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2003.
- Filbeck, David. *Yes, God of the Gentiles, Too: The Missionary Message of the Old Testament*. Wheaton, IL: Billy Graham Center, 1995.
- Fretheim, Terence E. "The Understanding of Mission in the Old Testament" in *Bible and Mission: Biblical Foundations and Working Models for Congregational Ministry*. Wayne Stumme, ed. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1986.
- Glasser, Arthur. *Announcing the Kingdom*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2003.**
- Glasser, William and Donald McGavern. *Contemporary Theologies of Mission*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1983.
- Glover, Robert Hall. *The Bible Basis of Missions*. Los Angeles: Bible House, 1946.
- Gnanakan, Ken R. *Kingdom Concerns: A Biblical Exploration Towards a Theology of Mission*. Bangalore, India: Theological Book Trust.
- Goerner, H. Cornell. *All Nations In God's Purpose: What the Bible Teaches About Missions*. Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1979.
- Goldsworthy, G. L. *Gospel and Kingdom: A Christian Interpretation of the Old Testament*. Exeter: Paternoster, 1981.

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

_____. "The Great Indicative: An Aspect of a Theology of Mission." *RTR*, 55, 2-13.

Harrisville, Roy A. "Paul: Justification and Mission." *In Bible and Mission*. Wayne Stumme, ed. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1986.

Hedlund, Roger E. *The Mission of the Church in the World: A Biblical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1985.

Hiebert, Paul G. *Anthropological Reflections on Missiological Issues*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1994.

Holter, Knut. "Missiology and the Old Testament Theology of Religions." *Missionalia*, Vol. 16, April 1988, 4-12.

Kaiser, Walter C. *Missions in the Old Testament*. Baker Books, Grand Rapids: 2000.

Kane, J. Herbert. *Christian Missions in Biblical Perspective*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1976.

Kirk, J. Andrew. *The Mission of Theology and Theology of Mission*. Christian Mission and Modern Culture Series. Valley Forge, PA: Trinity Press International.

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BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

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Moreau, A. Scott, Harold Netland and Charles Van Engen, eds. *Evangelical Dictionary of World Missions*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2000.

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Phillips, James M. and Robert T. Coote. *Toward the Twenty-first Century in Christian Mission*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.

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BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

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- Scherer, James A. *Gospel, Church, and Kingdom: Comparative Studies in World Missions Theology*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 1987.
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- Shenk, Wilbert R. Ed. *The Transfiguration of Mission: Biblical, Theological and Historical Foundations*. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1993.
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BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

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BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

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Pinnock, Clark H. "Liberation Theology: The Gains, the Gaps." *Christianity Today*, Jan. 6, 1976.

Destiny of the Unevangelized and the Exclusivity of Christianity

Anderson, Gerald H. "The Truth of Christian Uniqueness," *International Bulletin of Mission Research*, 13 (3): 49.

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Clendenin, Daniel B. *Many Gods, Many Lords*. Grand Rapids: Baker.

Crockett, William V. and James G. Sigountos, eds. *Through No Fault of Their Own? The Fate of Those Who Have Never Heard*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1991.

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BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

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BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF MISSION
DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
Fall 2010

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Schreiner, Thomas R. *Paul: Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2001.

Spiritual Warfare

Anderson, Neil T. *The Bondage Breaker*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 1990.

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DIS 505 - 2 Credit Hours
Western Seminary – Portland Campus
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