

New Testament Survey

Syllabus

Redeemer School of Ministry
Spring 2020
Mike Webster, Instructor

Course Objectives:

1. Instill a love for the New Testament scriptures.
2. Be able to articulate the purpose and message of each book of the New Testament.
3. Know the major people and events of New Testament times.
4. Become familiar with the historical, cultural, and geographical context of New Testament books, people, and events.
5. Acquaint students with essential revelation about God's nature and character in the New Testament.
6. Grasp the development of God's relationship with man throughout the New Testament.
7. Be able to discuss the major theological themes of the New Testament.
8. Be able to communicate the "big picture" of the New Testament and relate the parts to the whole.
9. Be able to explain the significance of the New Testament or any of its parts for a contemporary believer.
10. Prepare students for further study, especially for teaching and preaching out of the New Testament.
11. Establish a forum for questions relevant to the material covered in class.

Course Contents:

1. Introduce the New Testament as canonical scripture.
2. Establish an overview of the places, times, and peoples of the New Testament.
3. Study the themes and key emphases in each book of the New Testament.
4. Devotional and ministerial application of the material.

Course Requirements:

1. **Preparation for and attendance at classes.**

Biblical sections for each class are to be read prior to class. More than two absences may result in failure. Please keep the instructor informed of illness or other issues affecting your participation.

2. Reading of the New Testament scriptures.

You will read the entire New Testament for this course. The revelation God has inspired and given to us is more important than any comments or supplements. Read consistently to stay with the material presented in class. You will read about 19 chapters or about 26 pages of the Bible each week. Use a readable Bible: a translation like the ESV, NIV, or NLT; no references or footnotes; and single column if possible. This reading should take approximately two hours each week. Your reading will be assessed for completeness in four sections: the Gospels on 3/9/20; Acts on 3/23/20; the Pauline books on 4/20/20; and the General books and Revelation on the last day of class. On each of these days, you will sign a statement indicating how much of this assignment you have completed.

3. Reading of the “Encountering the New Testament” textbook.

You will read the entire “Encountering the New Testament” textbook for this course. This text will offer basic introductory and explanatory material. Read consistently to stay with the material presented in class. You will read about one and one half chapters or about 26 pages of the text each week. As you work through a chapter, use the supplemental material included with the online resources. This reading should take approximately two hours each week. Your reading will be assessed by taking unit tests on the four parts indicated in the text: the Gospels on 3/9/20; Acts on 3/23/20; the Pauline books on 4/20/20; and the General books and Revelation on the last day of class. On each of these days, you will take an examination that will indicate your understanding of the material in the textbook for that part.

4. Study of the New Testament.

You will study the New Testament in multiple ways for this course. You will learn from class lectures and discussions. You will be given some hand out materials in class. You will do supplemental studies and reading as necessary. This is your opportunity to integrate the various sources you are exposed to for the formulation of your grasp of the New Testament.

5. A final examination.

This is a combined test. First you will report on your Bible reading for the current section. Second you will take an exam on the final part of the textbook. Third you will write an exam on the material covered in class. The test will be given on the last day of class.

6. Class participation.

Course Grading:

Final course grades will be determined by approximately equal weight for course requirements of total Bible reading, four unit tests, and the final essay exam with plus and minus adjustments for class participation. This means that each reading assessment will be worth about 4% of your final grade, each unit test will be worth about 16% of your final grade, and the final essay exam will be worth about 16% of your final grade.

Course Texts:

1. The Bible – a readable version.
2. Walter A. Elwell and Robert W. Yarbrough, *Encountering the New Testament* 3rd Edition, Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2013.

Extra Credit:

For extra credit, compensation for a low grade, or for people who already have deep interaction with the New Testament, you can complete this assignment. Write a paper on one of these topics: Phariseeism in the New Testament, leadership structures in the early church or a biographical study of Peter.

Classroom Decorum:

We will be completing a three-unit college-level course together this semester. Because it has been structured to accommodate busy adult learners, we will need focus and cooperation for this to be successful. Plan to arrive on time because class will begin promptly. Avoid private discussion during class time. Be prepared for material to be given at a rapid pace. Take personal responsibility to receive any materials handed out during class. Hand in assignments promptly when required. Be sure you are seated where you can clearly see all projected material (class lecture ideas and videos will be used). Wait for appropriate discussion points to raise questions and concerns. Be considerate of your fellow students.

Contacting the Instructor:

Your interaction is invited. Often just before class and just after class are not appropriate occasions for time with the instructor. You can set up an appointment during office hours if you need extended discussion. Please feel free to call or visit.

- Phone: 315-382-2416
- Email: mike@spirit-word.com

New Testament Survey

Tentative Class Schedule

Week	Date	Class Topic	Assignment Due
1	2/3/20	Syllabus, Introduction	Registration; Plan Semester; Intro. *
2	2/10/20	Matthew, NT Setting	Read – Matthew; ch 1-4
3	2/17/20	Mark, Text of NT	Read – Mark; ch 5-6
4	2/24/20	Luke, Messiah	Read – Luke; ch 7-9
5	3/2/20	John, the Gospel	Read – John; ch 10-12
6	3/9/20	Acts, Holy Spirit	Read – Acts; ch 13-14 Exam Part 1*
7	3/16/20	Romans, Paul	Read – Romans; ch 15-16
8	3/23/20	I, II Cor., Documents	Read – I, II Cor.; ch 17-18 Exam Part 2 *
9	3/30/20	Gal.-II Thes., Body of Chr.	Read – Gal.-II Thes.; ch 19-20
10	4/6/20	I Tim.-Philm., Character	Read – I Tim.-Philemon; ch 21
11	4/20/20	Hebrews-II Pet., Old Test.	Read – Hebrews-II Peter; ch 22 Exam Part 3*
12	4/27/20	I Jn.-Jude, Love	Read – I Jn.-Jude; ch 23
13	5/4/20	Revelation, Last days	Read – Revelation; ch 24-Epilogue
14	5/11/20	Review, Make up	Review; Make up
15	5/18/20	Final Exam	Final Exam *

Read means read in your Bible

Note Well: a dash means from the previous point through the stated book

ch means read these chapters in the text book

- *** Indicates that a major assignment is due.**

New Testament Reading Guide

<u>Book</u>	<u>Chapters</u>	<u>Verses</u>	<u>Words</u>		
NEW TESTAMENT	Chapters	Verses	Words	Date written	Author
Matthew (NT - 1)	28	1,071	23,684	60's AD	Matthew
Mark (NT - 2)	16	678	15,171	50's AD	Mark
Luke (NT - 3)	24	1,151	25,944	60 AD	Luke
John (NT - 4)	21	878	19,099	85 - 90 AD	John
Acts (NT - 5)	28	1,007	24,250	61 AD	Luke
Romans (NT - 6)	16	433	9,447	58 AD	Paul
First Corinthians (NT - 7)	16	437	9,489	56 AD	Paul
Second Corinthians (NT - 8)	13	257	6,092	57 AD	Paul
Galatians (NT - 9)	6	149	3,098	49 AD	Paul
Ephesians (NT - 10)	6	155	3,039	61 AD	Paul
Philippians (NT - 11)	4	104	2,002	61 AD	Paul
Colossians (NT - 12)	4	95	1,998	61 AD	Paul
First Thessalonians (NT - 13)	5	89	1,857	51 AD	Paul
Second Thessalonians (NT - 14)	3	47	1,042	51 AD	Paul
First Timothy (NT - 15)	6	113	2,269	63 AD	Paul
Second Timothy (NT - 16)	4	83	1,703	66 AD	Paul
Titus (NT - 17)	3	46	921	65 AD	Paul
Philemon (NT -18)	1	25	445	61 AD	Paul

Hebrews (NT - 19)	13	303	6,913	64 - 68 AD	Uncertain
James (NT - 20)	5	108	2,309	45 - 50 AD	James
First Peter (NT - 21)	5	105	2,482	63 AD	Peter
Second Peter (NT - 22)	3	61	1,559	66 AD	Peter
First John (NT - 23)	5	105	2,523	90 AD	John
Second John (NT - 24)	1	13	303	90 AD	John
Third John (NT - 25)	1	25	613	90 AD	John
Jude (NT - 26)	1	14	299	70 - 80 AD	Jude
Revelation (NT - 27)	22	404	12,000	90's AD	John