

#218 Johannine Writings
Western Reformed Seminary
John A. Battle, Th.D.
Fall, 2005

COURSE INFORMATION

Course goals

At the completion of this course the student should be able to describe the various views concerning the authorship, date, and audience of John's epistles and the Revelation, and to defend the conservative view. He should understand the various methods of interpretation of the book of Revelation, and the arguments advanced for each. He should have mastered a fairly detailed outline of these books, and be able to interpret any part of them. He will have read a commentary on each book, will have investigated at least eight questions of his own choice about these books, and will have completed a major assignment involving translation, research, or sermon/lesson preparation concerning these books.

Reading assignments

- John's epistles and Revelation
- Everett F. Harrison, *Introduction to the New Testament*, ch. 23-24; OR D. A. Carson, Douglas J. Moo, and Leon Morris, *An Introduction to the New Testament*, ch. 21, 23
- John R. W. Stott, *The Letters of John (TNTC)*
- George Eldon Ladd, *A Commentary on the Revelation of John*

Due dates are noted in the course schedule. For most effective use of time, these should be read at the pace of classroom discussion.

Special investigations

During the semester you will undertake eight special investigations involving the study and interpretation of John's writings. Two of them should be taken from John's epistles, and six from Revelation. Be prepared to give a brief oral report about your method of investigation and the results in class. Investigation sheets will be provided, and will be collected at the end of the period when they are due. They will not be returned, but will be placed in a notebook in the library.

Major assignment

You will select one of these three as a major assignment in Johannine Writings:

1) Translation

You will turn in, using the format described in class, a translation of the following portions:

1 John 1:5 - 2:11
1 John 2:15-27
1 John 5:1-12
2 John 7-11
3 John 5-12
Revelation 1 - 2:11
Revelation 3:7-22
Revelation 17:7-18
Revelation 19:11-21
Revelation 20
Revelation 22:1-7

2) Research paper

You will prepare a research paper of approximately 3000 words on a controversial question involving the introduction or interpretation of one of John's epistles or the Revelation. Please use standard format.

3) Sermon/lesson preparation

You will prepare detailed notes for an eight-part (or more) series of sermons or Bible lessons on either the epistles of John or the book of Revelation.

Grading

Each item will count 20% toward the final grade:

- major assignment
- investigations
- required reading
- midterm examination
- final examination

Course schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lecture</u>	<u>Assignment Due</u>
Sept. 7	Introduction to John's Epistles; 1 John 1-2	
14	1 John 3-5	Investigation 1
21	2 & 3 John	JOHN'S EPISTLES AND REVELATION
28	Introduction to Revelation; Revelation 1	Investigation 2
Oct. 5	(NANC Conference) Revelation 2-3	Investigation 3
12	(NW Presbytery Meeting)	
19	Revelation 4-5	Investigation 4 NT INTRODUCTION & STOTT
26	MIDTERM EXAMINATION	
Nov. 2	Revelation 6-8	Investigation 5
9	Revelation 9-11	Investigation 6
16	Revelation 12-14	Investigation 7
23	Revelation 15-17	Investigation 8
30	Revelation 18-20	MAJOR ASSIGNMENT DUE
Dec. 7	Revelation 21-22	LADD
14	FINAL EXAMINATION	