

#218 Johannine Writings  
Western Reformed Seminary  
John A. Battle, Th.D.  
Pastoral Mentorship Program  
Academic Year 2005-2006

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

### ***Course goals***

At the completion of this course you 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. You should understand the various methods of interpretation of the book of Revelation, and the arguments advanced for each. You should have mastered a fairly detailed outline of these books, and be able to interpret any part of them. You will have read a commentary on each book, will have investigated at least eight questions of your own choice about these books, and will have completed a major assignment involving translation, research, or sermon/lesson preparation concerning these books.

### ***Contact with the professor***

Please feel free to contact the professor (Dr. Battle in this case) anytime you have a question about the course material. Office phone: 253-272-0417; toll-free 877-977-2255 (877-WRS-CALL). Home phone: 253-759-3840. Cell phone: 253-720-7586. Email: [battle@wrs.edu](mailto:battle@wrs.edu).

You will need to obtain a PalTalk account so that you can communicate directly with the professor, using text, voice, and video. Distance classes with several students at once can be held using PalTalk. You will have best results using a broadband internet connection. The program and service are free; upgraded service is provided for a modest fee. Obtain the program through this website: <http://www.paltalk.com/PalTalkSite/>. All professors in the seminary teaching PMP classes use this form of communication, and may set up appointments with you as desired.

### ***Course notes and study questions***

The course notes are provided on the seminary website ([http://www.wrs.edu/courses/johannine\\_writings.htm](http://www.wrs.edu/courses/johannine_writings.htm)). Please print these out. You should work through the notes during the year, in consultation with the professor and your pastoral mentor. The study questions provided will be used as the basis for your midterm and final examinations. Be especially careful to understand the answers you will give for the various study questions.

These questions are in the order of the notes.

During the concentrated sessions we will go over these notes in class discussion. However, since the concentrated sessions are not as long as the on-campus classes held during the regular semester, we will not be able to spend as much time in class as resident students do. For this reason, it is especially important that you have gone through them on your own during the year, before the concentrated classes take place.

### **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 assignment schedule.

### **Special investigations**

During the year 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 may be printed out from the course page on the seminary website ([http://www.wrs.edu/courses/johannine\\_writings.htm](http://www.wrs.edu/courses/johannine_writings.htm)). 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 3,000 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

### ***Assignment schedule***

Due by the end of January:

- Investigations #1-4
- Reading of John's Epistles and Revelation
- Reading of NT Introduction section
- Reading of Stott

Due by concentrated class in May/June:

- Investigations #5-8
- Major Assignment
- Reading of Ladd

Due by end of June, 2006:

- Midterm Examination
- Final Examination