

#216 Life and Epistles of Paul
Western Reformed Seminary
John A. Battle, Th.D.
Pastoral Mentorship Program
Academic Year 2007-2008

COURSE INFORMATION

Goals

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to be able to summarize the life of Paul, to explain its chronology, and to be able to identify the important events of his life, along with the primary scholarly interpretations of those events and the reasons for them. The student will also be able to explain the background, purpose, and basic content of each of the Pauline epistles. By intensely studying Paul's life and epistles, the student will obtain the necessary background for a lifetime of study and teaching from Paul's life and epistles. Also, we trust, the student will grow spiritually to a greater love and appreciation for Paul and for Paul's Lord.

Reading

The following works are required reading for the course:

- New Testament: Acts, Pauline epistles (Romans - Philemon)
- James Stalker, *The Life of St. Paul*
- Frank J. Goodwin, *A Harmony of the Life of St. Paul*
- Appropriate chapters of a standard New Testament introduction (choose one):
 - Everett F. Harrison, *Introduction to the New Testament*, ch. 10-17
 - Donald Guthrie, *New Testament Introduction*, ch. 8-18 and App. A-C
 - D. A. Carson, Douglas J. Moo, and Leon Morris, *An Introduction to the New Testament*, ch. 6-16
- J. Gresham Machen, *The Origin of Paul's Religion*, ch. 3: "The Triumph of Gentile Freedom" (pp. 71-113)
- F. F. Bruce, *Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free*

Approximately half of the required reading is due the week before the midterm exam, and the other half is due the week before the final exam, according to the schedule given below.

Geography of Paul's life

Each student will be expected to be able to locate on a map of the Mediterranean world the important cities Paul lived in and visited, and the various routes he took on his journeys. In addition to the standard works on Paul, modern atlases, such as *The Moody Atlas of Bible Lands* and *Harper's Atlas of the Bible*, have excellent maps.

Grading

The final grade for this class will be determined as follows:

- Midterm examination 30%
- Final examination 30%
- Reading assignments 30%
- Attendance & participation 10%