

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

COURSE GOAL

- T The student will be introduced to the recent history of the scholarly study of the OT.
- T OT Theology will be defined as a subset of biblical theology and in contradistinction to systematic theology.
- T Slight attention will be given to the form of the OT message (narrative, discourse, oracles, etc.) in consideration of the unified themes of the various OT authors.
- T Major methods of identifying OT doctrine will be studied (chronological and literary context of first mention, literary and thematic patterns, thematic developments, etc.).
- T The heart of the course will be the study of major OT themes with their interconnections that yield a unified revelation of God and His design for creation.
- T OT Theology will be considered as the backdrop to NT revelation.

READINGS

1. William Dyrness. *Themes in OT Theology*. Due October 30.
2. Two hundred and fifty pages of the one book of your choice to be used as the basis for a book review. Many general and specialized texts are available on the reserve shelf.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. RESEARCH PROJECTS

Students will choose three topics to report on from at least two categories below. You may suggest a topic of your own. Research should involve at least 10 hours, and your oral presentation should take at least an hour followed by time for questions and answers. PowerPoint and/or printed handouts should be used.

GOD	MAN	SPECIAL STUDY
Creator above all gods (monotheism)	Image of God	Issues and Methods of OT Theology
Redeemer	Election and exclusivity	Cosmos, History, and Teleos
Self-revelation	Worshipper on God's terms	Holy war vs. the Canaanites, etc.
Theophanies: God comes near	Exile and Restoration	Centrality and Unity of OT covenants
Messianic promise: God will come down	Theology of Marriage & Family	Covenant Community vs. Individualism
Providence	Design of human sexuality	Definition and purpose of the Law
Holy Spirit: Identity and Manifest Activity	In the promised land: the gift of the land and concomitant obligations	Curse on creation
Theonomy	Sin in relation to God	Day of the Lord
God the Healer/personal Deliverer	Curse and Death	Place of Semitic Wisdom in Israel
God and the Nations: OT Missions, Hebrew Exclusivism, New Cov't inclusion	Human Hope	Major OT themes in the NT
God's Kingdom	The Sabbath	Prayer; Expressions of Spirituality
Anthropomorphisms of God	Faith, Piety, "Fear of the Lord"	"Republication" of cov't of works at Sinai

2. BOOK REVIEW

Share your specialized reading with the class in 10-15 minutes. Focus on communicating the content of the reading. No visual aids or handouts are necessary, but a two page outline or written synopsis of the reading will be submitted to the instructor.

GRADING

Readings: 25% 3 Projects: 60% Final Exam: 10% Attendance: 5%

SCHEDULE

September

4 OT Theology Resources and Definition
11 OT Theology History
18 OT History Method vs. methods
25 NO CLASS: Presbytery Meeting

October

2
9
16
23
30

November

6
13
20
27 NO CLASS: Thanksgiving Recess

December

4
11 Final Exam