
The mission of Genesis is to prepare humble hearts to begin again. Our vision is to empower our graduates to fulfill God-sized dreams according to his purpose.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an in-depth study of Paul's epistle to the Galatians. Students explore themes and concepts that Paul uses to explain the gospel, the person of Christ, and the symbiotic relationship between the Old and New Testaments. Martin Luther's commentary on Galatians is examined to help enhance students' growth and experience in Biblical scholarship. Learners analyze doctrinal arguments from the man who is considered the father of the Protestant Reformation.

I. Prerequisites

None

II. Measurable Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Recite from memory Galatians 2:19-20.
- Identify key themes in Luther's writing that link Pauline doctrinal arguments to the contemporary conflict Luther faced in the Protestant Reformation.
- Define and explain important theological vocabulary used in the Epistle to Galatians.
- Assess the distinctions that Paul makes between doctrinal truth and error affecting the church.
- Apply and relate relevant issues in the Epistle to Galatians to your daily Christian experience, church fellowship, witnessing opportunities, and promotion of spiritual growth.
- Analyze the historical 1st century controversy between Jews and Gentiles concerning unity in the church and relevance/validity of Jewish covenant laws.
- Compare/contrast the purpose of the law covenant given to Israel to the person and work of Jesus Christ.

- Critically assess the meaning of Paul's declaration of a crucified life and how it applies and manifests in the Christian experience.
- Create a set of graphic organizers that outline the main themes of Paul's Epistle to Galatians and can serve as a future teaching tool.
- Demonstrate to others that you have a proficient understanding of both Paul and Luther's doctrinal arguments in the Epistle to Galatians.

III. **Required Resources**

*Luther, Martin. *Commentary on the Epistle to the Galatians*. (Fairbanks, AK: Project Gutenberg, 1998; original 1535). E-text #1549 (www.gutenberg.org).

New Testament Epistle of Paul to the Galatians (ESV Preferable).

Tozer, A.W. *The Crucified Life*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2011. Print.

*This book is available at no cost on the internet or from eBook catalogs, such as the Securus eBook library on prison-issued tablets.

IV. **Recommended Resources**

Shelley, Bruce L. *Church History in Plain Language*, 4th ed. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2008. Print.

V. **Course Requirements and Assignments**

A. **Scripture Memorization**

You will be memorizing Galatians 2:19-20 in this course. God's Word is central to the life of every Christian, guiding and directing decisions, behaviors, values, and vision. Therefore, Genesis requires learners to memorize Scripture throughout their degree programs. Invest time every day to hide God's Word in your heart.

B. **Learning Activities**

In each of the six modules, you will answer questions that correlate to the content provided in Luther's Commentary on Galatians and to Paul's actual Epistle to the Galatians. Although Luther provides a verse-by-verse analysis of Galatians, your ability to answer the questions will be enhanced by a thorough reading of each chapter of Paul's epistle corresponding sequentially with the six modules. Each module contains seven foundational knowledge questions and one application question. Each response should be 150 words or fewer.

NOTE: The translators of Luther's commentary use the KJV for Scripture quotation throughout the book. Any questions in the learning

modules that quote Luther's book will use his references to KJV text and are noted as such. Otherwise, any other Scripture references or quotes without notation are ESV quotations as is standard for Genesis courses. Also, since page numbers vary based on version, font, and mode of e-text, quotes of Luther's commentary in the study guide will be cited with chapter and verse heading from the commentary.

C. Book Application Paper

You will submit a critical evaluation of *The Crucified Life* by A.W. Tozer. The Book Application, which is due at the end of Module 4, must be a minimum of 1000 words and must conform to MLA standards. See "How to Write Book Applications" in the *Genesis Writer's Manual* for additional help.

D. Assignment will vary from one course to another.

E. Portfolio Project

Each master-level course at Genesis requires students to create a project that contributes to his or her Ministry Portfolio. A Ministry Portfolio is a usable, functioning body of work which demonstrates a student's leadership skills, knowledge, and abilities.

Paul's letter to the Galatians reveals and explains fundamental truths for the New Testament church. Paul's passion and concern about false doctrines being taught and the need for spiritual preservation permeates the book as he desperately proclaims the grace of Christ. As you complete your study of this epistle and Luther's companion commentary, consider the main themes of Galatians and how you might teach others what Paul considered essential to learn for believers in Galatia.

This portfolio project will provide you with a set of graphic organizers that can be used as a teaching aid for the book of Galatians. Graphic organizers provide a format in which key information from a text can be categorized, outlined, compared/contrasted, or extrapolated. They serve as both a visual teaching tool and a preparatory set that can then be translated (if desired) into a final written product. For this portfolio project, you will produce 11 different graphic organizers that will a) give you experience in creating these types of outlines and b) uniquely contribute to your Ministry Portfolio for future teaching opportunities. **This project is based solely on Paul's epistle to the Galatians, not on the Luther commentary you will read for the Learning**

Modules. You may use and refer to Luther's writing to help you organize material and ideas, but all the information added on the worksheets should directly reference Paul's writing, understanding that some material will be in your own words.

F. Final Exam

The Final Exam consists of material from the module presentations and assigned reading. The purpose of the exam is to measure your knowledge of course material.

A Final Exam Review is presented in Module 6 to help prepare you for the test. The exam will be administered after all 6 modules have been completed.

Remember: you will be required to write out your Scripture Memory verses on the Final Exam.