
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 examination of Old Testament theological themes with a focus on the covenantal framework of the Old Testament and Christ himself. It provides instruction for practically applying these theological truths to students' lives and ministries including prayer, counseling, evangelism, worship, and growth in the knowledge of God.

I. Prerequisites

None

II. Measurable Learning Outcomes

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

- Recite from memory Hebrews 1:1-3;
- Outline the major themes and purposes of the Old Testament books and authors;
- Define key vocabulary terms and describe characters that are highlighted throughout the Old Testament Scripture;
- Explain the four major covenants between God and Israel and their impact on history and prophetic future;
- Illustrate the fulfillment of Old Testament characters, rituals, prophecies, and types in the Lord Jesus Christ;
- Compare and contrast the individual books within each of the respective categorical divisions of the Hebrew scriptures;
- Defend the Old Testament as a valuable and applicable message to present day believers and unbelievers;
- Critically assess a book about the unique attributes of God displayed in Scripture;
- Create a set of gospel message advertisements as an evangelistic tool;

III. **Required Resources**

Baylis, Albert H. *From Creation to the Cross: Understanding the First Half of the Bible*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1996.

- Discussion questions at end of each book chapter may be helpful for reader in reviewing chapter content but are not part of the module coursework.

Wright, Christopher J.H. *Knowing Jesus Through the Old Testament*. Second edition. __city__: InterVarsity, __date__.

IV. **Recommended Resources**

MacDonald, William. *Alone in Majesty: The Attributes of a Holy God*. Port Calborne, OH: Gospel Folio Press, 2004.

V. **Course Requirements and Assignments**

A. **Scripture Memorization**

You will be memorizing 1 Hebrews 1:1-3 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 Modules 1-6, you will complete seven Foundational Knowledge questions and one Application question that correspond to the assigned reading portion of Baylis' *From Creation to the Cross*. The seven foundational questions are content-based and their answers can be found in Baylis' exposition. The one application question is derived from the module theme and is based on your personal opinion and/or experience. It presents you the freedom to think critically about the reading selection and draw conclusions that are relevant and applicable to present reality.

The seven foundational knowledge questions are worth 5 points each and must be answered in 50 words or fewer, and the application question is worth 15 points and must be answered in 150 words or fewer.

C. **Book Critique**

You will submit a critical evaluation of *Alone in Majesty*. The Book Critique, 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 Critiques" in the *Genesis Writer's Manual* for additional help.

D. Portfolio Project

Each master level course at Genesis College and Seminary 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.

The focus of this course is not simply on the narrative of the Old Testament or on the history of Israel, but on the themes and theology of the Hebrew books that divinely weave together a unique message. In title alone, our main resource, *From Creation to the Cross*, highlights the key factor uniting these inspired writings: they all point to Christ and God's plan of salvation in him. Peter tells us that the Old Testament authors "prophesied about the grace" that we enjoy in Christ today and served "not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news." (1 Peter 1:10-12) Paul reminds us that events recorded in Scripture serve "as an example... for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come." (1 Corinthians 10:11) Thus if we are to understand and appreciate the theology of the Old Testament, we must do so through the lens of the "gospel of the glory of Christ." (2 Corinthians 4:4)

The purpose of this project is to identify the gospel message embedded within Old Testament Scripture and use the themes and types therein as an evangelical tool to present Christ Jesus. Seeing Christ in all Scripture draws us closer to him and deepens our knowledge of God. It also bolsters our foundation in the gospel, allowing for greater wisdom in how we can share the message with others.

You will create six "gospel-advertisements" which could be used as print copy for a newspaper, magazine website, bus / train poster, or road sign. The ads (which will be referred to as posters) should present the gospel of Christ through the themes outlined in the six modules of this course, one poster corresponding to each module.

E. 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.