

**Birmingham Theological Seminary**  
**2200 Briarwood Way**  
**Birmingham, Alabama 35243**  
**205-776-5650**

**Summer 2019**

**OT1526 Old Testament History and Theology**

**Professor: Mr. Brandon Robbins**

**Class Hours: 2**

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**Course Description**

A study of the formation: of the redemptive history, of textual criticism, of Israelite history, and an evaluation of critical scholarship. The Christ-centered interpretation of the Old Testament will be presupposed: taking into consideration the organic, progressive structure of biblical theology. Attention will be given to both the texts and contexts of the theological enterprise through a variety of interpretive methodologies. Special emphases will be placed on the nature of covenantal theology and the role of law and gospel in contemporary thought.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this course the student will:

1. Understand the history and salient issues of biblical theology and OT theology
2. Be familiar with the major overarching themes of the Old Testament
3. Be able to identify key passages for doing Old Testament theology
4. Understand and articulate basic problems and some proposed solutions for the relationship of the Old and New Testaments and how we approach the Old Testament as Christians
5. Begin to integrate Old Testament theology into a personal systematic theology

**Course Text**

**Require texts:**

Williams, Michael D. Far As The Curse Is Found: The Covenant Story Of Redemption: P&R. 1979.

Horton, Michael. God of Promise: Introducing Covenant Theology: Baker Books. 2006

Robertson, O.Palmer. The Israel of God: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow. P&R. 2000

Sproul, R.C. The Promises of God: Discovering the one who keeps His Word:David Cook.2013

**Collateral Texts:**

Waltke, Bruce, K. An Old Testament Theology, Zondervan, 2007

Scobie, Charles, H. *The Ways of Our God. An Approach to Biblical Theology*, Eerdmans.  
2003

## Course Requirements

1. Class attendance: more than two unexcused absences drops final grade one letter grade.
2. **Reading Assignments** –( 20 points. 10 points for each assignment)
  - a. The student will write a book review of the text: “Introducing Covenant Theology. By Michael Horton”
  - b. The student must keep a daily Old Testament scripture reading log. This log will record the reference and thoughts on how this passage relates to the themes of biblical theology.  
*This log must have at least 20 entries or a half page in length.*

***Certificate Students will only be required to do the reading log. It will be worth 20points***

### **3.Lectures Series:** (30 points)

The student will complete a 8-10week lecture series on Covenant theology:

This detailed lecture outline will include at least 5 of the following topics:

1. Covenant of Works
2. Covenant of Grace
3. Covenant of Redemption
4. The New Covenant
5. Law and Gospel
6. The Promise to Abraham
7. The Mosaic Covenant
8. Israel and the Church
9. Salvation in the Old Testament
10. The Exodus and Redemption

### **4.Exams – 50points**

*A take home Mid-Term and Final will be given. (25 points each)*

## BTS FORMAT AND STYLE STANDARDS

NOTE: All papers must be formatted in accordance with Turabian Chicago standards including the title page. Any paper not conforming to these standards will automatically be dropped one letter grade.

## COURSE OUTLINE

- Week One: Course overview**  
**Understanding the Discipline and Themes of Biblical Theology**  
**Read: Sproul p. 9-32<sup>1</sup>**
- Week Two: Context of Scripture**  
**Creation: The Theater of Redemption**  
**Read: Williams p. 1-62**
- Week Three: Humanity: Calling and Mission**  
**The Fall:**  
**Read: Williams p. 63-82**  
**Sproul p. 41-85**
- Week Four: Pattern of God's Faithfulness and Love**  
**Noah and Universal Humanity**  
**Creation of the Nations**  
**Read: Williams p. 83-99**  
**Sproul p. 95- 106**
- Week Five: Abraham and the God of Promise**  
**Read: Williams p. 100-131**  
**Sproul p. 115-141**
- Week Seven: The Patriarchs and the Exodus**  
**Read: Williams p. 121-147**  
**Sproul p. 151-181**
- Week Eight: The Chosen People and The Law  
Read: Williams 148-169  
Horton p. 51-76
- Week Nine: Life in the Land  
Read: Williams 170-205  
Sproul 191-202
- Week Ten: Israel, Its Land, Its People  
Read: Robertson p. 3-52
- Week Eleven: Israel, Its Worship and Lifestyle  
Read: Robertson p. 53-110
- Week Twelve: Covenant in Review**  
**Read: Horton p. 77-128**
- Week Thirteen: The New and Old Covenant  
Read: Horton p. 129-193  
Sproul p. 211-259

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<sup>1</sup> You are required to read the study guide sections in the Sproul text.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Barr, James. *Biblical Faith and Natural Theology: The Gifford Lecture for 1991*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1993.
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