

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
**Continuing Education Session at Valley Forge Christian College**  
**Phoenixville, PA**  
**June 2-6, 2003**

**BTHB 632 BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF SIGNS AND WONDERS**  
**(3 Credits)**

**Benny C. Aker, Ph.D.**

**Summer 2003**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An analysis of signs and wonders in the Scripture with reference to the various words which express these phenomena and the cultural context that shaped the particular world views of biblical authors and their opponents. Related issues of contemporary interest and relevance (e.g., their relationship to faith and spiritual warfare) will also be considered and the Scriptural evidence examined.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

As a result of this course the student should:

1. Have some biblical and experiential foundations for the ministry of signs and wonders;
2. Be encouraged to engage signs and wonders in personal and corporate life and ministry; and
3. Be able to appropriately evaluate the various types of, and contemporary approaches to, signs & wonders.

**TEXTBOOKS**

Aker, Benny C. and Gary B. McGee, eds. *Signs & Wonders in Ministry Now*. Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 1996.

Aker, Benny C. "A Biblical Reader for Signs and Wonders."

Arnold, Clinton E. *Three Crucial Questions About Spiritual Warfare*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Books, 1997.

Greig, Gary S. and Kevin N. Springer. *The Kingdom and the Power*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1993.

For further contemporary discussion consult *Christianity Today* (September 3, 2001).

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

#### **A. *Pre-Session***

1. Read the required textbooks in their entirety.
2. Prepare a critical review of each textbook (3 to 4 pages each; "Reader" excluded). Keep in view such things as 1) presuppositions of the authors, 2) adequacy of the content, especially in light of the area of study, i.e., other books/articles on the subject, 3) argumentation, 4) purpose and accomplishment of purpose, 5) application to current world.

#### **B. *Session***

1. Attend class.
2. Bring Bible to class.
3. Review as necessary from the textbooks; we will appeal to them as subject matter dictates.
4. Hand in reviews on first class (pre-session work).
5. Use library for class as needed and secure materials for post-session requirements.

#### **C. *Post-Session***

Prepare a fifteen to twenty page research paper on some aspect of signs and wonders. If you wish, you may consult with the professor on a topic. Use sound hermeneutics and theological method (classroom methods may be used as a model). The paper should also relate to your interest and ministry, and apply to life.

Please follow Turabian, 6th edition for format of paper: title page, table of contents, footnotes, bibliography, division of paper, etc. The student should consult a good number of journal articles as well as good scholarly books. The material should be well-documented; quotes should be avoided (only to be used if necessary for your argument;

do not confuse quotes with footnotes/documentation). Be sure to use good style and organization. Avoid passive verbs; watch redundancy and wordiness. The required number of pages (noted above) includes only the body of the paper itself, not the title page or bibliography, etc.

**DUE DATE:** All post-session work should be **postmarked** no later than **September 6, 2003**.

Submit all work to:

Dr. Ben Aker  
Assemblies of God Theological Seminary  
1435 North Glenstone Avenue  
Springfield MO 65802  
Voice mail: 417/268-1075  
E-mail: baker@agts.edu

**NOTE:** The student will be charged a \$15.00 change of grade fee for all late work (even if an extension has been granted by the professor). **Late work will be penalized at the discretion of the professor.**

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

1. Introduction to Signs and Wonders
  - A. Survey of contemporary scene
  - B. Evil and Sin in the Bible
  - C. Satan and Demons in Scripture
  - D. Salvation in the Bible
  
2. Signs and wonders in theology and ancient history
  - A. In the Old Testament
    - a. Survey of terms
    - b. Interpretation of Exodus language of deliverance
  - B. In the New Testament
    - a. Survey of terms
    - b. Interpretation of 2<sup>nd</sup> Exodus language
    - c. In Ephesians
    - d. In Revelation

- C. In the Intertestamental Period:
    - a. Survey of terms
    - b. Analysis and comment
  - D. In the Greco-Roman world
    - a. Survey of terms
    - b. Analysis and comments
3. Signs and wonders in life and ministry
- A. Signs and wonders, spiritual warfare, and power encounter
  - B. Signs and wonders, conversion, and discipleship
  - C. Signs and wonders and faith
  - D. Signs and wonders and spiritual gifts

### **GRADING PROCEDURE**

1. Written Reports: 35 pts each [3x35=105]
2. Research paper: 125 points
3. Total possible points: 160 points [correct # 235 points]

The grade will come from the appropriate percentages of the total possible:

98-100 %	A+	80-83 %	B-
94-97 %	A	77-79 %	C+
90-93 %	A-	74-76 %	C
87-89 %	B+	70-73 %	C-
84-86 %	B		

### **SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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**SPECIFIC DATA**

Syllabus prepared by Benny Aker, Ph.D., April 2003.