

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
**MHT 529 / PTH527 / THE 545**  
**THEOLOGY OF MISSION**

R. Paul Wood, D.Min.

Summer I – May 3-28, 2004

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An examination of the mission of the Church and various models of Christian missions from Biblical, theological, and historical perspectives. This interdisciplinary study, integrating theory and praxis, is designed to move the student toward a more responsible understanding, imaging, and proclamation of the Kingdom of God in the diverse cultural milieus of our global village.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to

1. Present the Biblical and theological basis of the mission of the Church in the world.
2. Understand and explain basic paradigms in the theology of mission.
3. Understand and analyze contemporary challenges in the theology of mission.
4. Understand and respond to a personal role in the mission of the Church.
5. Define and articulate clearly the missionary task.
6. Understand and develop biblically sound guidelines for the fulfillment of the mission given to the Church.

**TEXTBOOKS**

Larkin, William J. and Joel F. Williams, eds. *Mission in the New Testament: an Evangelical Approach*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2002.

Winter, Ralph D. and Steven C. Hawthorne, eds. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*, Third edition. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1999.

**RECOMMENDED BOOKS**

Van Engen, Charles, Nancy Thomas, and Robert Gallagher, eds. *Footprints of God: A Narrative Theology of Mission*. Monrovia, CA: Marc: World Vision, 1999.

York, John V., *Missions in the Age of the Spirit*. Springfield, MO: Logion, 2000.

**METHODOLOGY**

The teaching-learning approach will blend pedagogical and andragogical principles. The methodology will include lectures, guest presenters, class discussions, small group discussions, collateral reading, and applied research.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

I. SECTION ONE: An Introduction to the Study of Mission

II. SECTION TWO: The Covenants and Mission

- The Older Covenant
- The New Covenant

III. SECTION THREE: Theological Issues and Mission

IV. SECTION FOUR: Changing Historical Paradigms in Mission

V. SECTION FIVE: Contemporary Challenges to Mission

- Universality versus Universalism
- Proclamation versus Dialogue
- Contextualization versus Syncretism
- Salvation Theology versus Liberation Theology
- Evangelism and Social Concern
- The Urban Challenge
- The Islamic Challenge
- Women in Mission

VI. SECTION SIX: The Missionary and the Mission

- The Local Church
- The Sending Agency
- The Missionary
- The Assemblies of God World Missions
- The Assemblies of God United States Missions

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Attendance, preparation, and consistent participation in class activities.
- B. *Mission in the New Testament: an Evangelical Approach*: Read and write a two-page evaluative interaction of the book. On the cover page of the evaluation, state clearly how thoroughly you read the assigned book.

**(Due: May 10, 2004)**

c. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*: Read the assigned articles in each of the four major divisions of the reader. Write a two-page evaluative interaction on each division. Interact with the division as a whole and with the assigned articles. On the cover page of each evaluation, state clearly how thoroughly you read the assigned articles. **(Due: May 21, 2004)**

- Division One: “The Biblical Perspective”  
Assigned Articles: 1,2,4,5,9,13,14,17, 20,21,25,26,27.
- Division Two: “The Historical Perspective”  
Assigned Articles: 33, 35, 37, 40, 44, 45, 50.
- Division Three: “The Cultural Perspective”  
Assigned Articles: 54, 55, 56, 59, 61, 62, 65, 66, 68, 69.
- Division Four: “The Strategic Perspective”  
Assigned Articles: 72, 77, 78, 81, 85, 87, 89, 91, 94, 95, 96, 102, 103, 107, 109, 111, 112, 115, 119, 120, 123.

Each report should be typed and double-spaced.

- D. A 12 - 15 page scholarly paper written **exclusively** for this course. Good research, careful documentation, and Turabian format are expected. **(Due: June 11, 2003)**
- E. Satisfactorily complete the final examination. **(May 28, 2003)**

**DUE DATES FOR COURSE ASSIGNMENTS**

(1) DUE DATE	(a) ASSIGNMENT

- (a) **NOTE:** Assignments submitted after class time on the due date will receive a grade reduction of
- (b) 5 points per day or any part thereof.

ASSIGNMENT	GRADE VALUE
Class Preparation and Participation	5%
Textbook Interactions	30%
Scholarly Paper	25%
Final Examination	40%

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Allen, Roland. *The Ministry of the Spirit*. Grand Rapids, Michigan, Eerdmans, 1960.
- Anderson, Sir Norman. *Christianity and World Religions*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1984.
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- Beverley, James A. *Understanding Islam*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, Inc. 2001.
- Blauw, Johannes. *The Missionary Nature of the Church*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 1974.
- Bosch, David J. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*: Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 1994.
- Coleman, Robert E. *The Master's Way of Personal Evangelism*. Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway Books, 1997
- Corwin, Gary and Mulholland, Kenneth B. eds. *Working Together With God to Shape the New Millennium: Opportunities and Limitations*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2000.
- Contras, Orlando. *The Church and Its Mission: A shattering Critique From the Third World*. Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, 1974.
- Culver, Robert Duncan. *A Greater Commission: A Theology for World Missions*. Chicago: Moody, 1984.
- Dempster, Murray A., Klaus, Byron D., and Petersen, Douglas, eds. *Called and Empowered: Global Mission in Pentecostal Perspective*. Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers, 1991.
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- DeRidder, Richard R. *Discipling the Nations*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1975.
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- Glasser, Arthur F. and McGavran, Donald A. *Contemporary Theologies of Mission*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1983.
- Greenway, Roger S., Kayle, John E., and McGavran, Donald A. *Missions Now: This Generation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1990.
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- Guder, Darrell L., ed. *Missional Church: A Vision for the Sending of the Church in North America*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1998.

- Guthrie, Stan. *Missions in the Third Millennium: 21 Key Trends for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Waynesboro, GA: Paternoster Press, 2000.
- Hedlund, Roger E. *The Mission of the Church in the World: A Biblical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1991.
- Hesselgrave, David J. *Today's Choices for Tomorrow's Mission: An Evangelical Perspective on Trends and Issues in Missions*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1988.
- Hodges, Melvin L. *A Theology of the Church and its Mission*. Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 1977.
- Kaiser, Walter C., Jr. *Toward an Old Testament Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1991.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Toward Rediscovering the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1978.
- Kane, Herbert. *Christian Missions in Biblical Perspective*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1976.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Understanding Christian Missions*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1986.
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- Köstenberger, Andreas J. and O'Brien, Peter T. *Salvation to the Ends of the Earth: A Biblical Theology of Mission*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2001.
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- Schaller, Lyle, E., ed.. *Center City churches: The New Urban Frontier*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993.
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### **SPECIFIC DATA**

Prepared by Dr. R. Paul Wood, March 2004.