

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

BTH/PCS 538 The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

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Spring 2005

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An exegetical and biblical theological study of all the major references to the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament with emphasis on the various aspects of the work of the Spirit in the lives of God's people. It will also show how these themes provide foundational support for Pentecostal experience and doctrine.

OBJECTIVES

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

1. Describe the major aspects of the Old Testament teaching on the Holy Spirit including discussion of the exegesis of the major passages.
2. Explain how the Old Testament provides foundational support for Pentecostal experience and doctrine.
3. Relate the working of God's Spirit in the lives of Old Testament people to His working in the student's life today and the life and mission of the church.

TEXTBOOKS

Cotton, Roger D., ed. *BTH 538 The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament Handouts, 2005*, by AGTS.

Hildebrandt, Wilf. An Old Testament Theology of the Spirit of God. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1995.

Horton, Stanley M. What the Bible Says About the Holy Spirit. Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 1976.

BASIC OUTLINE

1. Doing Biblical Theology and the word for spirit, ruach.
2. Genesis and Poetry Books--The Spirit in creation and guiding and sustaining people.

3. Exodus-Nehemiah--The Spirit empowering ministry, especially leadership and prophetic ministry.
4. Isaiah-Malachi--The Spirit in prophecy, especially the Messiah and eschatology.
5. Comparison of the work of the Spirit in the Old Testament and the New

METHODOLOGY

Lecture, discussion of readings, and class presentations of research projects.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class attendance is expected; the maximum allowable absences is two (2) class periods. Please talk to the professor about your absences.

1. Be prepared for each class to discuss the Scriptures and readings assigned. The student is expected to read the appropriate material in Hildebrandt and Horton for each class and finish them by the end of the course. Read the article on *ruach*, (#8120) in *NIDOTTE*. Read the articles listed under the *Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements* edited by Burgess and McGee in the bibliography of this syllabus as the topics come up in the course. Read the Cotton article in the bibliography for Friday, March 11. Also read the Grogan article in the bibliography by the end of the course. A few other readings may be added.
2. Turn in a 4-6 page essay on Friday, Feb. 4, on Peter's use of Joel 2 in Acts 2 and the Pentecostal understanding of it. Further instructions will be provided in class.
3. Choose one of the following:
 - A. Present in class for 20 minutes on a day to be scheduled, the highlights of a 2-3 page outline of your summary of your exegetical, biblical-theological, research into a sub theme or a passage on the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament. The outline must be turned in the morning of the day before for the professor to get it copied for the class.
 - B. Make an appointment to present to the professor in his office a 20 minute summary of an outline as described above in A., turned in the day before.
 - C. Turn in a 9-12 page paper dealing with a topic as described in A. on Friday, April 15.

For all Three Choices:

Your topic must be turned in for approval by Friday, Jan. 28. All three choices require a list of all sources consulted. [NOTE: Articles in books should follow 11.26 in Turabian 6th ed.] This is to be based mainly on concordance work, including key word studies,

with consultation of NIDOTTE, the *Dictionary of Biblical Imagery*, monographs, the best commentaries, key journal articles, and O. T. theologies. Do your own analysis first before reading the scholars' opinions. It should take into account any progressive revelation. Put your name, the course, and the date, at the top of the first page of the outline.

4. Write an essay final exam on Friday, April 22.
5. Late work will be penalized 1 point per day late using a 12 point scale (12=A, 1=F).

GRADING

Reading of textbooks, other assigned readings, and class participation	10%	
Essay on Pentecostal understanding of Joel 2-Acts 2		22%
Presentation of Outline of Research Project	40%	
Final Exam	28%	

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Achtemeier, Elizabeth. "Why God is Not Mother." Christianity Today, 16 August 1993, 16-23.

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Alexander, T. Desmond, and Brian S. Rosner, eds. New Dictionary of Biblical Theology. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000.

Burgess, Stanley M., and Gary B. McGee, eds. Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1988. See articles on: Ezekiel, Historical Books, Initial Evidence--A Biblical Perspective, Isaiah, Joel, Luke-Acts, Pentateuch, Psalms, Spirit in Scripture, and Wisdom Literature.

Cotton, Roger D. "[The Pentecostal Significance of Numbers 11](#)," *The Journal of Pentecostal Theology*, 10 (October 2001):3-10.

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Eichrodt, Walther. Theology of the Old Testament. 2 vols. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, n.d.

Griffin, William P. "Commentary on the Book of Joel." In Complete Biblical Library: Old Testament, Vol. 15, Study Bible, Daniel-Malachi, ed. Thoralf Gilbrant and Gregory A. Lint. Springfield, MO: World Library Press, 1999.

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- Kline, Meredith G. Images of the Spirit. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1980.
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- Martens, Elmer A. God's Design. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.
- McQueen, Larry R. Joel and the Spirit: The Cry of a Prophetic Hermeneutic. Sheffield, England: Sheffield Academic Press, 1995.
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Palma, Anthony D. The Spirit-God in Action. Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 1974.

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Watts, James Washington. Old Testament Teaching. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1967.

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SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by Roger D. Cotton, Th.D., November 2004.