

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

BTH 538 The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

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Fall 2010
Thursdays 8:00-10:45 AM

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, 2010*, by AGTS.

Hildebrandt, Wilf. *An Old Testament Theology of the Spirit of God*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1995. ISBN: 1565630513

Horton, Stanley M. *What the Bible Says About the Holy Spirit*. Rev. ed. Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 2005. ISBN: 0882433598

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

Note that we will be attending chapel for part of class as assigned.

METHODOLOGY

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

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class attendance is expected; the maximum allowable absences is two 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, as well as in the Handouts for each class and finish them by the end of the course.
2. Turn in a 4-6 page essay on Thursday, Sept. 16, on Peter's use of Joel 2 in Acts 2 and the Pentecostal understanding of it. Further instructions will be provided in class.
3. Do a major researched study of a sub theme/topic of the Spirit of God in the OT of your choice, approved by the professor by September 30. This is to be an exegetical, Biblical-theological, study for teaching in the church, with strong application for God's people today. The theme should be one that the student has a strong interest in and will benefit their ministry This study must demonstrate good interpretive method including the following **to qualify for an A grade** (also see handouts about method and tools):
 - A. Concordance work, mainly focusing on key Hebrew words, which uncovers all the major passages on the theme/topic in which the key Hebrew words used. Then, good word study analysis of the concepts expressed by them, including reading the articles on those words in the word books, especially *NIDOTTE*.
 - B. Quick but accurate exegetical analysis of the meaning of each important passage on the theme in the context of the message of that book, taking into account the ANE background, using the *Dictionary of Biblical Imagery*, biblical encyclopedia articles and other background sources, and the best, scholarly, exegetical, commentaries on each passage (usually about 3 or so on significant passages; see my list in the handouts). Do your own analysis first before reading the scholars' opinions.
 - C. Read at least one scholarly journal article related to your theme, and be sure to check any scholarly books specifically on your theme for helpful insights.

- D. Check at least the following OT theologies for anything they have that relates to your theme: Davidson, Eichrodt, Von Rad, Payne, Martens, House, Dyrness, and Waltke.
- E. Draw conclusions on what God is teaching on your theme/topic through the various passages of the Scriptures in terms of principles which can be applied to the lives of Christians today.

Choose one of the following ways of presenting your work:

- A. Present in class for 20-30 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 student must bring copies for each class member or turn it in the morning of the day before for the professor to get it copied for the class.

OR

- B. Make an appointment to present to the professor in his office a 20-30 minute summary of an outline as described above in A., by Wednesday, December 8.

OR

- C. Turn in a 10-12 page paper on the same as above by Monday, December 6.

For all Three Choices:

Your topic must be turned in for approval by Thursday, September 30. All three choices require a list of all sources consulted (not just cited) and articles in books must follow 17.1.8 in Turabian 7th ed. This is to be based mainly on concordance work, including key word studies, with consultation of the following **to qualify for an A grade: NIDOTTE, Dictionary of Biblical Imagery**, monographs, the best commentaries on each of the key passages, key journal articles, Holy Spirit in the OT books including the textbooks, and O. T. theologies including: Davidson, Eichrodt, Payne, Von Rad, Martens, Dyrness, Kaiser, and Waltke (see Bibliography and library reserve books, also Checklist of Resources). 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; you do not need a title page unless it is over 4 pages. An outline need not be double spaced throughout, but do **NOT** justify the right margin for any work for this course. Do not use a cover, just staple it. For a paper the style should conform to Turabian 7th ed. with your choice of citation method: footnotes, endnotes, or parenthetical references. For an outline, few citations are expected, though there should be the same depth of study and list of sources consulted as for a paper. The numbering should follow Turabian: I.A.1.a. etc.

- 4. Write an essay final exam on Thursday, December 9.
- 5. Late work may be penalized 1 point per day late using a 12 point scale (12=A, 1=F).

WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED TO ROGER COTTON

All work for me must be typed, double spaced, with one-inch margins and the right margin NOT justified, and be proof-read. Your writing should demonstrate good, formal, clear, writing style (see handouts and Strunk and White or *Getting the Words Right* by Cheney). The format should follow Turabian 7th edition. I especially want signed articles in books such as encyclopedia articles, word studies, and other multi-author works to be listed according to 17.1.8. If you need to cite a source you may choose which one of the three citation methods in Turabian you prefer to use: foot notes, end notes, or parenthetical. For assignments with specific readings, no bibliography is needed unless you want the professor to know about *additional* reading you did. If you need to cite a source that was assigned, just put the last name in parentheses with the page number. The length of written assignments may exceed the limit by a page or so. Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date or the grade begins to drop (see above for late work). If you do not have an assignment finished when it is to be discussed in class you must leave the class during the discussion of the assignment. Put the following information at the top of the first page or on a title page: Name, assignment, course, my name, date. Do not put anything but the page numbers at the top of the other pages. No title page is needed for work under 4 pages. Do not use a cover, just staple it.

GRADING

Reading of textbooks, handouts, and 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

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Beale, G. K. and D. A. Carson, eds. *Commentary of the New Testament Use of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007.

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SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by Roger D. Cotton, Th.D., May 2010.