

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
BGR 541 Inductive Studies in the Greek NT II

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***COURSE SYLLABUS***

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An inductive study of the various genre of the Greek NT with emphasis on exegesis and textual criticism.

**OBJECTIVES**

At the successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

*Knowledge*

1. Outline the basic steps taken in the formal exegesis of a passage before writing an exegesis paper.
2. Discuss the special considerations appropriate to the exegesis of passages in various literary genres of the New Testament.
3. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the terminology, symbols and major figures related to NT Lexical criticism.
4. Demonstrate increased knowledge of the grammar and syntax of NT Greek.

*Skills*

1. To read, translate, with the aid of only a lexicon, select passages from the Greek NT, parsing all verbs, declining all nouns and identifying all special constructions of grammar and syntax.
2. To construct a grammatical (or syntactical) analysis and sentence diagram of a passage from the Greek NT.
3. To construct an exegetical outline of a passage from the Greek NT, which reflects the insights of a formal grammatical and syntactical analysis (no. 2 above).
4. To read with facility and explain the apparatuses of the Nestle-Aland and UBS Greek New Testaments.
5. To conduct a textual critique of variants in the Greek NT, evaluating the readings, and giving justification for ones preference on the basis of the standard criteria of textual criticism.
6. To conduct a thorough-going word study, taking into account the various circles of context and cultural-historical settings, and arriving at an established range of meanings for a word in its present context.
7. To conduct a cultural-historical investigation of a NT passage, identifying elements where such investigation is warranted and applying its results to the exegesis of the passage.
8. To conduct a literary analyses of a NT passage, taking into account the special concerns and considerations of the various literary genre within the NT and applying the results to the exegesis of the passage.

*Attitudes*

1. Gain an appreciation of the time and care needed for good NT exegesis and exposition.
2. Recognize the need to continually develop and refine our exegetical skills and methodology.

3. Gain an awareness of the ambiguities and uncertainties that are part and parcel with NT exegesis and the need for the Holy Spirit's continual guidance and help in the task.

## **TEXTBOOKS**

### *Required:*

Aland, Kurt et al. The Greek New Testament. 4th ed. United Bible Societies, 1994.

Greenlee, J. Harold. Introduction to New Testament Textual Criticism. rev. ed. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1995.

Metzger, Bruce M. A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament. 4th rev. ed. United Bible Societies, 1994.

### *Recommended:*

Fee, Gordon D. New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1983.

Nestle, E., Aland, K. et al. Novum Testamentum Graece. 26th ed. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelstiftung, 1979.

## **BASIC OUTLINE**

### I. GRAMMAR AND SYNTACTICAL ANALYSIS

- A. Review
- B. Diagramming a Greek sentence
- C. Principles and Methodology

### II. TEXTUAL CRITICISM

- A. Historical Overview
- B. The Apparatus
- C. Principles of Textual Criticism
- D. The Praxis of Textual Criticism

### III. THE EXEGETICAL METHOD

- A. Outlining the Steps
- B. Areas of Investigation and Their Special Tools
- C. Asking The Right Questions--Applying Your Research to the Interpretation of the Text

### IV. WRITING AN EXEGESIS PAPER

- A. Format and Style
- B. Special Problems and Considerations
- C. Organization and Content

## **METHODOLOGY**

In the class we will seek to meet the objectives through:

1. Classroom lecture,
2. Student recitation and discussion related to assigned translation, and written assignments,
3. Individual reading research and writing.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Attendance at all class sessions is expected. Whenever possible absences should be announced beforehand to the professor. Excessive absenteeism is defined by the AGTS catalog and will be dealt with accordingly.
2. Completion of all reading and written assignments
3. Mid-term Exam
4. Oral Presentation (See Below)
5. Exegesis Paper

***NOTE: Late work will not be accepted except in cases of illness or other acceptable emergencies. When absent, you are responsible for finding out what assignments are due the following class period. Assignments and projects turned in late will receive a grade reduction of 1/2 letter grade for each day late.***

### ***Oral Presentation***

1. Toward the end of the semester (dates TBA) each student will present a 15 minute oral presentation on the status of their research for the exegesis paper.
2. In this presentation the student will present:
  - a. a copy of the Greek text and their translation
  - b. grammatical analysis of their passage
  - c. a tentative exegetical outline
3. The student will discuss and field student-questions regarding:
  - a. textual problems (if any) and their impact on interpretation
  - b. literary analysis and genre-considerations
  - c. proposed word-studies and preliminary findings
  - d. item of cultural and/or historical investigation
  - e. other significant problems or consideration
4. The student will field questions from the class for 12-15 minutes regarding his or her research.

### **GRADING PROCEDURE**

1. Grade Weights:
 

Written Homework Assignments	250 pts - 25%
Quizzes	150 pts - 15%
Mid-term Exam	200 pts - 20%
Oral Presentation	100 pts - 10%
Exegesis Paper	300 pts - 30%
2. The total number of possible points to be earned in the semester is 1000. Point totals at the end of the semester are tabulated and a grading curve plotted relative to the collective grade profile of the class.

### **SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

#### ***I. Methodology and New Testament Exegesis***

Barr, James. The Semantics of Biblical Language. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1961.

Fee, Gordon D. New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1983.

Kummel, Werner G. "New Testament Exegesis." In Exegetical Method: A Student's Handbook. Translated by E. V. N. Goetchius. New York: The Seabury Press, 1967.

Mickelsen, A. Berkeley. "Language." In Interpreting the Bible. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1963.

## ***II. Texts of the New Testament***

Aland, Kurt; Black, Matthew; Martini, Carlo M.; Metzger, Bruce M.; and Wikgren, Allen, eds. The Greek New Testament. 4th ed. Stuttgart: Wurttemberg Bible Society, 1993.

Nestle, Erwin and Aland, Kurt, eds. Novum Testamentum Graece. 26th ed. Stuttgart: Wurttembergische Bibelanstalt, 1979.

## ***III. Criticism and the New Testament***

Finegan, Jack. Encountering New Testament Manuscripts: A Working Introduction to Textual Criticism. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1974.

Greenlee, J. Harold. Introduction to New Testament Textual Criticism. rev.ed. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1995

Ladd, George Eldon. The New Testament and Criticism. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1967.

Metzger, Bruce M. The Text of the New Testament: Its Transmission, Corruption, and Restoration. 2nd ed. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1968.

\_\_\_\_\_. A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament. New York: United Bible Societies, 1971.

Taylor, Vincent. The Text of the New Testament: A Short Introduction. London: Macmillan & Co. Ltd., 1961.

## ***IV. Grammars and Grammatical Aids***

Blass, F. and Debrunner A. A Greek Grammar of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature. A translation and revision of the ninth-tenth German edition incorporating the supplementary notes of A. Debrunner by Robert W. Funk. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1961.

Burton, Ernest DeWitt. Syntax of the Moods and Tenses in New Testament Greek. 3rd ed. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1898.

Dana, H. E. and Mantey, Julius R. A Manual Grammar of the Greek New Testament. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1957.

Greenlee, J. Harold. A Concise Exegetical Grammar of New Testament Greek. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1963.

Lasor, William Sanford. Handbook of New Testament Greek: An Inductive Approach Based on the Greek Text of Acts. 2 Vols. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1973.

Moule, C. F. D. An Idiom Book of New Testament Greek. 2nd ed. Cambridge: The University Press, 1959.

Moulton, J. H.; Howard, W. F.; and Turner, N. A Grammar of New Testament Greek. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1908-1963.

Nunn, H. P. V. A Short Syntax of New Testament Greek. 5th ed. Cambridge: The University Press, 1938.

Robertson, A. T. A Grammar of the Greek New Testament in the Light of Historical Research. Nashville, Tennessee: Broadman Press, 1934.

#### ***V. Study of New Testament Words***

Barclay, William. New Testament Words. London: SCM Press, 1964.

Bauer, Walter. A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature. 4th revised ed. Translated by William F. Arndt and F. Wilbur Gingrich. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1957.

Brown, Colin, ed. The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1975.

Hatch, Edwin and Redpath, Henry A. A Concordance to the Septuagint and Other Greek Versions of the Old Testament (Including the Apocryphal Books), 2 vols. Graz, Austria: Akademische Druck-U. Verlagsanstalt, 1954.

Kittel, Gerhard and Friedrich, Gerhard, eds. Theological Dictionary of the New Testament. 10 vols. Translated by Geoffrey W. Bromiley. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1964-1976.

Liddell, Henry George and Scott, Robert. A Greek-English Lexicon. 9th ed. Oxford: The Clarendon Press, 1940.

Martin, James P. "Theological Wordbooks." Interpretation 18 (July 1964):304-328.

Moulton, James Hope and Milligan, George. The Vocabulary of the Greek New Testament Illustrated from the Papyri and Other Non-literary Sources. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1930.

Moulton, W. F. and Geden, A. S. A Concordance to the Greek Testament. Rev. by J. Recks. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1963.

Schmoller, A. Handkonkordanz zum griechischen Neuen Testament. 14th ed. Stuttgart: Württembergische Bibelanstalt, 1968.

Toussaint, Stanley D. "A Method of Making a New Testament Word Study." Bibliotheca Sacra 120 (Jan-Mar 1963): 35-41.

Trench, Richard Chenevix. Synonyms of the New Testament. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1953.

#### **SPECIFIC DATA**

Prepared by James D. Hernando, Ph.D., December 11, 2001.