



**Nipawin Bible College**  
**Course: BT215 – Israel: Conquest to Crisis**  
**Instructor: Dr. Peter John Barber**  
**Winter 2019**  
**3 Credit Hours**  
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### ***COURSE DESCRIPTION***

In the LORD's relationship with the nation of Israel, He instituted one temporal and conditional Mosaic covenant (e.g. Deuteronomy 5:1-3, 6:10-15, Ezekiel 16:8), and four unconditional and eternal covenants: the land of Israel (e.g. Genesis 12:7, 13:14-17, 15:12-21), the regathering of Israel from global exile (e.g. Deuteronomy 29:1-30:20, Isaiah 11:11-12:6), the national regeneration (e.g. Jeremiah 31:31-4), and David's Seed's eternal Kingdom (e.g. 2 Samuel 7:11-16, 1 Chronicles 17:10-14); as well as an unconditional and eternal covenant with all nations through Israel, through the Messiah (e.g. Genesis 28:14, Isaiah 11:10, 14:1-2, 42:1, 49:5-7).

This course will explore the Biblical account of Israel's relationship with the LORD from the moment that Israel crossed the Jordan into the Promised Land of Canaan in the 15<sup>th</sup> century BC (Conquest). We will continue through the period and process of Israel taking possession of the Land the LORD God has given her, involving many and varied setbacks during the time of the Judges. We will conclude with the zenith of Israel's extensive, yet far from complete, 10<sup>th</sup> century BC establishment of a united and powerful kingdom of Israel in the Promised Land under David and Solomon.

Since the ultimate establishment of Israel, and fulfillment of God's promises to Israel, were not fully or even mostly realized in Solomon's kingdom, this course will also trace the work of the LORD's prophets in Israel during this time, and how they convey the LORD's promises of a future complete and eternal restoration and fulfillment of His eternal covenant promises to the nation of Israel:

“May he also rule from sea to sea  
And from the River to the ends of the earth.  
Let the nomads of the desert bow before him,  
And his enemies lick the dust.  
Let the kings of Tarshish and of the islands bring presents;  
The kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.  
And let all kings bow down before him,  
All nations serve him” (Psalm 72:8-11; a Psalm of Solomon).

### ***COURSE TEXTBOOKS***

The Holy Bible (A literal translation of your choosing). **About 300 pages:**

Selected Readings: Conduct a cursory reading of the following books and/or chapters in the following order. On your way through, do a more careful

reading of the passages from Joshua, Judges, 1-2 Samuel, 1 Kings 1-10, and 1 Chronicles 2 – 2 Chronicles 9:

**THE PROMISED LAND: 1406 BC:** Leader: Deuteronomy 32-34; *Wisdom: Psalm 90-91*; Leader: Joshua 1-5. **THE CONQUEST: 1406-1391 BC:** Leader: Joshua 6-12. **Tribal Allotment:** Leader: Joshua 13-22. **Mosaic Covenant Reaffirmed:** Leader: Joshua 23-24. **Israel Attempts to Subdue All the Promised Land:** Leader: Judges 1:1-2:10. **ISRAEL WALKS AWAY FROM THE LORD: 1390-1350 BC:** Leader: Judges 2:11-3:8. **THE CYCLE OF THE JUDGES: 1350-1050 BC:** Leader: Judges 3:9-16:31. **Micah and Dan:** Leader: Judges 17:1-18:31. **Gibeah of Benjamin and Civil War:** Leader: Judges 19:1-21:25; *David's Line: Ruth 1:1-4:22*. **Eli (1100-1060 BC):** Leader: 1 Samuel 1:1-6:21. **Samuel (1060-1020 BC):** Leader: 1 Samuel 7:1-12:25. **A KING FOR ALL ISRAEL: 1051-931 BC: Saul (1051-1011 BC):** Ruler: 1 Samuel 13:1-31:13, 2 Samuel 1:1-27; *Wisdom: Psalm 7-8, 17-18, 27, 31, 34-35, 52, 54, 56, 59, 63, 120-21, 123-5, 128-30, 140-42*. **David (1011-971 BC):** Ruler: 2 Samuel 2:1-24:25, 1 Kings 1:1-11, 1 Chronicles 2:1-29:30; *Wisdom: Psalm 1-6, 8-10, 12-16, 19, 21-26, 28-29, 30, 32-33, 36-40, 41-45, 47, 49, 50-51, 53, 55, 57-58, 60-62, 64-71, 73, 75, 77-78, 81, 84-89, 92-119, 122, 127, 131-133, 138-139, 143-145*. **Solomon (971-931 BC):** Ruler: 1 Kings 1:12-11:43, 2 Chronicles 1:1-9:31; *Wisdom: Psalm 72, 127, Proverbs 1-31, Ecclesiastes 1-12, Song of Songs 1-8*.

Merrill, Eugene H. 1991. *An Historical Survey of the Old Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Baker Academic. **125 pages:**

Read pages 30-44 of chapter 1, pages 97-109 of chapter 4, and chapters 5, 6, and 7 in their entirety. Write a three to five-page (3-5) critique of these assigned portions of Merrill's *Historical Survey*.

Carden, Paul, ed. 2016. *Judges of Israel*. Peabody, Mass.: Rose Publishing. **14 pages.**

Carden, Paul, ed. 2001. *Then & Now Bible Maps*. Peabody, Mass.: Rose Publishing. **(Reference only)**

Handouts – Required Reading. \_\_ **pages:**

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### **THE BIG QUESTIONS**

What lessons for the Church are found in this period of the history of the nation of Israel? How can we see the LORD moving today to keep His eternal promises made during this period; promises to Israel and all nations?

## ***LEARNING OUTCOMES***

Students will:

- 1) Familiarize themselves with, and be able to recount, the historical progression of Israel from wandering in the wilderness in the 15<sup>th</sup> century BC to an established, prosperous kingdom in the 10<sup>th</sup> century BC.
- 2) Come to understand, and be able to articulate, the reasons for Israel's historical progression in this period in terms of the LORD's covenants.
- 3) Consider, and apply the grammatical-historical method of interpretation of, the historical and prophetic Scriptures of this period and portion of Israel's history.
- 4) Explore critical applications of Israel's experiences to the Church today, visible and invisible, and to oneself as a Church saint.
- 5) See how the LORD keeps His Word as to all the covenants He has made with Israel and all the nations; He is Faithful and True.

## ***COURSE ASSIGNMENTS***

### **Participation – 5%**

- In addition to general attentiveness and note-taking, students are expected to participate in class by reading Scripture aloud in turn and contributing to class discussions of Scripture.
- Grading: /4.

### **Bi-Weekly Scripture Memorization – 20%**

- Every two weeks, students will write out Scripture that they have committed to memory:
  - Joshua 1:7 (Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup>)
  - Judges 17:6 (Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup>)
  - Ruth 1:16 (Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>)
  - 2 Samuel 7:16 (Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>)
- Grading: /5 per Scripture.

***Due: 4 Scriptures total, written and submitted at the beginning of class***

### **Book Critique – 15%**

- In Merrill's *Historical Survey*, read pages 30-44 of chapter 1, pages 97-109 of chapter 4, and chapters 5, 6, and 7 in their entirety. I recommend underlining and/or highlighting the text as you read, and making notes as desired in the margins. This practice aids in focussing on the text and imbibing its message.

- Also, your notes will help in writing your critique. Using the guidelines on page 61 of the *Student Handbook*, write a three to five-page (3-5) critique.
- Grading: /15

***Book Critique Due: Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm***

**Research Paper or Exegetical Paper – 30%**

- Write an eight to ten-page (8-10) research or exegetical paper on the period of Israel's history covered in class. The topic or passage is of your own choosing, and must be approved by the professor by the end of the first week of class. See the *Student Handbook* ('Writing a Research Paper,' p. 60; 'Writing an Exegetical Paper,' p. 57) for further guidelines.
  - Grading: /30

***Paper Due: Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm***

**Final Exam – 30%**

- **Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 am**

All written assignments are to be typed in accordance with the NBC Study Guide for papers. Assignments will be graded on the basis of content, clarity, grammar, and spelling. Assignments will be due **no later than 5:00 pm** on the day that they are assigned.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

- Refer to the NBC Handbook [Relevant Academic Year]

**LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY:**

- Refer to the NBC Handbook [Relevant Academic Year]

**Reading: 440 pages**

**Writing: 11-15 pages**

**SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY ON ANCIENT ISRAEL**

Davis, John J. and John C. Whitcomb. 1989. *Israel: From Conquest to Exile*. Winona Lake, Ind.: BMH Books.

Fruchtenbaum, Arnold G. 2004. *Footsteps of the Messiah: A Study of the Sequence of Prophetic Events*. Tustin, Calif.: Ariel Ministries.

Hindson, Ed and Elmer L. Towns. 2013. *Illustrated Bible Survey: An Introduction*. Nashville, Tenn.: B&H Academic.

Hindson, Ed and Gary Yates, eds. 2012. *The Essence of the Old Testament: A Survey*. Nashville, Tenn.: B&H Academic.

Merrill, Eugene H. 2008. *Kingdom of Priests: A History of Old Testament Israel*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic.

### **Recommended Online Resources**

The searchable Holy Bible in every English translation:

[www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

Searchable Bible in English and the original languages with concordances, lexica, and commentaries:

[www.biblehub.com](http://www.biblehub.com)

Biblical books and chapters arranged in a chronological order:

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-reading-plan/chronological.html>