



Nipawin Bible College
BI3123 Hebrews
Mr. Jordan Bergen
Fall 2021
3 Credit Hours
jbergen@nipawin.org

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class provides an introduction to the first five books of the Old Testament. These books are known as the Pentateuch (Greek) or the Torah (Hebrew). There will be special reference to their background, history, contents, and major teachings.

This class intends to highlight the abiding significance of these books as the foundation of God's redemptive relationship with the world and the Law that Jesus came to fulfill not abolish. One cannot understand the New Testament without understanding the Old Testament.

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

The Bible (A translation, not a paraphrase). **10 Pages.**

Guthrie, George H. *The NIV Application Commentary: Hebrews*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1998. **435 Pages.**

THE BIG QUESTION

How does the book of Hebrews counsel believers to respond to difficulty and persecution?

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student will gain:

1. A renewed hope in the character and care of God.
2. Basic familiarity with the book of Hebrews.
3. Knowledge and ability to use basic principles for interpreting the book of Hebrews.
4. An understanding of how the Old Testament is the foundation upon which the New Testament developed.
5. The ability to relate the message of Hebrews to one's own life and ministry.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Participation in Class and Lab Activities – 5%

- The student will be engaged in class discussion and classroom practical activities throughout the course.

Bible Reading – 5%

- The student will read the book of Hebrews in *one sitting*. This is in addition to reading through Hebrews in the textbook. The student should expect to spend 45 minutes to an hour of *undistracted* reading time reading Hebrews. The goal is to hear the message of Hebrews in a similar fashion to the way the first audience likely heard it, as a sermon. There will be an affirmation of completion to sign on the due date.

Due: October 5th

Bible Memorization – 15%

- The student will memorize five verses from the book of Hebrews. The student will write out the verse, from memory, verbatim (indicating the translation) at the beginning of the class period. The verses to be memorized are:
 - Hebrews 1:3 ***Due: October 11th***
 - Hebrews 4:15-16 ***Due: October 25th***
 - Hebrews 6:10-11 ***Due: November 2nd***
 - Hebrews 9:13-14 ***Due: November 29th***
 - Hebrews 12:1-2 ***Due: December 7th***

(These verses will also be good to know for the **exam!**)

Textbook Reading Comprehension Quizzes – 25%

- The student will be prepared for a quiz that corresponds to the assigned reading for the class period. All quizzes will be based on the content of *The NIV Application Commentary: Hebrews*.

Due: Weekly with Assigned Reading

Exegetical Paper and Presentation of Findings – Paper: 25% Presentation: 5%

- The student will write an **8 page** exegetical paper, consulting and citing at least **8 sources**, on a passage from Hebrews. The bulk of the paper should be expounding on 1-5 verses with the broader context used primarily to help explain those verses. A non-exhaustive list of possible options could include:
 - One of the “warning passages.”
 - Melchizedek (What does the author of Hebrews mean when he says that he is without father/mother/genealogy, that he resembles the Son of God, or what is significant about Abraham tithing to him?)
 - What does the author of Hebrews mean when he says that Jesus was “made perfect”?
 - Etc...

- The class period following the due date for the written paper, the student will present their findings orally in class. The presentations should not be longer than **2-3 minutes** and they will answer the following questions:
 - “Why did I choose this topic?”
 - “What are some insights on this passage that I didn’t know before?”
 - “What is the significance of this passage for us today?”

Paper Due: November 23th

Presentation Due: November 29th

Final Exam – 20%

- The student will take a final exam covering the content of the course. The quiz questions and memory verses will make up the majority of the exam.

Due: Exam Week

GRADING

Participation:	5%
Bible Reading:	5%
Bible Memorization:	15%
Quizzes:	25%
Research Paper:	25%
Presentation:	5%
Final Exam:	20%
TOTAL:	100%

NOTE: All written assignments are to be typed in accordance with the guidelines in Kate L. Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 9th ed. (Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press, 2018) for papers. Assignments will be graded on the basis of content, clarity, grammar, and spelling. Assignments will be due **at 8:30 a.m.** on the day that they are assigned.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- Refer to the NBC Handbook 2021-22.

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY:

- Refer to the NBC Handbook 2021-22.

Reading: 445 Pages

Writing: 8 Pages

HEBREWS CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Subject	Textbook Reading	Written
Sept. 27	Syllabus Review		
Sept. 28	Hebrews Introduction		
Oct. 4	Hebrews Introduction	Introduction (Textbook)	Quiz 1
Oct. 5	Hebrews 1	Hebrews in One Sitting (Bible) Hebrews 1 (Textbook)	Quiz 2
Oct. 11	Hebrews 1		Hebrews 1:3 (Memorized)
Oct. 12	Hebrews 2	Hebrews 2	Quiz 3
Oct. 18	Hebrews 2		
Oct. 19	Hebrews 3-4	Hebrews 3-4	Quiz 4
Oct. 25	Hebrews 3-4		Hebrews 4:15-16
Oct. 26	Hebrews 5-6	Hebrews 5-6	Quiz 5
Nov. 1	Hebrews 5-6		
Nov. 2	Hebrews 5-6		Hebrews 6:10-11
Nov. 15	Hebrews 7-8	Hebrews 7-8	Quiz 6
Nov. 16	Hebrews 7-8		
Nov. 22	Hebrews 9-10	Hebrews 9-10	Quiz 7
Nov. 23	Hebrews 9-10		Exegetical Paper (8pg)
Nov. 29	Hebrews 9-10		Hebrews 9:13-14 Oral Presentation
Nov. 30	Hebrews 11-13	Hebrews 11-13	Quiz 8
Dec. 6	Hebrews 11-13		
Dec. 7	Hebrews 11-13		Hebrews 12:1-2
Exam Week			Final Exam

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Allen, David L. *Hebrews*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2010.
- Bateman IV, Herbert W. Ed. *Four views on the Warning Passages in Hebrews*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2007.
- Brown, Raymond. *The Message of Hebrews*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1982.
- Cockerill, Gareth L. *The Epistle to the Hebrews*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2012
- Hagner, Donald A. *Encountering the Book of Hebrews*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2002.
- Lane, William L. *Word Biblical Commentary: Hebrews 1-8*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1991.
- _____. *Word Biblical Commentary: Hebrews 9-13*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1991.