

BIRMINGHAM THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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Spring 2012

MS6631 Biblical Theology of Missions

Professor: Larry D. Cockrell

Class Hours: 2

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COURSE GOAL

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to a study of God's purpose and activity in the Old Testament as revealed through Israel's responsibility to the nations, hence her mission. It will also consider the mandates entrusted to the Church in the New Testament.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To derive a working, Biblical definition of missions in order to understand its importance, its nature, and dispel some of the common myths associated with missions.
2. To show God's missionary intent in setting aside Israel as His special witness to the nations.
3. To present Jesus' teachings on missions of His church and the actions dictated by those teachings.
4. To provoke the students to grapple with the implications of the missions for their lives and ministries.

COURSE TEXTS

Peters, George W. 1984. *A Biblical Theology of Missions*. Moody Press
ISBN: 0-8024-0706-4

Kostenberger, Andreas J., O'Brien Peter T. 2001. *Salvation to the Ends of the Earth: A Biblical Theology of Mission*. Intervarsity Press
ISBN: 0-8308-2611-4

Piper, John. 1993. *Let the Nations be Glad*. Baker Book House
ISBN: 0-8010-7124-0

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. As a class, we will memorize verses pertaining to the Church's mission to advance the kingdom of God. We will memorize one verse a week that will be written out in class each Thursday. Late verses will not be accepted.
2. Complete required reading assignment.
3. Personal Theology of Missions
Submit a 5-7 page paper, which expresses the development of your understanding of the theology of missions. Bibliography should have a minimum of 5 works cited including text books. Provide the following:
 - An overview for the biblical basis for missions
 - An analysis of the purpose and goals of missions
 - Theological reflection on the methodology and practice of missions
 - The relationship between the theology presented and your calling to ministry.
 - Interaction with contemporary issues and theologies of missions as they relate to your personal role in missions
4. A mid—term and final exam will be given
5. Class attendance is required. Any student taking more than two cuts will be required to read an additional text book on missions and write a three page book review for each class missed over the maximum allowed.

COURSE GRADING

1. Class attendance and participation	20%
2. Required reading and memory work	20%
3. Mid-term exam	20%
4. Final exam	20%
5. Paper	20%

BTS STANDARDS

FORMAT AND STYLE STANDARDS

Note: All papers must be formatted in accordance with Turabian Chicago standards including the title page. Any paper not conforming to these standards will automatically be dropped one letter grade.

COURSE WORK SUBMISSION STANDARDS

All course materials must be submitted to the professor at the end of the semester (last day of class). Thereafter, course materials may be submitted for up to six weeks after the end of the semester directly to the office of the registrar with the permission of the professor. If a student submits course materials after the end of the semester but within the six week grace period, the student's grade will be lowered by one letter grade. The course materials will not be accepted after the six week grace period and a failing grade will be posted to the student's transcript.

Course Outline

Class	Date	Topic	Chapter/Scripture
		I. Introduction	
1.	1/26	A. Course Introduction	
2.	2/2	B. The Definition of Missions	Introduction
3.	2/9	C. The Redemptive Plan of God	Chapter 3
4.	2/16	D. The Redemptive Plan of God Myths about Missions	II Corinthians 5: 19
		II. The Ruler of Missions	
5.	2/23	A. His Sovereign Power	Chapter 2
		B. His Sovereign Will	Ephesians 1: 9-11
6.	3/1	C. His Spirit	Chapter 8/Luke 19:10
7.	3/8	D. His Son 1. His Lordship 2. His Command	Chapter 1 Romans 14: 17
	3/15	Spring Break	
8.	3/22	Mid-Term Exam	
		III. The Rule of Missions	
9.	3/29	A. Righteousness	Chapter 4
		B. Peace	Acts 1: 8
		C. Jubilee 1. Reconciliation & Justification 2. Restoration 3. Cancellation 4. Liberation	Galatians 5: 1
		IV. The Role of the Missionary	
10.	4/5	A. The People of Missions The People of Missions	Chapter 5 Luke 4: 18-19; 10: 19
		B. The Preaching of the Gospel	
		C. The Power Over the Forces of Darkness	
		D. The Performance of Signs and Wonders	
11.	4/12	E. Their Practice of Kingdom Virtues 1. The Principle of Perseverance 2. The Principle of Greatness 3. The Principle of Use 4. The Principle of Unity 5. The Principle of Sacrifice & Risk 6. The Principle of Reciprocity	Chapter 6 Mark 10:43
12.	4/19	Make-up Day	
13.	4/26	Final Exam	

Missionary Theology Bibliography

- Allen, Roland. 1964. *Missionary Principles*. London: World Dominion Press.
- Anderson, Gerald H., ed. 1961. *The Theology of the Christian Mission*. New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Beyerhaus, Peter. 1972. *Shaken Foundations: Theological Foundations for Mission*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House.
- Blauw, Johannes. 1962. *The Missionary Nature of the Church: A survey of the biblical theology of mission*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- Bosch, David J. 1991. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books.
- Braaten, Carl. 1977. *The Flaming Center: A Theology of the Christian Mission*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press.
- Culver, Robert. 1984. *A Greater Commission: A Theology for World Missions*. Chicago: Moody Press.
- De Ridder, Richard R. 1971. *Discipling the Nations*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House.
- Gilliland, Dean. 1983. *Pauline Theology and Mission Practice*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House.
- Glasser, Arthur F. & McGavran, Donald A. 1983. *Contemporary Theologies of Mission*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House.
- Grassi, Joseph A. 1965. *A World to Win: The Missionary Methods of Paul the Apostle*. Maryknoll: Maryknoll Publications.
- Hahn, Ferdinand. 1965. *Mission in the New Testament*. Naperville: Allenson, Inc.
- Hedlund, Roger. 1991. *The Mission of the Church in the World: A Biblical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House.
- Larkin, William J. and Joel F. Williams. 1998. *Mission in the New Testament*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books.
- Lindsell, Harold. 1970. *An Evangelical Theology of Missions*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House.
- Scherer, James. 1987. *Gospel, Church, and Kingdom: Comparative Studies in World, Mission Theology*. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Augsburg Publishing House.
- Senior, Donald & Stuhlmueeller, Carroll. 1983. *The Biblical Foundations for Mission*.

Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books.

Starks, M. Thomas. 1984. *Toward a Theology of Missions*. Aurora, Ontario, Canada: Purpose Products.

Steyne, Philip M. 1992. *The God of the Nations*, Houston, TX, Touch Publications.

Van Rheenen, Gailyn. 1996. *Missions: Biblical Foundations & Contemporary Strategies*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.

Warren, Max. 1976. *I Believe in the Great Commission*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

Webster, Douglas. 1966. *Unchanging Mission: Biblical and Contemporary*. London: Hodder and Stoughton.

White, Hugh. 1937. *A Theology of Christian Missions*. New York: Willett, Clark, and Company.