



SHORT SYLLABUS BI512 The Prophets

Instructor: Timothy D. Finlay, Ph.D.

(Instructor may be contacted through GCS course website)

Course description

This course studies the prophetic literature of the Hebrew Canon, the Former and Latter Prophets in order to grasp the foundation and formation of the kingdom of God. We will seek to apprehend the establishment and development of the monarchy with ancient Israel as moved by the renewal of the biblical covenant relationship that we are taught by the prophets.

Estimated workload: For a student to do well in this course, the student will need to invest a total of 150 hours, or about 12-15 hours per week of reading, participating on the website, and writing papers.

Required textbooks

Bible. The Former and Latter Prophets, assigned Psalms and Proverbs. (Now would be a good time to read them again afresh.)

Gowan, Donald E. *Theology of the Prophetic Books: The Death and Resurrection of Israel*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 1998. ISBN: 978-0664256890. For about \$17*.

Kaiser, Walter. *A History of Israel: From the Bronze Age Through the Jewish Wars*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 1998. 978-0805431223. Out of print. Very good used copies available for about \$7*.

Monson, J. *Regions on the Run*. Rice Lake, WI: Biblical Backgrounds, Inc., 1998. For about \$20*. Also available for \$20 from http://www.bibback.com/historical_land.html.

Please obtain these books before the class begins. To find the lowest prices on these books, you may find it helpful to use www.bookfinder.com.

Requirements and assignments (General Description)

- 1) **Read the lectures.** Lectures will be posted each Monday for the first ten weeks. This will take 1-2 hours per week.
- 2) **Read the textbooks.** Students should allow around 5 hours a week to read.
- 3) **Respond to units of study.** Each week, responses to the units of study as they are presented in the course schedule. These assignments total 30 percent of the grade.
- 4) **Participate in online forum discussions.** In most courses, part of the learning that occurs comes through discussion and interaction with the instructor and other students. In an online class, this is done through comments posted on a discussion forum. This counts for 40 percent of the final grade.
- 5) **Outline of assigned books.** Write a one page outline of assigned books. This assignment will count for 20 percent of the final grade.
- 6) **Exams.** Two exams will count for 15 percent of the final grade.
- 7) **Final paper.** Write a five to eight page paper. This assignment will count for 25 percent of the final grade.