

Genesis & Exodus



Faculty Contact

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Please contact me anytime you have comments, suggestions, questions or you would like to talk about this course or your overall learning and ministry goals.

Course Description

A verse-by-verse reading, textual, theological and application study of **Genesis and Exodus** in their eternal, historical, prophetic and canonical contexts. Special attention is given to the foundational teachings of Genesis and Exodus as they define our understanding of God, our faith in Him, His character and commands, His creation, His people and His relationship with them, and notably His eternal foreknowledge and actions through history to bring about the redemption and reconciliation of people to Himself. Genesis and Exodus are also foundations for understanding and interpreting all Scripture, God's work of redemption through Jesus Christ and how New Testament authors used the books in their eternal inspired teachings. The Insights gained in the study of Genesis and Exodus will be helpful in preaching, teaching, missions, evangelism, counselling and personal spiritual growth.

Course Objectives

Bible

1. To know God: Father, Son and Spirit more fully from His self-disclosure in Genesis and Exodus, their revelations about Him, His mighty works in His world for our salvation and His sovereignty over nations and individuals.
2. To understand how God uses His profound teachings of Genesis and Exodus to establish permanent doctrines (teachings) applicable through both major covenants, such as: God as Creator and Father, Creation and scientific foreknowledge, genders and gender relations, marriage, family, honour of parents, Messianic prophecy and fulfilment, national governments, world history and consummation of human history through God's just judgment and fulfilment of the new heavens and the new earth.
3. To understand the important place of Genesis and Exodus in God's will for creation and redemption and the relationships of Law (Torah) and Gospel, particularly as they relate to our eternal salvation.
4. To know and appreciate the historical, religious, social, geographical and archaeological contexts of Genesis and Exodus and their messages to increase our understanding of God's actions in His world and as evidence of the historical reliability of His Word for those who need to know Him.

5. To understand the spiritual, literary and rhetorical power of Genesis and Exodus including an appreciation of Hebrew narrative and poetry, choice of words and grammar that enhances the profound eternal truths God communicates through these books.

Ministry

6. To be inspired by Genesis and Exodus in righteous, godly and holy living in our own lives today as servants of God who inspire and teach others to do the same.
7. To develop skills in teaching and preaching these foundational books through thorough research, exegesis, hermeneutics and application of their important messages to our lives to today in ministry, missions, evangelism and personal spiritual growth.
9. Read and meditate upon the important truths of Genesis and Exodus to enhance our relationship with God and our effectiveness in ministry to others.
10. Research and articulate the many ways that Genesis and Exodus can equip us, empower us and renew us in all dimensions of ministry: preaching, teaching, worship, prayer, evangelism, apologetics, benevolence, visitation and counselling, etc.

Worldview

11. Enhance our Biblical worldviews by articulating God's revelations about His person, eternal purposes and creation through Genesis and Exodus articulating answers to these twelve questions:
 1. Who is God?
 2. What is the nature of external reality, the world around us? (i.e. real or an illusion)
 3. What is a human being?
 4. Where do we come from?
 5. What happens to a person at death?
 6. Why is it possible to know anything at all?
 7. How do we know what is right and wrong?
 8. What is the meaning of human history?
 9. How do we perceive time? (i.e. linear, circular cycles, etc.)
 10. Is the worldview/culture open or closed?
 11. Is the centre of this worldview/culture its groups or individuals?
 12. Where are we going, how does the world end?
12. Articulate ways we by our thoughts, actions and words can graciously communicate God's worldview to others and fulfil His purpose for the Gospel of John in their lives:

Readings

Primary Source

Genesis and Exodus

Secondary Sources (See weekly assignment below.)

Grasham, William W. *Genesis 1–22*. Truth for Today Commentary. Searcy, AK: Resource Publications, 2014.

Grasham, William W. *Genesis 23–50*. Truth for Today Commentary. Searcy, AK: Resource Publications, 2014.

Roper, Coy D. *Exodus*. Truth for Today Commentary. Searcy, AK: Resource Publications, 2008.

Reading & Assignment Schedule

Reading ahead and reflecting on God's Word will help you get the most from our time together each week. Credit students, please see course assignments on Pages 4–6.

Week 1	Genesis 1–3 & Introduction
Week 2	Genesis 4–9 & Introduction
Week 3	Genesis 10–15
Week 4	Genesis 16–21 Quiz 1 on Genesis Introduction
Week 5	Genesis 22–27 Research Paper Scripture/Topic Due
Week 6	Genesis 28–33
Week 7	Genesis 34–39
Week 8	Genesis 40–45
Week 9	Genesis 46–50
Week 10	Exodus 1–4 & Introduction
Week 11	Exodus 5–11
Week 12	Exodus 12–18 Quiz 2 on Exodus Introduction
Week 13	Exodus 19–25 Research Paper Due
Week 14	Exodus 26–32
Week 15	Exodus 33–40 Genesis & Exodus Worldview Analysis Due

Course Assignments & Evaluation

Bible

Weekly Reading, 1 Line Summary, 2 Questions, Comments	30%
Two short quizzes on introductions to Genesis & Exodus	10%

Bible & Ministry

Research Paper with Ministry Application	40%
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Worldview

Genesis and Exodus Worldview Analysis	20%
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Bible

Weekly Reading, 1 Line Summary, 2 Questions, Comments	30%
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Each week by Friday at 5:00 p.m. EST post 1. and 2. on Populi:

1. A brief one line summary of each chapter of Genesis and Exodus according to the reading schedule above. Post in your assignments folder for each week. I recommend you keep them in once updated file you post each week.

By the end of the course you will have summaries of all ninety chapters that will help you recall their contents, structures and locations of passages for future reference.

A “mental map” of the Bible books is extremely helpful in your own spiritual growth and in the many works of ministry including preaching, teaching, apologetics and evangelism. Here is an example from Genesis 1;

1. God created the heavens and the earth, men and women in His image; it was very good.
2. Post two questions to the Populi discussion board that arise from your reading of the weekly verses that we can discuss together in class.
3. Read what your textbook commentary says about your questions. No written submission is required but you may make notes for your own future reference.

Bible and Ministry

Research Paper	30%
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1. The research paper is an opportunity for you to research a dimension of Genesis and Exodus that is of particular interest to you and is relevant to your teaching ministry with God.

2. You may research and write on any one or combination of the following:
 1. A specific Scripture passage from Genesis and Exodus.
 2. An important dimension of the backgrounds of either book or a specific passage.
 3. An important eternal truth from Genesis or Exodus and how it is foundational for other books and truths in the Old and/or New Testament.
 5. The use of Genesis and Exodus in the New Testament.
 6. A relevant subject of your choosing with my approval.

3. Parameters:

Length Your paper will be 8 to 10 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font (bibliography, appendices or personal research, title page, etc. are over and above the 8 to 10 page content body of your paper).

Application One fifth (20% or 1.5 to 2 full pages) of your paper should focus on application (“so what now?”). What does this study mean for my congregation and me?

Sources Use a variety of reliable sources: Scripture, lexicons, conservative scholarly books and journal articles.

Use a minimum of 12 scholarly sources including 3 scholarly articles.

I have access to the ATLA Religion Database with ATLA Serials through my graduate schools. If you need help, please let us know.

For this paper do not use Internet sites and do not include them in your bibliography or footnotes. The purpose of this direction is to keep you focused on high quality published and peer-reviewed sources that have the most value.

For those within reasonable driving distance of Waterloo the GLBC library is available with reasonable Covid guidelines in place according to provincial requirements.

Form Follow SBL Handbook of Style, second edition (Society of Biblical Literature). If you are unfamiliar with SBL please talk to me for guidance in their use.

The ultimate purpose of writing form is effective communication, particularly communicating God’s Word credibly and convincingly with those you are trying to teach and reach. Form counts for 10% of your grade.

A preliminary review of your draft papers can be very helpful. Comments may be helpful in completing your research, composition and application in good quality form to most effectively communicate your insights.

Grading	Research and use of sources	30%
	Application (so what now?)	20%
	Development of thought	30%
	Clarity of Structure	10%
	Correct Language & Form	10%

Worldview Analysis

Genesis and Exodus Worldview

20%

1. In a minimum of six pages, describe God's worldview in Genesis and Exodus, integrating Scripture quotations to answer the following 12 questions:
 1. Who is God?
 2. What is the nature of external reality, the world around us? (i.e. real or an illusion)
 3. What is a human being?
 4. Where do we come from?
 5. What happens to a person at death?
 6. Why is it possible to know anything at all?
 7. How do we know what is right and wrong?
 8. What is the meaning of human history?
 9. How do we perceive time? (i.e. linear, circular cycles, etc.)
 10. Is the worldview/culture open or closed?
 11. Is the centre of this worldview/culture its groups or individuals?
 12. Where are we going, how does the world end?
2. In a brief conclusion, express how your chosen quotations from Genesis and Exodus can help church members and unbelievers move closer to a Biblical worldview that aligns with God's view of His world.
3. This assignment is informal and is based solely on Scriptures from Genesis and Exodus and your own insights based upon them. Use double spaced 12 pt. font with standard default margins.

Online Class Resources

Resources are uploaded to Populi under "Files"

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