

I. Contact Information: Dr. Alex Stewart Sr.

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II. Course Description

In this introductory study you will explore the theological thought of the New Testament, trace the progression of thought beginning with Jesus, and seek to discover each writer's distinctive contribution to the overall message of the New Testament. Special attention will be given to the gospel of the kingdom as proclaimed and applied by the various biblical authors.

III. Course Objectives

- A. General: To understand the origin, shaping, and significance of the New Testament message in its original first century context and to see what guidance that development gives us for interpreting and communicating the NT message today.
- B. Specific: Upon completion of the course, you should be able to
1. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of NT theological content together with an understanding of the distinctive theological approaches and emphases of the NT writers.
 2. Practice doing NT theology—the critical and synthetic handling of the NT evidence in order to determine the range of meaning of a NT idea, construct a profile of its use in a particular NT writer, and identify thought background in antecedent revelation.
 3. Explain the part the distinctive theological emphases and approaches of various NT writers played in the development of NT theology.
 4. Explain the dynamic unity of NT theology and the benefits studying its historical development brings to contemporary theology.

IV. Course Textbook

Howard Marshall, *New Testament Theology: Many Witnesses, One Gospel* (IVP Academic: 2004). ISBN: 0-8308-2795-1

V. Course Requirements

A. Reading: Complete the assigned readings.

B. Viewing: View and take notes on the assigned lessons.

*Please note that the material from the reading assignments and the lessons to be viewed will factor heavily into the three exams.

- C. Theme Studies: Complete theological theme studies on three assigned topics:
1. Kingdom (*basileia*) in the Gospel of Matthew (55 times)
 2. Righteousness (*dikaiosune*) in Paul's letters (58 times)
 3. World (*kosmos*) in John's writings (78 times)

Note: See the section on **Theme Study Procedure** for instructions. See the sample theme study provided: "Flesh" (*sarx*) in Paul's letters.

- D. Module and Final Exams: Take module and final exams based on assigned reading, class lectures, and forum discussions.
- E. Forums: As indicated on the course timeline, interact with a discussion topic. By Wednesday of that week, post an approximately 100-word paragraph, summarizing your thinking on the topic. By Friday of that same week, read the postings of all your classmates and respond to at least two of them. You are required to participate in all ten (10) forums.
- F. Complete the weekly **Topic Checklist** according to the due dates listed in the Course Timeline.

VI. Course Evaluation

A. Grade Distribution

1. Topic checklists completed by due date	15%
2. Theme Studies (3 @ 10% each)	30%
3. Online Discussion Forums (10 @ 2% each)	20%
3. Unit Exams (2 @ 10% each)	20%
4. Final Exam	15%

- B. Late Work: All assignments are due by the date indicated in the course timeline. If it becomes apparent that you will be unable to meet a due date, you must make a request **in writing** to be permitted to miss the due date, with rationale for why the work is late. Each request will be evaluated on an individual basis. Unexplained late submission of work is not acceptable and will be penalized.

*Online Exams must be taken during the stipulated windows, without exception.

*Unexplained late submission of Online Discussion Forum Posts will not be allowed.

VII. Course Workload

Time Allocation: Workload has been calculated according to the standard of 135 hours of work for a three credit class (or approximately 10-12 hours per week).

The time required for the various assignments has been *estimated* as follows:

1. Viewing Lessons	33 hours
2. Reading (at 15 pages per hour)	45 hours
3. Theme Studies (10 hrs per Theme Study)	30 hours
4. Discussion Forums (1 hour per Forum)	10 hours
5. Exams	<u>17 hours</u>

Total: 135 hours

VIII. Recommendations for Learning Support:

Students with physical, emotional, ADD, or learning disabilities who need academic accommodations should make requests through the Academic Success Center (ASC). These requests will be kept confidential. Requests may be made throughout the semester, and ideally they would be initiated as early as possible. The ASC is located on the first floor of Rossi Student Center (803-807-5611, academicsuccess@ciu.edu). If you already receive services through ASC, please contact me so that we can make your academic experience in this class as successful as possible.

IX. SSM Stylesheet

The official guide for all written work in connection with this course is the *SSM Stylesheet*, which is available from the Faculty Administrative Assistant's office (Schuster 1xx). It is based on the Chicago Manual of Style as summarized in the latest edition of Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. It includes guidelines related to grammar and style, organization of papers, abbreviations and numbers, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, quotations, using Greek and Hebrew words, using and citing sources, footnotes, bibliography, and using the internet. The instructor reserves the right to return written work that displays poor spelling, consistent grammatical errors, incorrect style, and/or poor general appearance. The basic parameters are set out in the *Stylesheet*. If your work is returned for any of these reasons, you may resubmit it within two weeks of its return. If you do not revise and resubmit your work, you will receive a zero for the assignment.

To find an electronic copy of the *Stylesheet*, you may follow this path:

CIUOnline > Student Life > Seminary Information > Resources > Stylesheet

Online resources related to Turabian include:

- <http://www.eturabian.com/turabian/index.html>
- <http://www.bibme.org>
- <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/01/>

X. Plagiarism

CIU SSM expects you to be honorable in your studies and responsible for your own academic work. Dishonesty in assignments, examinations, written papers, or other work is contrary to scriptural principles of Christian living and an affront to fellow students and your instructors. Plagiarism occurs when you present another person's ideas or words as your own, or when you intentionally or unintentionally fail to acknowledge or cite the source of the ideas you use.

Acknowledging and citing sources involves placing quotation marks around all the material you have taken (or paraphrased) from books, articles, internet sites, other students' papers, or other work you have not personally produced. It also involves listing full information about that source in a footnote or a parenthetical reference. See the *SSM Stylesheet* for examples of how to cite sources correctly.

Specific examples of plagiarism include but are not limited to the following:

1. Borrowing the words, sentences, ideas, conclusions, examples and/or organization of an assignment from a source (e.g., a book, an article, another student's paper, a tape/video, an internet site) without acknowledging the source.
2. Submitting work done by another student—in part or in whole—in place of original work.
3. Submitting assignments received from the Internet, from commercial firms or from any other person or group.
4. Knowingly aiding another student in plagiarizing an assignment as defined above.

You may not submit work that is part of a group consultation unless it is related to an assignment your syllabus specifically indicates is to be completed as part of a group. If you study for an exam with a review group, you may not reproduce any answers that others have written and submit it as your own work. You may not share with others answers to exam questions you have composed in advance. Any of these actions will be considered plagiarism.

Plagiarism will result in academic penalty, and may result in failure in the assignment, failure in the course, and further disciplinary action. When appropriate, your Student Life chaplain will be informed.

XI. BIBLIOGRAPHY (Supplements Marshall)

Esler, P. F. *New Testament Theology: Communion and Community* (2005).

Hafemann, S. J. and P. R. House, eds. *Central Themes in Biblical Theology: Mapping Unity in Diversity* (2007).

Matera, F. J. *New Testament Theology: Exploring Diversity and Unity* (2007).

Räsänen, H. *Beyond New Testament Theology*. 2nd ed. (2000).

Rowe, C. K. "New Testament Theology: The Revival of a Discipline—A Review of Recent Contributions to the Field." *JBL* 125 (2006): 393--419.

Rowland, C. and Tuckett, C., editors. *The Nature of New Testament Theology: Essays in Honour of Robert Morgan* (2006).

Schreiner, T. F. *New Testament Theology: Magnifying God in Christ* (2008).

Scott, J. J. *New Testament Theology: A New Study of the Thematic Structure of the New Testament* (2008).

Thielman, F. *Theology of the New Testament: A Canonical and Synthetic Approach* (2005).

Yagi, S. *Structures of New Testament Theology* (2002).

Module #1 - Course Introduction

Topic 1 - Syllabus and Method, Biblical Theology, Background and Issues

View **Lessons 1.1 through 1.2**

Read Marshall, Chapter 1

View **Lessons 1.3 through 1.6**

Participate in **Forum #1** (Method of Biblical Theology)

Module #2 - Jesus, Synoptic Gospels, Acts

Topic #1 - Gospels and NT Theology; Teaching of Jesus

Read Marshall, Chapter 2

View **Lessons 2.1 through 2.3**

Participate in **Forum #2** (The Gospels and Jesus)

Read Blomberg, Chapter 19, "The Theology of Jesus"

(available at course website: Resources/Reserve-Readings)

View **Lessons 2.4 through 2.7**

Topic #2 - Mark; Matthew

Read Marshall, Chapter 3

View **Lessons 2.8 through 2.10**

Participate in **Forum #3** (Gospel of Mark: Christology and Kingdom)

View **Lessons 2.11 through 2.13**

Read Marshall, pages 95-111

View **Lessons 2.14 through 2.16**

Topic #3 - Matthew, cont.; Luke

Read Marshall, pages 111-128

View **Lessons 2.17 through 2.19**

Read Marshall, Chapter 5

View **Lessons 2.20 through 2.24**

Participate in **Forum #4** (Gospel of Luke: Programmatic Texts)

Complete and submit **Theme Study #1** ("Kingdom" in the Gospel of Matthew)

Topic #4 - Acts; Theology of the Synoptic Gospels and Acts

Read Marshall, Chapter 6

View **Lessons 2.25 through 2.29**

Read Marshall, Chapter 7

View **Lessons 2.30 through 2.33**

Complete and submit **Module #2 Exam**

Module #3 - Pauline Letters

Topic #1 - Introduction to Paul and his Doctrine of Man

Read Marshall, Chapters 8-9

Participate in **Forum #5** (Paul's Defense of his Apostolic Authority)

View **Lessons 3.1 through 3.7**

Topic #2 - The Person and Work of Christ

Read Marshall, Chapters 10-12

Participate in **Forum #6** (Jesus' Weakness and Suffering)

View **Lessons 3.8 through 3.13**

Topic #3 - Salvation by Faith alone through Grace alone

Read Marshall, Chapters 13-16

Participate in **Forum #7** (Salvation by Grace and the Covenant Community)

View **Lessons 3.14 through 3.18**

Complete and submit **Theme Study #2** ("Righteousness" in Paul's Letters)

Topic #4 - Sanctification: "Become what you are"

Read Marshall, Chapter 17

View **Lessons 3.19 through 3.24**

Complete and submit **Module #3 Exam**

Module #4 - General Letters and Johannine Writings

Topic 1 - General Letters

Read Marshall, Chapter 30

Participate in **Forum #8** (Wisdom in James)

View **Lessons 4.0 through 4.9**

Topic 2 - John's Gospel

Read Marshall, Chapter 20

Participate in **Forum #9** (Kingdom of God in John's Gospel)

View **Lessons 4.10 through 4.20**

Topic 3 – John's Letters and Revelation

Read Marshall, Chapters 21-22

Participate in **Forum #10** (Millennial Kingdom in Revelation)

View **Lessons 4.21 through 4.27**

Read Marshall, Chapters 23-24

Complete and submit **Theme Study #3** ("World" in John's writings)

Module #5 - Unity and Diversity

Topic #1 - Diversity and Unity in NT Theology

Read Marshall, Chapter 31

View **Lessons 5.1 through 5.9**

Complete and submit **Final Exam** (includes questions over Module #4)

THEME STUDY PROCEDURE

- I. Range of Meaning and Classification of Usage (approx. 2 ½-3 pages)
- A. Consult a **lexicon** and record the word's range of meaning in the NT. List the discrete meanings before classifying the texts under those meanings. The following Print resources are available at Resources/Reserve-Readings.
- Print Resources:**
- W. Bauer, F. W. Danker, W. R. Arndt, F. W. Gingrich, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. 3rd ed. (2000).
- Electronic Resources:**
- Bibloi
 - Blue Letter Bible. <http://www.blueletterbible.org/>
- B. Use a Greek-based **concordance** to locate all the occurrences of the word in your NT author's writings.
- Print Resources:**
- G. V. Wigram. *The Englishman's Greek Concordance of the New Testament* (Coded with Strong's Concordance Numbers).
 - W. F. Moulton & A. S. Geden, *A Concordance to the Greek Testament*.
 - J. R. Kohlenberger, E. W. Goodrick, J. A. Swanson, *The Exhaustive Concordance to the Greek New Testament*.
- Electronic Resources:**
- Bibloi
 - Blue Letter Bible. <http://www.blueletterbible.org/>
- (i) Decide how each occurrence of the word fits into the range of meaning established in A. above.
- (ii) In order to determine the probable category of meaning for each text, observe categories of relationships from the use of the term in its context. For contextual meanings, ask these questions:
- ▶ If the word is a verb, what subjects and objects are used with it?
 - ▶ If the word is a noun, what verbs or modifiers are used with it?
- (iii) Record each occurrence of the word (with its immediate context included along with the biblical reference) in its appropriate place in the range of meaning profile (established in A. above).
- (iv) Summarize: Write a preliminary summary of your NT author's use of the word, highlighting special emphases indicated by repetition and placement.
- II. Historical Background (approx. ½ page)
- Read thoroughly the article on this word in one of the three major **theological dictionaries** to understand how other biblical and extra-biblical authors employ the term. The following Print resources are available at Resources/Reserve-Readings.
- Print Resources:**
- Brown, ed., *New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology* (NIDNTT)
 - G. Kittel, ed., *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament* (TDNT)

- H. Balz and G. Schneider, eds. *Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament* (EDNT)
 - i. Look up and record at least one occurrence of the word in antecedent revelation (e.g., Old Testament, teaching of Jesus) that illustrates its biblical background, as well as one relevant occurrence of the word in extrabiblical literature (Hellenistic literature, Jewish writings, Philo, Josephus, etc.).
 - ii. Explain how the background helps you better understand your author's use of the word, noting similarities and differences between your NT author's use of the word and its use by other authors.
- III. Contribution to NT Theology (approx. ½ page)

Explain the distinctive contribution your NT author makes to the use of the word and to the total development of NT Theology. Craft a working definition of the term, taking into account all of the data that you have analyzed.