



On-Campus Course Syllabus

OTS 615 L1

Topics in OT: Christ in the Old Testament

Spring 2023

Class Information

Day and Time: Th 7:30 – 10:00 p.m.

Room Number: E208

Contact Information

Instructor Name: David Brooks

Instructor Email: dbrooks@criswell.edu

Instructor Phone: 214-818-1324

Instructor Office Hours: M W 2 – 4; T Th 1:30 – 3:00

Course Description and Prerequisites

A study of selected topics related to the languages, history, background, hermeneutics, or theology of the Old Testament. This specific course purpose is to examine the progressive unfolding of the picture of Christ in the OT in preparation for his coming in the NT. (Course may be repeated for credit when the topic differs; Prerequisites OTS 101, OTS 201; Other prerequisites may be required.)

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Describe and critique the different methods by which people seek to show Christ in the OT
2. Analyze and explain passages revealing or leading to Christ
3. Critique various interpretations of OT passages that are used to show Christ
4. Describe the literary techniques in the OT which point toward Christ
5. Trace the development of the progress of revelation of Christ throughout the OT

Required Textbooks

1. The Holy Bible. Use the version you prefer.
2. Hunter, Trent, and Stephen Wellum. *Christ from Beginning to End: How the Full Story of Scripture Reveals the Full Glory of Christ*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2018. 978-0310536543
3. Tabb, Brian J., and Andrew M. King, eds. *Five Views of Christ in the Old Testament: Genre, Authorial Intent, and the Nature of Scripture*. Counterpoints in Bible and Theology, ed. Stanley N. Gundry. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2022. 978-0310-125518

Course Requirements and Assignments

1. **Watch video** *Ee-Taow: The Mouk Story // Official Video by Ethnos360, founded in 1942 as New Tribes Mission* at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hjRTBQcf-uc>
2. **Reading and Summary:** Summarize each of the five views in *Five Views of Christ in the Old Testament*. Each summary must be one page in length. Give the scholar's main argument based on each section of his or her article. At the end of each summary the student should add any questions or objections they have about the scholar's view, but do not argue against the view or try to answer the question(s). The paper will be total 5 pages. A separate document gives detailed instructions.
3. **Read Hunter and Wellum.** No summary or critique is needed, just a note about completion.
4. **Read and evaluate either** Craig G. Bartholomew and Michael W. Goheen, *The Drama of Scripture: Finding Our Place in the Biblical Story* (272 pp.), **or** Sydney Greidanus, *Preaching Christ from the Old Testament* (391 pp.), **or** Walter C. Kaiser, Jr., *The Messiah in the Old Testament* (256 pp.). Each is available in our Wallace Library as a hard copy.
5. **Canonical Divisions Paper:** Select one passage each from the Torah and the Latter Prophets divisions of the Hebrew OT. Research each for the traditional Christian Messianic interpretation, the critical non-messianic interpretation, and the ancient Jewish interpretation, as well as presenting your own understanding of the passage. A separate document gives detailed instructions.
6. **Class presentation** of your work on one of the above passages orally and with visuals. A separate document gives detailed instructions.
7. **Final critique** of *Five Views of Christ in the Old Testament*. Critique each scholar's view succinctly in one page each. A summary is not included, because this was done at the beginning of the semester.
8. **Academic Story of Christ in the OT:** Write the steps of the progress of unveiling of Christ throughout the OT. Cite Scripture and scholars for your information. Details of different interpretations should be placed in content footnotes if they would slow the story. But, the story should be written with an educated but relative biblically ignorant audience in view. A separate document gives detailed instructions.
9. **Children's Story of Christ in the OT:** Write the developing story of Christ in the OT for children in grades 1-3 or 4-6. A separate document gives detailed instructions.
10. Present **the gospel from the OT** in a 2-page paper. A separate document gives detailed instructions.

Class Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they anticipate being able to attend every class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any information missed. Instructors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion, individual instructors may determine how attendance affects students' ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades.

Campus Closure

To ensure the health and safety of students and employees, college administrators may decide it is necessary on rare occasions to close the campus. Once this decision is announced, instructors will contact students to provide further details regarding the campus closure's impact on those courses. Students are responsible to watch for communication from their instructors and respond appropriately. (Unless otherwise specified by the instructor in this syllabus, this communication will be sent to the student's Criswell College e-mail account.)

In order to make progress toward the courses' objectives, instructors have the freedom during most campus closures to require students to participate in activities as alternatives to meeting on campus. An instructor may, for example, hold class remotely (through Zoom) at the scheduled time, provide a recording of a class or presentation for students to watch independently, or assign other activities that students are to accomplish before returning to campus. Students are responsible for accomplishing these alternative activities as well as any course requirements listed in this syllabus during the period of the campus closure. If, during the period of the campus closure, personal circumstances prohibit a student from accomplishing these alternative activities or course requirements and assignment listed in the syllabus during the campus closure, the student is responsible for communicating with the instructor as soon as possible. Instructors will not penalize students who do not have the means to accomplish the alternative activities during the period of the campus's closure and will work with students whose circumstances during the campus closure prohibited their timely completion of course requirements and assignments in the syllabus.

Grading Scale

Weighted Grading: *The following are the proportions of your grade for each type of assignment*

1. Watch video	5%
2. Reading and summary of 5 Views	11%
3. Read Hunter and Wellum	8%
4. Read/evaluate Chester or Morales	10%
5. Canonical divisions paper	20%
6. Class Presentation	8%
7. Critique the 5 Views book	4%
8. Academic Story of Christ in the OT	20%
9. Children's Story of Christ in the OT	9% (not less important, just shorter)
10. The gospel in the OT	5%
Total	100%

Grading scale:

A	93-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour
A-	90-92	3.7 grade points per semester hour
B+	87-89	3.3 grade points per semester hour
B	83-86	3.0 grade points per semester hour
B-	80-82	2.7 grade points per semester hour
C+	77-79	2.3 grade points per semester hour
C	73-76	2.0 grade points per semester hour
C-	70-72	1.7 grade points per semester hour
D+	67-69	1.3 grade points per semester hour
D	63-66	1.0 grade point per semester hour

D-	60-62	0.7 grade points per semester hour
F	0-59	0.0 grade points per semester hour

Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An “I” may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a course and in situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their instructors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar’s Office. The “I” must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the close of the term or semester in which the grade was awarded, or the “I” will become an “F.”

Academic Honesty

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting.

Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

Institutional Assessment

Material submitted by students in this course may be used for assessment of the college’s academic programs. Since programmatic and institutional assessment is done without reference to specific students, the results of these assessments have no effect on a student’s course grade or academic standing at the college. Before submitting a student’s work for this type of assessment, the course instructor redacts the work to remove anything that identifies the student.

Institutional Email Policy

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students’ institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of

the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

Disabilities

Criswell College recognizes and supports the standards set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and similar state laws, which are designed to eliminate discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities. Criswell College is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualifying students, faculty, and employees with disabilities as required by applicable laws. For more information, please contact the Student Services Office.

Intellectual Property Rights

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the instructor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

Resources and Supports

Canvas and SONIS: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool and SONIS for student data. Students needing assistance with Canvas should contact the Canvas Help Support line at (844) 358-6140. Tech support is available at this number, twenty-four hours a day. Students needing help with SONIS should contact the Campus Software Manager at studenttechsupport@criswell.edu.

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting the office at 214.818.1332 or studentservices@criswell.edu. The Student Services Office also works with local counseling centers to ensure that every student has access to helpful mental health resources. More information is located on the college website at [Criswell College Mental Health Resources](#), and students may contact the Director of Student Services if they have any questions.

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by contacting or visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, email the Wallace Library at library@criswell.edu. Offsite login information is available in Canvas in the “Criswell Student Training Course” under “Library Information.”

Tutoring Center: Students are encouraged to consult with tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence in any subject matter taught at the college. Tutors have been recommended by the faculty to ensure that the tutor(s) are qualified to serve the student body. Every tutor brings experience and expertise in an effort to provide the proper resources for the subject matter at hand. To consult with a tutor, students can visit the Tutoring Center located on the second floor in room E203, or schedule an appointment by emailing tutoringcenter@criswell.edu or by calling 214.818.1373.

Course Outline/Calendar

Class	Date	Activity	Assignment Due
All the following biblical books cannot be treated fully due to time constraints			
1	Jan 19	Introduction, syllabus, Genesis	
2	Jan 26	Genesis	Watch video
3	Feb 2	Genesis, Exodus	
4	Feb 9	Exodus, Leviticus	Reading and summary of 5 Views
5	Feb 16	Leviticus, Numbers	
6	Feb 23	Deuteronomy, Joshua	
7	Mar 2	Judges, Ruth, Samuel	
8	Mar 9	Samuel, Psalms	Read Hunter and Wellum
Week of March 13 – 17: Spring Break			
9	Mar 23	Psalms	
10	Mar 30	Kings, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs	Read and evaluate Bartholomew, Greidanus, or Kaiser
11	Apr 6	Jonah, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah	Canonical division papers
12	Apr 13	Isaiah, Micah	Class Presentation
13	Apr 20	Nahum, Zephaniah, Habakkuk, Jeremiah, Obadiah	Critique of 5 Views
14	Apr 27	Ezekiel, Daniel	
15	May 4	Haggai, Joel, Zechariah, Malachi, Chronicles	Academic Story of Christ in the OT
16	May 11		Children's Story of Christ in the OT, The gospel in the OT

Selected Bibliography

Alexander, T. Desmond. *From Eden to the New Jerusalem: An Introduction to Biblical Theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic, 2008.

Bartholomew, Craig G., and Michael W. Goheen. *The Drama of Scripture: Finding Our Place in the Biblical Story*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2004.

Beale, G. K. *A New Testament Biblical Theology: The Unfolding of the Old Testament in the New*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2011.

- Beale, G. K. *The Temple and the Church's Mission: A Biblical Theology of the Dwelling Place of God*. NSBT. Grand Rapids, MI: IVP, 2004.
- Chester, Tim. *From Creation to New Creation: Making Sense of the Whole Bible Story*. 2nd ed. Purcellville, VA: Good Book, 2010. ebook in Wallace
- Dempster, Stephen G. *Dominion and Dynasty: A Theology of the Hebrew Bible*. D. A. Carson, ed. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2003.
- Dumbrell, William J. *Covenant and Creation: A Theology of the Old Testament Covenants*. Biblical and Theological Classics Library. Carlisle, PA: Paternoster, 1984.
- Dumbrell, William J. *The Faith of Israel: A Theological Survey of the Old Testament*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2002.
- Gentry, Peter J., and Stephen J. Wellum. *Kingdom Through Covenant: A Biblical-Theological Understanding of the Covenants*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2012.
- Goldsworthy, Graeme. *According to Plan: An Introduction to Biblical Theology*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 1991.
- Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Christ-Centered Biblical Theology: Hermeneutical Foundations and Principles*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012.
- Greidanus, Sydney. *Preaching Christ from the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1999.391*
- Kaiser, Walter C. Jr. *The Messiah in the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.256**
- Morales, Jon. *Big Themes of the Bible: Grasping the Heart of Jesus' Message*. Nashville, TN: B&H, 2021. ebook in Wallace
- Roberts, Vaughn. *God's Big Picture: Tracing the Storyline of the Bible*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2003.
- Sailhamer, John. *The Meaning of the Pentateuch: Revelation, Composition, and Interpretation*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2009.
- Vos, Geerhardus. *Biblical Theology: Old and New Testaments*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1948; rpt, Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust, 1975.