

INTRODUCTION

OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY, PART ONE

**Genesis through Deuteronomy
1000**

John David Clark, Sr., Instructor

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course, in which we will learn the Bible story from Creation to the death of Moses, is the first in a series which will cover the entire Old Covenant history.

Please Note: This class is not a forum for various theological beliefs. This is a class on the Bible. If your purpose for being here is simply to learn the Bible, you are in the right place. You *will* learn the Bible, if (1) you follow my instructions carefully and (2) you keep up with your assignments, which will not be difficult to do.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Class attendance is essential.

Especially critical to the student's understanding of the Bible story will be the classes dealing with the Law of Moses. Make plans to be there, no matter what!

2. Weekly reading must be done on schedule, along with the map work.¹ The student who falls behind may find it difficult to make up lost ground. If for some reason you do not complete a reading assignment, come anyway. In class, I will catch you up on what took place.

3. Weekly quizzes and mid-term and final exams will be given.

TEXTS

1. The King James Version of the Bible will be our text. The student should use a version which *does not have footnotes* in it.²

2. For completing the map work for the course, the recommended text is *The Oxford Bible Atlas*, 3rd edition, Herbert G. May, Editor.

OBJECTIVES

There is only one objective in this class, namely, that the student learn well the history recorded in the Bible. The evidence of your success will be your ability to:

1. Discuss the order of Biblical history;
2. Describe the events as the Bible records them and explain the causes and results;
3. Know the people(s) who are in the Bible;
4. Understand basic Biblical concepts.

EVALUATION

Evaluation will be made based upon the students demonstrated ability to meet the objectives described above, through tests given, assignments completed, and class participation.

¹ See addendum, "A"

² See addendum, "B"

COURSE OUTLINE

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
1010	Introduction. Genesis 1. Assignment: Gen. 1-11 with maps.
1020	Exam and discussion of Gen. 1-11. Assignment: Gen. 12-25 with maps.
1030	Exam and discussion of Gen. 12-25. Assignment: Gen. 25-50 with maps.
1040	Exam and discussion of Gen. 25-50. Assignment: Exodus 1-24 with maps.
1050	Exam and discussion of Ex. 1-24. Assignment: Comprehensive exam.
1060	Exam on Genesis and Exodus 1-24 Assignment: The Law. Ex. 25-40 with work sheet.
1070	Introduction to The Law of Moses. Assignment: TBA
1080	More about the Law of Moses. Assignment: Leviticus and Numbers reading.
1090	Exam and discussion of Lev. & Num. reading. Assignment: Num. 11-36 with maps.
1100	Exam (?) and discussion of Num. 11-36. Assignment: Comprehensive exam.
1110	Comprehensive exam. Assignment: Deuteronomy 1-17 with maps.
1120	Exam and discussion of Deut. 1-17. Assignment: Deut. 18-34 with maps.
1130	Exam and discussion of Deut. 18-34.

THE BIBLE

The King James Bible is divided into two principle parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament books are divided into three distinct groups:

History
Genesis - Esther

Wisdom
Job - Song of Solomon

Prophecy
Isaiah - Malachi

The wisdom books and the prophetic books were written during the time of the history books.³ There is, of course, some history contained in the wisdom and prophetic books, and there is some wisdom and prophecy found in the history books. These, however, are the three clearly distinguished groups of books found in the writings of the Old Covenant.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS CONCERNING THIS COURSE:

1. If you have a question, ask it!
2. If you want to learn the Bible, do not use commentaries.⁴
3. Please be on time. If you must be late, please enter the room as quietly as possible.
4. For the time being, there will be no discussion of New Testament ideas in this class. We will be concentrating solely on learning the material found in the Old Covenant.
5. In this century, a view of the Old Testament has developed in our culture which often depreciates the value of Old Testament study. In my experiences, the only ones who have felt that way are those who do not know the Old Testament. For the sake of argument, then, and by the way of introduction to this course, I invite your attention to some of the words of Jesus in the gospel of John 5:46-47. (You may also note Paul's words in Rom.15:4 and 1Cor.10:11.)

³ See addendum "C"

⁴ See addendum "D"