



Nazarene Theological Seminary

1700 E Meyer Blvd • Kansas City, MO 64131 • 816/268-5400

BIB750 — New Testament Theology Module
Summer 2011 – Module 2
5:30-9:45 p.m. June 6-16, 2011

Essential Information

Please refer to the following resources for information essential for the successful completion of courses and degree programs at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Links to these resources are available in the Essential Information section at <http://support.nts.edu>.

- NTS Mission Statement & Purpose and Degree Objectives
- Tips for online learning success
- NTS library services
- NTS textbook information
- Online technical requirements and Moodle support information
- NTS Student Handbook including statements on quality of work, plagiarism, and academic probation
- *Handbook for Inclusive Language*

Instructor Information

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Office Hours: By appointment

Catalog Description

A study of the faith affirmations of the New Testament, with special reference to the redeeming grace of God, the person and work of Christ, the new life in Christ, full salvation, the nature of the Church, and the Christian hope.

Course Narrative & Rationale

Course Vision - If God were to really bless this course, students would become forever enamored with a joyful conviction that the New Testament speaks with profoundly theological voices to the meaning of the kingdom of God, the transforming power of the gospel, and the formative power of ecclesiology. They would live in confidence that these theological voices and themes speak to the church today and that they (the students) are able to discern those theological voices and themes. This confidence would unleash a generation of preachers, teachers, and writers profoundly convinced that God has spoken a saving word to the world through Jesus Christ and that that word can be heard through the New Testament. Should this vision for students begin to happen the church would be shaped by biblical truth toward conformity with the will of God with a depth, power, and directness never before experienced.

The world would discover fundamental differences of values and assumptions of reality between itself and the followers of Christ. The biblical vision of evangelism and discipleship would be fulfilled. May God rekindle and increase the vision of hearing him speak to us through his word!

Course Rationale – New Testament Theology can fulfill a requirement in either New Testament coursework or Biblical area electives in the MDiv degree program. It fulfills a Bible Domain requirement in the MACE and a Biblical Theology requirement in the MATS Research Track, Biblical Studies program. It also fulfills elective requirements in Bible and/or New Testament in the various MATS programs.

Degree Objectives

This course addresses the following NTS Degree Program Objectives:

- MDiv Objective 2, “The articulation of the knowledge of God through prayerful, scholarly study and a deepening understanding of the Christian Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.”
- MACE Objective 1, “Appropriate and enhance the student’s ecclesial understanding of the Word of God, the heritage of the faith, the doctrines of the church, and the fellowship of believers, sufficient to enable him or her to deepen a personal commitment to God and the Church and to inform a passionate, vital, and redemptive ministry.
- MAICS Objective 4, “Graduates will articulate, communicate, and contextualize the essential affirmations of the Christian faith in a cross-cultural setting.
- MA(TS) General Academic Track Objective 1, “Students will develop a comprehensive knowledge of the major theological disciplines and their interrelationships.

Course Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course the student should be able to:

- (1) Describe the historical development of biblical and New Testament Theology,
- (2) Articulate the major issues that presently confront New Testament Theology,
- (3) Distinguish between futuristic, realized, and inaugurated eschatology as they pertain to the interpretation of the New Testament messages,
- (4) Describe the way in which the kingdom is already and is not yet,
- (5) Summarize Jesus’ teaching on the Kingdom of God,
- (6) Summarize Jesus’ message of salvation,
- (7) Articulate the biblical theological significance of the birth, baptism, death, and resurrection of Jesus,
- (8) Summarize the major theological emphases in Paul’s writings,
- (9) Compare and contrast the major Pauline metaphors for salvation (reconciliation, redemption, justification, propitiation/expiation, adoption, and transformation,
- (10) Articulate the content and significance of the primary Christological titles used by Paul,
- (11) Articulate the content and significance of the Pauline teaching on the church,
- (12) Summarize the content and significance of the major themes of Johannine theology,
- (13) Summarize the content and significance of the major themes of the theology of the book of Hebrews,
- (14) Summarize the content and significance of the major themes of the theology of 1 Peter,
- (15) Summarize the content and major themes of the theology of Revelation, and
- (16) Articulate a synthesis of the primary New Testament witnesses to the meaning of Christ

and the gospel.

Church of the Nazarene COSAC Competencies

CN 11 Ability to identify the significant elements of the message of Jesus and Paul

CN 14 Ability to identify and describe the major theological concepts of the New Testament

Required Texts & Course Materials

The Bible. It is important that if you do not read the Hebrew and Greek texts, that in all Bible classes at NTS you use an 'essentially literal' translation of the Bible such as the NRSV, the NASB (or NASB95), the ESV, or the RSV, and not a 'dynamic equivalence' translation such as the NIV, TNIV, NLT, etc. If possible you should also have an 'essentially literal' translation of the Apocrypha such as can be found in certain editions of the NRSV or the RSV.

Brower, Kent and Johnson, Andy, eds. *Holiness and Ecclesiology in the New Testament.* Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2007. ISBN 978-0-8028-4560-3

Matera, Frank J. *New Testament Theology: Exploring Diversity and Unity.* Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2007. ISBN 978-0-664-23044-9

Neufeld, Thomas R. Yoder. *Recovering Jesus: The Witness of the New Testament.* Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2007. ISBN 978-1-58743-202-6

Via, Dan O. *What Is New Testament Theology?* Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2002. ISBN 978-0-8006-3263-2

Wright, N.T. *Paul: In Fresh Perspective.* Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2005. ISBN 978-0-8006-3766-8

Course Outline

Prolegomena

- I. The Academic Discipline of New Testament Theology
 - A. The History of New Testament Theology
 - B. Current Issues in New Testament Theology
- II. The Theology of Jesus and the Gospels
 - A. Jesus' Teaching on the Kingdom of God
 - B. Jesus and the Message of Salvation
 - C. The Christology of Jesus
 - D. The Theological Significance of Jesus' Life
 - E. The Theology of Mark
 - F. The Theology of Matthew
 - G. The Theology of Luke-Acts
- III. The Theology of the Apostles
 - A. The Theology of Paul
 - B. The Theology of John
 - C. The Theology of Hebrews
 - D. The Theology of 1 Peter

Synthesis

Module Schedule

Day/Date	5:30-6:30	6:30-7:30	7:45-8:45	8:45-9:45
Mon.6-6	Syllabus & Bibliography	History of NT Theology	History of NT Theology	Current Issues in NT Theology
Tues 6-7	Jesus and the Kingdom	Jesus and the Kingdom	Jesus and the Kingdom	Jesus and the Message of Salvation
Weds. 6-8	Jesus and the Message of Salvation	Jesus and the Message of Salvation	The Christology of Jesus	The Theological Significance of Jesus' Life
Thurs 6-9	The Theology of Mark	The Theology of Luke	The Theology of Matthew	The Theology of Acts
Fri. 6-10	Pauline Theology	Pauline Theology	Pauline Theology	Pauline Theology
Mon 6-13	Pauline Theology	Pauline Theology	Pauline Theology	Pauline Theology
Tues 6-14	Pauline Theology	Pauline Theology	Pauline Theology	
Weds 6-15	Johannine Theology	Johannine Theology	Johannine Theology	Johannine Theology
Thurs 6-16	Theology of Hebrews	Theology of 1 Peter	Theology of the Apocalypse	Synthesis

Course Assignments & Requirements

Pre-Module Assignments

1. Reading the New Testament – You should read as much of the New Testament as often and as many times as you can from the time you first look at this syllabus through the end of your work for this class. There will not be a formal accountability structure for this reading, but it will enhance everything else you do for this course.
2. Textbook Reading and Responses - You should read the introduction of Matera's book (pp. xix-xxxi) and the text by Via during the period from April 25-May 17. On May 20, you should submit a list of questions that have arisen for you from those readings to the Introduction to the Discipline Forum on Moodle. You may read each other's questions and suggest responses to each other in the following week.
3. You should read *Holiness & Eschatology* between May 21 and May 31. An essay of approximately a 1000 words summarizing, evaluating, and responding to the material in that book will be due to be posted to Moodle by June 1.
4. You should read Neufeld's *Recovering Jesus* between June 1 and June 12.

Module Assignments

5. You should read Matera, pages 1-97, by June 12 and write a 1500 word essay comparing and contrasting the material from those pages and the material from Neufeld's book *Recovering Jesus* with the lecture material from June 7-9. This essay will be due on June 13.
6. You should read Matera, pp. 333-356, 372-383, and 400-422, by June 14. Write two discussion questions each for the theology of Hebrews, of 1 Peter, and of Revelation, for

use in the discussion on June 16. These questions should be posted to Moodle by June 15.

Post-Module Assignments

7. You should read Matera, pp. 99-258, and the book by Wright and write a 1500 word essay comparing and contrasting the treatments of Pauline theology by Matera, Wright, and the class lectures from June 10-14. This essay will be due June 20.

8. Theological Essays - A biblical theological essay will be due on June 27 and another due on July 22. Each essay should be 1500-2000 words (typed, double-spaced) in length. They should demonstrate that you have researched the New Testament as the primary source. They should represent your conclusions on the subject. In order for this to be true you must "get inside" the subject and understand the issues before you begin to write. Appropriate use of secondary sources will be necessary for this to occur. The essays do not need to be heavily footnoted, but you should show your interaction with and use of secondary sources. At least one scholarly journal article must be appropriately used as a reference to receive a B grade and at least two scholarly journal articles must be appropriately used to receive an A grade on each essay. You may choose any two of the following subjects on which to write and they may be done in any order. The accompanying questions may help you "get inside" the subject. You don't have to "answer" each of them in the paper.

The Atonement of Christ

What is the nature and meaning of Christ's death? What terminology is used in the New Testament to express the cause and purpose of the cross? Are there objective and subjective phases to the work of Christ? What benefits come to believers from the death of Christ?

The Resurrection of Christ

What is the place of the resurrection in the thinking of the various witnesses of the New Testament? What theological and life results do the New Testament writers attribute to the resurrection? How is the resurrection attested in the New Testament? How is the resurrection connected to other theological affirmations?

The Person of Christ

How does the New Testament describe Christ? What titles are used and what is their significance for understanding the meaning of Christ? What significant differences in the view of the person Christ are found in the differing witnesses of the New Testament? How is the person of Christ related to the work of Christ?

The Extent of Salvation

How does the New Testament view salvation? When does it begin, how does it happen and when is it complete? What is the nature of sin and to what degree is the sin problem "solved?" How is it solved? How do different New Testament authors deal with this issue in different ways?

The Nature of the Church

What are the various ways the New Testament describes the church? What role does the church play in the lives of individual believers? Is there

chronological development in the concept of the church through the period of the New Testament? If not, how do you account for the different views given by different New Testament authors?

The Nature of Ministry

How does the New Testament describe Christian ministry? How are the roles of the laity and the clergy distinguished in the New Testament? What theological foundations undergird the New Testament concept of ministry? What does the New Testament vocabulary relating to ministry suggest for a contemporary theology of ministry?

The Nature and Use of Scripture

How does the New Testament use the Old Testament? What “view” of Scripture seems to be implicit in the New Testament? What does the concept of fulfillment mean for New Testament writers? Are there patterns to the roles Old Testament quotations, allusions, and illustrations play in their New Testament context?

These are to be essays in **New Testament Biblical Theology**, not Systematic Theology. General theological discussion of the subject will not receive a high grade. This must be a New Testament study and must include some analysis of the Old Testament influence on the New Testament treatment of the subject.

9. Textbook Reading and Response – Read Matera 259-332 and write an essay of approximately 800 words comparing and contrasting the treatment of Johannine theology in Matera with the treatment given in the class lectures of June 15. This essay will be due to be posted to Moodle by July 5.

10. Final Exam – On July 28 a synthetic final exam will be due. The exam will be open book and open Bible. You may use whatever resources you wish and spend as much time as you wish in preparing your answers. The exam questions will be made available on the course Moodle site beginning July 20. However, if you submit your Final Exam before finishing your other course assignments, there will be a 15% reduction in grade.

11. Course Evaluation – On July 31 the course evaluation will be due. The course evaluation will be available after July 28. Your individual evaluation will not be seen by the professor for it will be turned in electronically to the Office of the Administrative Assistant for Academic Programs. Failure to turn in the evaluation will mean forfeiting all 10% of the participation points for the course. If the evaluation is turned in before all other assignments are complete it will only receive 1% of the course grade points.

Distribution of Student Learning Hours

	pre-module hours	module hours	post-module hours
Face-to-face Class Sessions		36	
Online Participation in forums, groups, etc.	0		0
Reading	34	7	16

Writing	5	7	39
Other Assignments and Learning Activities	0	0	1
Exams & Quizzes	0	0	6
TOTAL	39	50	62

Method for Submitting Assignments

All assignments should be uploaded to the appropriate assignments spot in the Course Moodle site.

Form and Style Expectations

The two theological essays should be written in conformity with the form and style instructions of the most recent edition (7th) of Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. You may use either MLA or APA style for other assignments.

Inclusive Language

NTS is committed to the equality of women and men. Recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, NTS urges students, faculty, and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in classroom discussions, and in their writings. All written work presented to meet course requirements must use gender inclusive language.

Policy Regarding Late Work & Missed Exams

Assignments submitted late may be reduced in their grade by 10% per day late.

Additional Costs

There are no additional costs for this course beyond tuition, textbooks, and the cost of attending class.

Course Grading

The final grade will be calculated on the basis of the following weighting of assignments:

Via & Matera Intro Questions	5%
<i>Holiness & Eschatology</i> Response Essay	9%
Matera, Neufeld, Lecture Comparison Essay	11%
Hebrews, 1 Peter, Revelation Questions	5%
Matera, Wright, lecture Comparison Essay	11%
Theological Essay #1	15%
Matera, lecture Comparison Essay on John	7%
Theological Essay # 2	15%
Final Exam	12%
Participation	10%

Late work may be penalized at 10% of the grade for that assignment per day late.

In accordance with the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, NTS is committed to providing students with disabilities the opportunity to participate and benefit from its programs

and activities. Accordingly NTS will make reasonable modifications to its programs and activities to accommodate otherwise qualified students with disabilities, unless such modifications would impose an undue burden on the operation of the particular program or activity or would fundamentally alter the nature or purpose of the program or activity. Students needing accommodations should contact the Office of the Registrar. They also should contact the instructor no later than the end of the first class session to discuss learning needs and adaptive strategies that have been beneficial for the student in the past.

Class Attendance

Attendance at classes is essential for realizing the maximum benefit of your education. By policy of the NTS *Student Handbook*, “If a student is absent four or more weeks of the semester or 2 ½ or more days in a summer session, the professor may automatically fail the student.” Consistent attendance will be rewarded in the course grade (though failure to participate and give evidence of textbook reading will lower that score).

If you must be absent because of extenuating circumstances, contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss the situation. If are hoping to receive V.A. and Department of Education benefits, you must notify the professor of your need to have your daily attendance report submitted to the Dean’s Office.

Course Calendar

Date	Week	Assignment	Learning Hours
April 25- May 1	1 Pre-Module Begins		
May 2-8	2	Reading Matera , pp xix-xxxi	1 hr reading
May 9- 15	3	Reading the book by Via	5 hrs reading
May 16- 22	4	Questions from Via and Matera due 5-20	1 hr
May 23- 29	5	Reading <i>Holiness & Eschatology</i>	15 hrs
May 30- June 5	6	Reading <i>Holiness & Eschatology</i> and preparing a response essay <i>Holiness & Eschatology</i> Response due 6-2 Reading Neufeld, <i>Recovering Jesus</i>	4 hrs for essay 13 hrs reading
June 6- 12	7 Module Face to Face Begins	Reading Matera, pp. 1-97	4 hrs reading 20 hrs contact time
June 13- 19	8	Essay on Matera, Neufeld, and Lecture re Jesus – 6-13 Read Matera, pp 333-356, 372-383, and 400-422. Discussion questions on Hebrews, 1 Peter, Revelation due 6-15	6 hrs for essay 16 hrs contact time 3 hrs reading 1 hrs questions
June 20- 26	9 Post-Module Begins	Read Matera, pp 99-258 and the book by Wright Essay on Matera and Wright and lecture due 6-20	13 hrs reading 6 hrs essay

June 27- July 3	10	Reading and Research Week	
July 4- 10	11	Theological Essay #1 due 7-1	15 hrs essay
July 11- 17	12	Read Matera, pp, 259-332 Essay on Matera 259-332 (John) due 7-5	3 hrs reading 3 hrs essay
July 18- 24	13	Theological Essay # 2 – July 22	15 hrs essay
July 25- 31	14	Final Exam – July 28 Course Evaluation – July 31	6 hrs Exam 1 hr evaluation

Bibliography

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