

CARIBBEAN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Educating and training ministerial leadership



BIB312 Major Prophets

Mission Statement

CST is committed to connect, serve, and train for Pentecostal ministry, leadership, and missions throughout the world.

Professor

Course Description

This course introduces Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel, who are called the “major prophets” simply because their writings are longer than those of other Old Testament prophets. Because it is impossible to consider each of the 166 chapters of their books in detail, we will study only selected passages, doctrines, and events. These prophets were men with a message from God. We will look at these men themselves, their call to God’s service, the task God assigned to them, and the problems and difficulties they faced. Then we will consider the message God gave them to preach: the truth about God, about judgment, and about salvation. We trust that this course will not be just a matter of studying three books from the Old Testament, but that it will have an important application in your own life and ministry as well.

Resources

You will use Themes from the Major Prophets, an Independent-Study Textbook by David Petts as both the textbook and study guide for the course. The Holy Bible is also required. Quotations found in the text are taken from the New International Version of the Bible (NIV). Some assignments require you to access the Global University Library Web site or other academic sources. Instructions for accessing the Library Web site are provided in the Undergraduate Writing Assignment Guidelines (UWAG) in the Student Packet. If you are enrolled in this course for three credits, the third credit will be earned by completing a collateral reading assignment (CRA). This assignment is based on the textbook *The Prophets as Preachers: An Introduction to the*

Objectives

The key concepts presented in the lesson are derived from the objectives. Study each objective carefully as you begin each lesson. First, identify the key concepts presented in the objective, and second, identify what each objective is asking you to do with the key concepts. For example, in the objective, Assess the positive and negative ways that colonialism affected the spread of Christianity, the key concept is colonialism affected Christianity. In this objective you are asked to assess positive and negative ways—or show the good and bad effects colonialism had on the spread of Christianity.

Course Procedures

Classroom lectures, group discussion, audio-visual presentations, handouts, and case studies constitute some of the various methods that will be utilized in order to attain the course objectives.

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Course Introduction

The major prophets—Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel—spoke God’s message to His people many years ago; yet their message is just as important for us today. The Bible says that God never changes. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Therefore, His Word, the words spoken by the prophets, is for all generations.

From a study of the major prophets, we come to know who these men were and why God called them to be His messengers. The more familiar we become with their call to serve God, the easier it is not only to recognize God’s call on our lives, but also to respond to it. God calls every Christian to be His messenger. The solemn task of the prophets to deliver God’s message is our task as well.

God’s message is for His people and also for those who are not His people. His purpose is that all should hear the gospel of salvation and become His children. Thus the message describes who God is and the relationship He desires to have with us. The message clearly states that judgment comes to all those who rebel against God and are determined to go their own way. More importantly, the message tells of Christ’s sacrifice for our sins to provide salvation for everyone who will accept Him as his or her personal Savior.

The message of the prophets has been fulfilled in the New Testament or is yet to be fulfilled when Christ returns. It describes the glorious kingdom of God that we have entered into in part but will experience fully in heaven.

Their message is for us, the church. If we are to fulfill our task as messengers, we must know this message. May this study challenge and excite you as you carry out the call of God on your life as a messenger of the gospel.