

CARIBBEAN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Educating and training ministerial leadership



LIT122 New Testament Literature

Mission Statement

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

Professor

Course Description

This course seeks to introduce a panoramic view of the New Testament by presenting the following:

1. The chronological sequence of the writing of its books and its events.
2. Its significant geographical information.
3. Its principal characters.
4. An outline and a synopsis of the content of its books.
5. Its outstanding doctrines, passages, terms, and events.

An effort is made to integrate the messages of the various New Testament books, doctrines, and personalities. This is accomplished by analyzing their individual contributions to the corporate message. This integration is made in the context of basic introductory information about authorship (including biographical data), dates written, purpose, literary style, recipients (including cultural, historical, political, and religious background), and location of each writing.

Resources

You will use *New Testament Literature, a Study Guide* by Jesse K. Moon, with the textbook it was written to accompany: *New Testament Survey, revised*, by Merrill C. Tenney. The Holy Bible is the only other requirement. Bible quotations in this Study Guide are from the King James (Authorized) Version (KJV) unless otherwise noted. Some assignments require you to access the Global University Library website or other academic sources. Instructions for accessing the Library website are provided in the Undergraduate Writing Assignment Guidelines (UWAG) in the Student Packet.

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

Throughout history, humankind has pondered the mysteries of God. Where does He dwell? What is He like? What is His relationship to humankind? In the Old Testament, His presence was manifested by a pillar of fire, or by a cloud. But He remained a mystery.

The New Testament is God's revelation of Himself to humankind through His Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus Himself said, "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30). "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9). Jesus' earthly ministry was a continual revelation of the love and compassion of the Father. He implanted the truths of God's love and holiness in the hearts of His disciples. His entire ministry was one of giving. The Father gave the Son. The Son gave Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of the world, thus making possible again the fellowship between the Father and all humanity.

When Jesus had completed His earthly ministry, He passed it on to His disciples. He told them, "As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you" (John 20:21). It was His disciples who recorded the events of Jesus' life in the Gospels. All of the writers of the New Testament, except the apostle Paul and Luke, lived and walked with Jesus. But Paul also had a personal encounter with Jesus, and it transformed his life. No longer was he a persecutor of Christians, because He had seen the Son. From that moment his life was dedicated to manifesting Jesus Christ to a lost and dying world. God chose this zealous, educated, self-giving Jew to take the gospel to the Gentile world. It was Paul who gave us the fullest exposition of Christian doctrine and instruction in his Epistles to new converts in the early church.

The New Testament begins with the revelation of Christ, the Son of God, who became man. His earthly kingdom was not lofty or glorious in humanity's eyes. His crown was a crown of thorns. He had no palace or other possessions. But the final book of the New Testament gives us a new revelation of Christ— high and lifted up, seated at the right hand of the Father in honor and glory. In His earthly kingdom people mocked Him, spat on Him, placed a crown of thorns upon His head, and crucified Him. But in His heavenly kingdom, we shall gather around His throne and sing with all the saints of all the ages, "Worthy is the lamb that was slain!" That will be the complete revelation of God to man.

In this survey of the New Testament, may you catch a greater vision of what the Father is like, as seen through His Son, so that you may be more like Him— and as did the apostle Paul, you can manifest Him to a lost and dying world.