

CARIBBEAN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Educating and training ministerial leadership



THE433 Old Testament Biblical Theology

Mission Statement

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

Professor

Course Description

Old Testament Biblical Theology takes each of the main doctrines of the Bible and traces its development book by book in the Old Testament. It deals with what the Old Testament teaches about God, creation, man, sin, the Messiah, revelation, inspiration, angels, Satan, the various testaments and covenants, judgment, and life after death. It thus provides a wealth of material for preaching or teaching from the Old Testament. Its purpose is to bring the student into a more complete knowledge of the fundamental doctrines of God, creation, man, sin, revelation, inspiration, and the testament, or covenant, which is the basis upon which the others are built.

Resources

You will use Old Testament Biblical Theology by John Phillipps with the textbook it was written to accompany: The Theology of the Older Testament by J. Barton Payne. The Holy Bible is also required. Bible quotations in this Study Guide are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. Some assignments require you to access the Global University Library Web site. Instructions for accessing the Library site 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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Introduction

Old Testament Biblical Theology I once viewed the Old Testament as a kind of preface to the New Testament, an instrument to be used prophetically, or examined dispensationally. Abraham was an important dispensational figure, but disappeared into history except for an occasional entrance and exit through passages in New Testament books. Now, after many years of involvement with the Old Testament, Abraham is my father, brother, neighbor, or like any man who lived or lives.

The events of Israel's history are like items from the daily newspaper. They are real, not only possible, but real. This does not mean that I am aware of the past at the risk of losing the present. On the contrary, the present is even more vital because it is the result of a more vital past.

The last fifty years has seen awakened interest in a biblical theology of the Old Testament. The extremes of historical criticism during the preceding decades had dulled the luster of such activity. The quest for the meaning of history led scholars into a reevaluation of the Old Testament. Walther Eichrodt and others began to write works that sought for historical meaning by examining the Word of God spoken in the events of the Old Testament. Dr. J. Barton Payne's work, our textbook, *The Theology of the Older Testament*, is a truly substantial project accomplished by a conservative theologian. Edward J. Young and John Murray are also contributors of note in the Old Testament field.

The doctrines of God, and of the world, are solidly based in Old Testament texts. Without the ideas presented in these primeval situations, we would be impoverished concerning the fundamental revelation of God and the basics of human nature. Without the words "In the beginning God created," we would be left devoid of relationship and purpose for the world and our own existence. "Male and female created he them" gives understanding in the most unsophisticated way of the family and love and procreation.

The Old Testament is the inspired record of the life and work of men and women who lived, breathed, felt joy or pain even as we do—and God was with them!