

BT704 EXEGESIS IN THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT

Course: BT704 Exegesis in the Greek New Testament
Credit: 3 Semester Hours
Semester: Spring 2023 Class Cycle 6
Time: 6:00–9:00 p.m. (Central time) Thursdays from May 8 through June 30
Place: Online
Professor: Dr. Monte Shanks
Email: monte.shanks@calvary.edu

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

This course will focus on advanced use of the tools and techniques of New Testament Exegesis. The exegetical process, including exegetical problem solving, is applied to specific passages within the narrative, epistolary, and prophetic genres of the New Testament with a view toward a consistent application of the literal grammatical-historical hermeneutic.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

General Competencies to Be Achieved

The student will:

1. Gain confidence and proficiency in exegetical work (PLO1)
2. Learn and use the exegetical process (PLO1)
3. Use Bible software in exegesis (PLO1)
4. Gain confidence and ability in using Greek in exegesis (PLO1)
5. Employ a literal historical-grammatical hermeneutic in exegesis of the text (PLO1)
6. Begin to see the relationship of exegesis to theological disciplines (PLO2,4, 5)

Specific Competencies to Be Achieved

The student will:

1. Properly define exegesis and express why it is important (PLO1)
2. Become skilled in establishing the text (Textual Criticism) (PLO1)
3. Further develop grammatical and syntactical skills (PLO1)
4. Learn the process for in depth lexical studies (PLO1)
5. Become competent in translating the Greek New Testament (A1)
6. Do exegetical work in various kinds of New Testament literature (PLO1,2)
7. Become familiar with various scholarly reference works for doing exegesis (PLO3, 4,5)
8. Do research and writing at a scholarly level (PLO1,2,3,4,5)

TEXTBOOK: THE BIBLE

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

Other Required Textbooks: All prices are from Amazon and current as of October 5, 2021

Bock, Darrell L. and Buist M. Fanning, eds. *Interpreting the New Testament Text: Introduction to the Art and Science of Exegesis*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2006 (Redesign 2020). ISBN: 978-1433570797. Cost: \$32.54 (paperback). If you have the 2006 edition that is acceptable).

Carson, D. A. *Exegetical Fallacies*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1996. ISBN: 978-0801020865. Cost: \$13.79.

Comfort, Philip W. *New Testament Text and Translation Commentary*. Tyndale House, 2008. ISBN: 9781414310343. Cost: \$63.50.

Decker, Rodney. *Mark 1-8: A Handbook on the Greek Text*. Baylor Handbook on the Greek New Testament. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2014. ISBN: 978-1481302388. Cost: \$34.95.

Fanning, Buist M. *Revelation*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2020. ISBN: 9780310244172. Cost: \$ 37.50.

France, R.T. *The Gospel of Mark*. New International Greek Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2014. ISBN: 978-0802824462. Cost: \$69.95.

Hellerman, Joseph H. *Philippians: Exegetical Guide to the Greek New Testament*. Andreas J. Köstenberger, and Robert W. Yarbrough, eds. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2015. ISBN: 9781433676864. Cost: \$25.02.

Köstenberger, Andreas J., Benjamin L. Merkle, and Robert L. Plummer. *Going Deeper with New Testament Greek*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2016, revised 2020. ISBN: 978-1535983204. Cost: \$23.99.

Trobisch, David. *A Users Guide to the Nestle-Aland 28 Greek New Testament*. Society of Biblical Literature, 2013. ISBN: 9781589839342. Cost: \$15.00.

United Bible Society Greek New Testament. 5th Revised Edition. German Bible Society, 2014. ISBN: 9783438051165. Cost: \$42.91.

Wallace, Daniel B. *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997.
ISBN: 9780310218951. Cost \$39.24.

Other Recommended Texts:

Fabricatore, Daniel. *Form of God, Form of a Servant: An Examination of the Greek Noun μορφή in Philippians 2:6-7*. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 2009. ISBN: 9780761848288
Cost: \$43.52 (paperback). The hardback edition was printed in 2010 and is \$69.82 with ISBN: 978-0761848271. [**This is not a required textbook** but if you do any work in Philippians 2:6-7 for this course, you may want to consult it!]

COURSE OUTLINE

NOTE (very, very important):

The following weekly assignments are due *before* each class. Our course ends Thursday May 30. This means that the first meeting on May 12 assumes a week of work. It is necessary that work be done leading up to the first meeting on Thursday, May 12.

A three-credit course should meet 50 minutes three times a week for 12 weeks. That is 1,800 minutes or a total of 30 hours a class time. That translates into 3 hours and 45 minutes a week for an 8-week course. We will only meet 3 hours a week so look at the 45 minutes you will not be in class as a gift for working on your assignments.

Also, graduate work assumes at least 2 hours of work per week for every credit hour or six hours of work outside of class. PhD work is even higher. You can assume to work on this course an average of 8 hours a week outside of class, at a minimum. I will work you hard, but I pledge that the work will be beneficial. If you work hard at this course, you will do very well. We are all in this together.

NOTE: (just important)

The key to doing well in this course is very simple: work ahead. I would start reading books and articles ahead of time and just make little notes that can serve as the basis for your reviews. Work smart. Also, please, start thinking now about your dissertation and how you might work this course and research paper into your dissertation.

Also, I am very aware that in many cases papers are due the same day as when we will discuss it in class. This is typical of PhD work. You read, then write, then we discuss, and then you *may* revise 😊. I just ask that you trust me and my madness. And yes, I agree with you. I have assigned a lot of work.

Remember, work is due *before* the first class meets. Each class period will consist of some lectures and much discussion. Come prepared to discuss in class what you've read and written.

WEEK 1**6:00-7:30 Introduction to the course, exegesis.**

Opening Questions: Definition and Philosophy of Exegesis

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 9-32.

Summary of textbook chapter 1: Based on the reading in *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, write a 200-word paper defining exegesis and the process for doing exegesis. **Use this as an opportunity to write a summary of your own philosophy of exegesis.**

Read: Rodney Decker, “How Do We Use the Biblical Languages.”

7:30-9:00 pm Establishing the Text

Laying a Foundation: New Testament Textual Criticism

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 33-56.

Summary of textbook chapter 2: Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

Watch: “The Basics of New Testament Textual Criticism” @

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Doi8JxJOtgE> [This is 2 hours and 17 minutes long]

Come to class with 5 positive observations you made from the video and any questions about Wallace’s method of textual criticism.

Read: Daniel B. Wallace, “Challenges in New Testament Textual Criticism for the Twenty-First Century,” *Jets* 52/1 (March 2009): 79-100. Available here @ <https://www.etsjets.org/files/JETS-PDFs/52/52-1/JETS%2052-1%2079-100%20Wallace.pdf>

WEEK 2**6:00-7:30 Establishing the Text**

Laying a Foundation: New Testament Textual Criticism (Continued)

Paper #1: Textual Criticism (and discussion)

7:30-9:00 pm Analyzing the Text

Grammatical Analysis: Making Connections

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 57-72

Summary of textbook chapter 3: Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

Sentence Diagramming and Exegetical Outlining

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 73-134

Summary of textbook chapter 4: Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

Next week is a heavy workload so begin now!!!!

WEEK 3

6:00-7:30 Analyzing the Text

Lexical Analysis: Studies in Words

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 135-153

Summary of textbook chapter 5: Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

Read: Carson, *Exegetical Fallacies*

Book review: 500-word review

Read: Comfort, *New Testament Text and Translation Commentary*, ix-xli.

Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

Watch: Con Campbell, "Tense and Aspect," @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qKxigbiuki0>

Read: Decker, "As the Verb Turns."

Read: Andreas J. Köstenberger, *et al. Going Deeper with New Testament Greek*, 229-254.

Paper #2 Write a 500-word paper summarizing of the meaning and significance of verbal aspect on the exegetical process (based on Campbell video and Decker and Köstenberger readings)

(Week 3 continues next page)

7:30-9:00 pm Analyzing the Text

Lexical Analysis: Studies in Words (Continued)

Paper #3: Discourse analysis of Mark

Paper #4: Lexical Paper due and discussion

Excursus: Verbal Aspect (lectures if time)

WEEK 4

6:00-7:30 Interpreting the Text

Validation: Exegetical Problem Solving

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 155-166

Summary of textbook chapter 6: Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

Introduction of exegetical handbooks.

7:30-9:00 pm Interpreting the Text

Background Studies: Grounding the Text in Reality

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 167-196.

Summary of textbook chapter 7: Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

Next week is another heavy week!!

WEEK 5

6:00-7:30 Interpreting the Text

Narrative Genre: Studying the Story

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 197-219.

Summary of textbook chapter 8: Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

Paper #5: Short Exegetical Paper on Mark due.

Epistolary Genre: Reading Ancient Letter

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 221-239.

Summary of textbook chapter 9: Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

Paper #6: Short Exegetical Paper on Philippians due.

7:30-9:00 pm Interpreting the Text

Apocalyptic Genre: Visions and Symbols

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 241-254.

Summary of textbook chapter 10: Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

Paper #7: Short Exegetical Paper on Revelation due.

WEEK 6

6:00-7:30 Interpreting the Text

Scripture Citing Scripture: Use of the Old Testament in the New

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 255-276.

Summary of textbook chapter 11: Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

7:30-9:00 pm Analyzing the Text

Use of the Old Testament in the New Testament (Continued)

Paper #8: Paper on “Use of the OT in the New” due and discussion.

WEEK 7

6:00-7:30 Interpreting the Text

Theological Analysis: Building Biblical Theology

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 277-291.

Summary of textbook chapter 12: Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

7:30-9:00 pm Interpreting the Text

Showing the Relevance: Application, Ethics, and Preaching

Read: *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 293-310.

Summary of textbook chapter 13: Write a 200-word summary of this reading.

WEEK 8

6:00-7:30 Interpreting the Text

Paper #9: Exegetical papers and class presentations due

7:30-9:00 pm Interpreting the Text

Paper #9: Exegetical papers and class presentations due

Assignment details for papers

Note: The bulk of your responsibilities in this course will be writing papers that have a direct impact on the exegetical process. My goal is not to give you busy work but work that will benefit you in this process. However, be advised. The total amount of words you will write in this course is at least 24,000 or about 3,000 words a week. Also, we will periodically discuss your papers in class.

Paper #1: Textual Criticism

Write a paper evaluating two textual problems. Options are:

(1) the long reading in Mark 16:9-20;

(2) Philippians 2:11 (ἐξομολογήσεται versus ἐξομολογήσεται); and

(3) Revelation 1:5 (λύσαντι ἡμᾶς ἐκ versus λύσαντι ἐκ versus λύσαντι ἡμᾶς ἀπό versus λούσαντι ἡμᾶς ἀπό).

One of the textual issues you choose may be related to your dissertation. Just check with me.

This paper should be 1,000-1,500 words. It should reflect the procedure for doing textual criticism in Wallace's chapter, "Laying a Foundation: New Testament Textual Criticism," in *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 33-56. Also interact with Comfort's book, *New Testament Text and Translation Commentary* as well as any commentaries that deal with the specific passage.

Note: While arriving at the correct reading is important, so too is using the correct procedures in examining the textual data. We can't let theological expediency be what governs this process.

Paper #2: Verbal Aspect

Write a 500-word paper summarizing of the meaning and significance of verbal aspect on the exegetical process (based on Campbell video and Decker and Köstenberger readings)

Paper #3: Discourse Analysis in light of Verbal Aspect

Write a paper tracing discourse analysis in Mark 2:1-12 in light of verbal aspect. In this paper, begin by placing the Greek text in the left column and your own English translation in the right column. Then through color coding, note the background, foreground, and frontground tense forms. Then, using the passage as a basis for a sermon, write out an exegetical outline along with a main idea based on the results of the discourse analysis.

This paper need only be a couple pages, but I want you to translate 2:1-12 and carefully consider how Mark constructs the passage as well as his emphasis in doing so.

Paper #4: Lexical Paper

Write a lexical paper on a significant Greek word in either Mark, Philippians, or Revelation based on the procedure presented in Bock's chapter, "Lexical Analysis," in *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 135-166. Be sure to also consult Carson's *Exegetical Fallacies* as well as class notes and lectures. This paper should be about 2,000 words in length.

I suggest that the word you examine comes from one of the three short exegetical papers below. This will be a more robust paper than the treatment of the lexical issue in the short exegetical papers. This is how research is done. For instance, when someone writes a commentary, they will treat a significant word in their work with a summary, but behind that summary is an extensive examination of the word. In this paper you will need to argue why the word merits an examination in light of the passage exegetically. In other words, why is the meaning of this word passage important to the overall meaning of the passage? In this paper, you will need to:

- Summarize your approach to lexical studies (synchronic versus diachronic).
- Locate all the uses of the term in various time frames.
- Examine the uses and classify the various ways it is used by the author and how other authors use the term in the same time frame.
- Determine how the author is using the term in the passage and its meaning in that particular use.

Paper #5, #6, and #7: Short exegetical papers

Write three short exegetical papers. These papers should include a translation, interaction with significant grammatical and syntactical issues along with an exegetical outline of the passage which is supported by the exegetical commentary that follows. Each short paper should be 2,000 words. The passages to be examined are Mark 3:20-30, Philippians 2:5-11, and Revelation 1:8-20.

Paper #8: Use of OT in the New

Write a paper on the Use of the Old Testament in the New according to Bock's chapter, "Scripture Citing Scripture: Use of the Old Testament in the New," in *Interpreting the New Testament Text*, 255-276. This paper will be about 3,000 words. Choose from Mark 7:6-13 or Revelation 2:26-29. In this paper, you will need to:

- Locate the Old Testament passage in its context and summarize its exegetical message.
- Translate the New Testament passage and locate it in its larger context.
- Interpret the New Testament passage and determine how the New Testament writer is using the Old Testament passage. What kind of use or fulfillment is it?

Note: If your dissertation has a significant use of an Old Testament passage in the New Testament, you can choose this option but let me know first.

Paper #9: Major exegetical paper

Write an exegetical paper (7,500-9,000 words which includes footnotes) on a pericope in the Greek text of Mark, Philippians, or Revelation (approved by me). This paper should include:

1. Your own translation of the passage that reflects your interaction with textual and syntactical issues
2. The locating of the passage in the overall argument of the book, taking into account any significant background and literary issues
3. The identifying of significant exegetical issues that call for resolution
4. The basis for decisions regarding these exegetical issues
5. An exegetical outline that reflects exegetical decisions made in the text. Since exegetical issues often involve decisions at the syntactical level, this outline should be multileveled.
6. An exposition of the text based on interpretive decisions
7. A detailed homiletical outline based on the exegetical outline and research. This should be the last step.

This should be sufficient to cover all the significant issues to be raised and handled. **The bulk of the paper will deal with steps 3-6.** The first 2 steps should be no more than 3 pages.

This is the culmination of all the work in the course, and it is expected to be well-written, well-researched, well-documented, well-argued, and demonstrate the highest quality of academic rigor.

NOTE: You may do this paper as part of your dissertation if your dissertation contains an exegetical component to the overall argument. This is something you will need to let me know early in the course.

FINAL GRADE

Reading/chapter summary (1-13) of <i>Interpreting the New Testament Text</i> [10 points/chapter]	130 points
Other Readings (Wallace (2), Decker (2), Köstenberger, Comfort) [10 points per reading]	60 points
Book review of Carson, <i>Exegetical Fallacies</i>	50 points
Book review of Comfort, <i>New Testament Text and Translation Commentary</i>	10 points
Book review of Köstenberger, <i>Going Deeper with New Testament Greek</i>	10 points
Watch Wallace and Campbell videos	25 points
Paper #1: Textual Criticism	50 points
Paper #2: Verbal Aspect	25 points
Paper #3: Discourse Analysis in light of Verbal Aspect	40 points
Paper #4: Lexical Paper	100 points
Paper #5: Mark	50 points
Paper #6: Philippians	50 points
Paper #7: Revelation	50 points
Paper #8: Use of OT in the New	50 points
Paper #9: Exegetical research paper and presentation	300 points
Total	1,000 points

GRADING SCALE

96–100	A
94–95	A-
92–93	B+
88–91	B
86–87	B-
0–85	F

NOTE: All adequately written work receives a B+ grade (this assumes good English and writing skills). Exceptional work (good English and writing skills) will receive a higher grade (A-, A). Less than adequate written work will receive a lower grade than B+.

ASSIGNMENT NOTICES

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

Plagiarism is defined as copying any information without proper citations, including taking another person's ideas and presenting them as your own. Assignments including plagiarized information will not be assigned any points and further disciplinary action is possible.

The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu), located in the library building, is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all Calvary University students.

All research papers must be submitted in Turabian style according to A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 8th edition.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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