

Introduction to the New Testament

Fall 2021

Archdiocese of Regina

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David has served as lead pastor at Northview Community Church, a member of the Free Methodist Church in Canada, since January of 2014. Married to his wife Sarah, they have three daughters: Cassidy (22), Aislinn (19), and Maeve (15). David earned a BRE with a Pastoral Focus (2008) at Tyndale University and an M.Div with a Pastoral Major and a double Minor in Biblical Studies and Biblical Languages (2012) at Tyndale Seminary. Currently he has finished his D.Min work at Northeastern Seminary, and is midway through his dissertation. David has a passion for Scripture, the local church, and mission.

Program Goal

This program seeks to prepare men for ordained ministry as deacons in the Catholic Church.

Course Goals

This course introduces the New Testament for academic and spiritual purposes. At the end of this course students should:

- Have a stronger grasp on the individual documents of the New Testament to use for preaching and theological reasoning
- Understand historical events from the first century and the ways the church responded to strengthen their own local church ministry
- Enjoy the New Testament as the word of God so that it feeds their souls and becomes foundational to their parish ministry

Course Outline

<p>Friday 7:00 – 9:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NT Canon & Text• NT Background	<p>Saturday 7:00 – 9:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prison Letters of Paul• Pastoral Letters of Paul
<p>Saturday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark• Matthew• Luke-Acts	<p>Sunday 9:00 – 10:30 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preaching Conversation
<p>Saturday 1:00 – 4:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• John• Early Letters of Paul• Major Letters of Paul	<p>Sunday 10:30 am – 12:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hebrews• Catholic Letters• Revelation

Text Book

Pate, C. Marvin, et al., *The Story of Israel: A Biblical Theology* (InterVarsity Press, 2004).

Students should read chapters 6–13 for this course.

New Testament Resources

Students are encouraged, as they are interested, to visit the “Christian Education” page on Northview Community Church’s website: www.northview.sk.ca. There, students will find summaries on some of the New Testament books. There is even a full course on the Book of Revelation from last year. We have also added a **page for this course which supplies a PDF copy of the PowerPoints** used for this course.

Assignment

This assignment is broken into three parts to reflect and help accomplish the stated goals for the course. Each part should be between 3–5 pages in length (double spaced, 12 point font, with standard margins). Students should draw on course material, the assigned text book, and their own resources to formulate answers. PLEASE NOTE: this is not a research paper!

Part 1: Outline 2 sermons. One from EITHER Mark OR Matthew OR Luke, and one from John. In point form (jot notes) describe how that portrait of Jesus and evangelist's concerns shapes your sermon and speaks to the life of your congregation. **Part 1 is due Monday, November 22, 2021.**

Part 2: Describe contemporary crisis(es) facing the church. Choose a New Testament document that addresses a crisis from the first century and summarize 1) what the crisis was, 2) how the church responded at the time, 3) how the author addressed the crisis and the church, and 4) how that can inform your own response as a leader in your church. In particular pay attention to the place of the cross of Christ in the controversy! **Part 2 is due Monday, December 13, 2021.**

Part 3: Many today are viewing the Bible as a collection of human documents. Summarize a doctrine of inspiration (written by God) and the process of canonization. How does this challenge the modern-day devaluation of the New Testament as the word of God? AND, having established this foundation, how do you propose to engage the NT for your own Christian spiritual formation and life of ministry? Pay particular attention to the Pastoral Letters. **Part 3 is due Monday, January 10, 2022.**

Bibliography

Bruce, F. F. *The New Testament Documents: Are They Reliable?*, 5th ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1960.

Ehrman, Bart D. *The New Testament: A Historical Introduction to the Early Christian Writings*, 5th ed. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2012.

Gundry, Robert H. *A Survey of the New Testament*, 5th ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2012.

Kelly, Joseph F. *An Introduction to the New Testament for Catholics*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2006.

Metzger, Bruce M. *The New Testament: Its Background, Growth, and Content*, 3rd ed. Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 2003.

Ralph, Margaret Nutting. *Scripture: Nourished by the Word*. Chicago, IL: Loyola Press, 2002.

Stott, John. *Basic Introduction to the New Testament*, rvs'd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2017.

Wright, N. T. *The New Testament and the People of God*. Minneapolis, Fortress Press.

IVP Dictionaries

Dictionary of New Testament Background

Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels, 2nd ed

Dictionary of Paul and His Letters

Dictionary of the Later New Testament & Its Developments