

# Northwestern Theological Seminary

## **Module Four**

### Introduction

The NTS Module Four is a collection of courses that requires the writing of research papers based on the outlines provided.

The outlines are provided as a guide for the student as to what would be expected to be included in the research papers that will need to be submitted.

Resources used in order to prepare these outlines include the following:

*Thiessen, H. C., Lectures in Systematic Theology, Michigan: 1979, William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company*

*Matthews, V. H., Manners and Customs in the Bible, Massachusetts: 1991, Hendrickson Publishers*

*Boettner, L., Studies in Theology, Michigan: 1978, Baker Book House*

Note: Students are encouraged to use these books as a means of obtaining a better understanding of some of the outlines. However, a large percentage of the student's grade on submitted papers will depend on their ability to use and list additional resources in their research.

Course Number	Course	Subject Class Course Outline
<b>Subject One</b>	<b>Introduction to the Bible I &amp; II</b> 101/102 Introduction to the Bible I BL101 BL102 BL103  Introduction to the Bible II BL104 BL105 BL106	<b>Subject Class:</b>  I. <b>BL101:</b> The Scriptures: The Embodiment of Divine Revelation II. <b>BL102:</b> The Genuineness, Credibility, and Canonicity of the Books of the Bible III. <b>BL103:</b> The Inspiration of the Scriptures IV. <b>BL104:</b> Bible Composition and Translations V. <b>BL105:</b> Bible Covenants VI. <b>BL106:</b> Manners and Customs in Bible
<b>Subject Two</b>	<b>Theology I, II, III, IV</b> 301/302, 401,402  Theology I TH101 TH102 TH103 TH105  Theology II TH106 TH107  Theology III TH108 TH109  Theology IV TH110 TH111	<b>Subject Class:</b>  I. <b>TH101:</b> The Nature of God: Essence and Attributes II. <b>TH102:</b> The Nature of God: Unity and Trinity III. <b>TH103:</b> The Decrees of God IV. <b>TH104:</b> The Works of God: Creation V. <b>TH105:</b> The Works of God: His Sovereign Will VI. <b>TH106:</b> Angelology VII. <b>TH107:</b> Anthropology VIII. <b>TH108:</b> Soteriology IX. <b>TH109:</b> Ecclesiology X. <b>TH110:</b> Pneumatology XI. <b>TH111:</b> Eschatology

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Subject Class Course Outline</b>
<b>Subject Three</b>	<b>Homiletics I &amp; II</b> 401/402  Homiletics I HM102 HM103 HM104  Homiletics II HM105 HM106 HM107	<b>Subject Class:</b>  I. <b>HM102:</b> Preaching II. <b>HM103:</b> The Primacy of Preaching III. <b>HM 104:</b> Interpretation in Preaching IV. <b>HM 105:</b> Pastoral Preaching V. <b>HM 106:</b> The Power of Preaching VI. <b>HM107:</b> The Study of Homiletics
<b>Subject Four</b>	<b>Principles of Teaching I, II</b> 401/402  Principles of Teaching I PT101 PT102 PT103  Principles of Teaching II PT104 PT105 PT106	<b>Subject Class:</b>  I. <b>PT101:</b> The Teacher's Personal Experience II. <b>PT102:</b> Bible Geography and History III. <b>PT103:</b> Prevailing Customs of Bible Times IV. <b>PT104:</b> The Psychology of Personality V. <b>PT105:</b> Preparing the Lesson VI. <b>PT106:</b> Preparing a Teaching Outline
<b>Subject Five</b>	<b>Bible Study Methods</b> 301/302  Bible Study Methods I M101 BS101  Bible Study Methods II BS102 BS103 BS104	<b>Subject Class:</b>  I. <b>M101:</b> Research Methodology II. <b>BS101:</b> Hermeneutics III. <b>BS102:</b> Doctrinal and Devotional Use of the Bible IV. <b>BS103:</b> Necessary Dispositions For the Study of Scriptures V. <b>BS104:</b> General Observations in the Order of Biblical Language

**Northwestern Theological Seminary**  
**Module Four Program**  
Assignment and Project Requirements and Instructions

## Assignment Introduction to Bible I & II

1. Assignment: Each course requires a written essay that shows your research on each subject. Follow the course syllabus for content guidelines, be sure to research and include information relating to each point and sub-point of the course outline.
2. Project A: Each course will require a question and answer page, created with no less than 20 questions that are directly related to each of the subjects being studied.
3. Project B: A Bibliography should be created with a minimum of 5 published \*books, papers, or published works that are related to the course or Assigned Subject.

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**Or other Internet resources Such As:**

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**Or, other sources found on your own.**

## Course Syllabus

Note: Portions of this course outline are referenced from the book, “Lectures in Systematic Theology”, by Henry C. Thiessen, Michigan: 1979, William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company

### ***Introduction to the Bible – Course One***

- I. BL101 - The Scriptures: The Embodiment of Divine Revelation**
  - a. The A PRIORI Argument  
*An argument from something prior to something posterior. Proving our need for a reliable and infallible source of theological truth.*
  - b. The Argument For Analogy  
*This argument corresponds between the ratios or relations of things.*
  - c. The Argument For The Indestructibility of the Bible  
*The argument relating to the inability to exterminate the Bible*
  - d. The Argument For The Character of the Bible  
*The embodiment of divine revelation.*
  - e. The Argument For The Influence of the Bible  
*The influence that has been exerted by the existence of the Bible*
  - f. The Argument For Fulfillment of Prophecy  
*A view of prophecy as it relates to prediction of the future as can only be revealed by God.*
  - g. The Argument For The Ability Of Scripture To Prove Scripture  
*The Continuity of Scriptural reference supporting the validity of a scriptural text*
  
- II. BL 102 - The Genuineness, Credibility, and Canonicity of the Books of the Bible**
  - a. Research The Genuineness of the Books of the Bible
    - 1. The Genuineness of the Books of the OT
    - 2. The Genuineness of the Books of the Prophets
    - 3. The Genuineness of the Kethubhim (Poetic Books)
    - 4. The Genuineness of the Books of the NT
  - b. Research The Credibility of the Books of the Bible OT
    - 1. The proof from Christ’s recognition of the Old Testament
    - 2. The proof derived from history and archeology
  - c. Research The Credibility of the Books of the Bible NT
    - 1. The Competency of the New Testament Writers
    - 2. The Harmony of the New Testament Writers
    - 3. The Agreement with History and Experience
  - d. Research The Canonicity of The Books of the Bible
    - 1. The Canonicity of the Books of the OT
    - 2. The Canonicity of the Books of the NT

### III. **BL103 - The Inspiration of Scriptures**

- a. The Definition of Inspiration  
*Related Terms to Inspiration*
  - a) Revelation
  - b) Inspiration
  - c) Authority
  - d) Inerrancy
  - e) Illumination
- b. Inadequate Theories of Inspiration
  - a) Natural inspiration or the intuition theory
  - b) The dynamic or partial-inspiration theory
  - c) The theory that the thoughts, not the words, are inspired
  - d) The theory that the Bible contains the Word of God
  - e) The dictation theory
- c. The Biblical Doctrine of Inspiration
- d. The Proofs of Inspiration
  - a) The Character of God
  - b) The Character and Claims of the Bible
- d. The Verbal Inspiration of Scripture:  
The Objections to this View of Inspiration
  - 1. Quotations of ignorance or error
  - 2. In science and history
  - 3. In miracle and prophesy
  - 4. In quoting and interpreting the Old Testament
  - 5. In morals and religion

### IV. **BL104 - Bible Composition and Translations**

**(Include a short review on the importance of Bible Composition and Bible Translations. There is no need to comment on every sub-point in this section)**

- a. The language of the Bible
- b. Writing materials used by the Bible Authors
- c. Translations
  - 1. The Dead Sea Scrolls (700 B.C.)
  - 2. The Greek Septuagint (250 B.C. Old Testament)
  - 3. The Papyri (125)
  - 4. The Latin Vulgate (407)
  - 5. Codex Sinaiticus (330)
  - 6. Codex Vaticanus (330)
  - 7. Codex Alexandrinus (450)
  - 8. The Coptic Version (350)
  - 9. The Ethiopic Version (350)
  - 10. The Gothic Version: Codex Argentinus (350)
  - 11.

12. The Armenian Version (406)
13. Caedmon (d. 680)
14. Bede (674-734)
15. The Tyndale Version (1525)
16. The Coverdale Version (1535)
17. The Matthews Version (1537)
18. The Great Bible (1539)
19. The Geneva Bible (1557)
20. The Bishop's Bible (1568)
21. The Rheims-Douai Bible (1582)
22. The King James Version (1611)
23. The English Revision of the King James Version (1881-85)
24. The American Revision of the King James Version (1901)
25. A selected list from the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century
  - a) Revised Standard Version (1952)
  - b) Anchor Bible (1964)
  - c) Amplified Bible (1965)
  - d) Jerusalem Bible (1966)
  - e) New English Bible (1970)
  - f) New American Standard Bible (1971)
  - g) The Living Bible (1971)
  - h) Good News for Modern Man (1976)
  - i) New International Version (1978)
  - j) New King James Version (1982)
  - k) New Century Bible (1988)
  - l) The Message (1994)
  - m) The New Living Translation (1996)

**V. BL105 - Biblical Covenants**

- a. The covenant with Adam
  - a) Before the fall
  - b) After the fall
- b. The covenant with Noah
- c. The covenant with Abraham
- d. The covenant with Moses and Israel
- e. The covenant with David
- f. The covenant with all repenting sinners, to save them through Christ
- g. The covenant with the Church
- h. The New Covenant with Israel

**VI. BL106 - Manners and Customs in the Bible**

- a. Patriarchal Period
  1. Physical Appearance of the People

2. Social and Cultural Problems of Immigrants
  - a) Wife-Sister Stratagem
  - b) The Purchase of Machpelah: Genesis 23
  - c) Burial Customs
3. Herding Practices
  - a) Water Rights – Genesis 20 & 26
4. Food Preparation and Diet
5. Marriage Customs
  - a) Marriage within the group
  - b) Customs of inheritance
6. Religious Practices
7. Legal Customs – Execution of Justice
8. Weapons and Warfare
- b. Exodus-Settlement Period
  1. Village Life
    - a) Domestic Architecture
  2. Agricultural Methods and Tools
    - a) Grain Production
    - b) Cultivation of Vines and Olive Trees
  3. Weapons and Warfare
    - a) The contrast in weapons
    - b) Similarities in the practice of War
  4. Social Organization and Administration of Law
    - a) The head of household
    - b) Village Elders
    - c) The Judges
  5. Family Life
    - a) Marriage Customs
    - b) Childbirth and Child Rearing
    - c) Burial Practices
  6. Religious Practices
    - a) Altars
    - b) Types of Sacrifices
    - c) Religious Holidays
    - d) Spontaneous Sacrifices
    - e) Human Sacrifices
    - f) National Place of Worship
    - g) Local Shrines
    - h) Circumcision
    - i) Cult Prostitution
- c. Monarchy Period
  1. Early Monarchy
  2. Divided Monarchy



3. The Israelite City
    - a) City Walls
    - b) Streets and Public Squares
    - c) City Gate
    - d) Palace and Temple
    - e) Private Dwellings in the City
  4. Social Life
  5. Social Mobility
  6. Clothing and Personal Adornment
  7. Jewelry and Personal Items
  8. Cosmetics
  9. Forms of Entertainment
  10. Treatment of Disease
  11. Conception of Death
  12. Mourning
  13. Burial Customs
  14. Law
    - a) Family Legal Custom
    - b) Marriage and Betrothal
    - c) Inheritance Law
    - d) Slavery
  15. Religious Practices
    - a) Popular Religion
    - b) Temple Worship and the Yahweh Cult
    - c) Jerusalem Temple
    - d) Role of the Priestly Community
  16. Weapons and Warfare
    - a) Organization of the Army
    - b) Weaponry
    - c) Siege Strategies
    - d) Policy of Deportation
- d. Exile and Return
1. Exile Period
  2. Post-Exilic Period
  3. Life in the Exile
  4. Life after the return from exile
    - a) Political Condition
    - b) City Planning
    - c) Domestic Architecture
    - d) Marriage Customs
    - e) Economic Life
    - f) Burial Customs
  5. Religious Life

- a) Post-Exilic Religious Practices
- b) The Role of the Priesthood
- c) Worship in the Second Temple
- e. Inter-Testamental and New Testament Period
  - 1. Background to Hellenism – The Persian Period
  - 2. The Coming of Hellenism – Alexander and the Diadochoi
  - 3. Temporary Independence – The Hasmonean Kingdom
  - 4. The Last Glimpses of Power: The Herods
  - 5. Roman Rule and Jewish Protest: The First Jewish Revolt
  - 6. A Final Chapter: Bar Cochba and Diaspora
  - 7. Social Life
    - a) Cities and City Planning
    - b) Urban-Based Bureaucracy
    - c) Village Life
    - d) Leisure
    - e) Education and Scholarship
    - f) Clothing and Personal Adornment
  - 8. Weapons and Warfare
  - 9. Disease and Medical Treatment
  - 10. Burial Customs
  - 11. Economic Life
    - a) Trade Routes and the Means of Travel
    - b) Weights and Measures
    - c) Coins
    - d) Urban Industry and Professions
    - e) Village and Economy
  - 12. Religious Life
    - a) Priests and the Temple
    - b) Jewish Religious Factions
    - c) Synagogue Worship and Leadership

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## Course Syllabus

### ***Theology – Course Two***

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#### **I. TH101 - The Nature of God: Essence and Attributes**

1. The Essence of God
  - a. Spirituality
    - a) Immaterial and Incorporeal
    - b) He is invisible
    - c) He is alive
    - d) He is a person
  - b. Self-Existence
  - c. Immensity
  - d. Eternity
2. The Attributes of God
  - a. The non-moral attributes
    - a) Omnipresence
    - b) Omniscience
    - c) Omnipotent
    - d) Immutability
  - b. The moral attributes
    - a) Holiness
    - b) Righteousness and justice
    - c) Goodness
    - d) Truth

#### **II. TH102 - The Nature of God: Unity and Trinity**

1. The Unity of God
2. The Trinity of God
  - a. Intimations in the Old Testament
  - b. The teaching of the New Testament
    - a) General statements and allusions
    - b) The recognition of God the Father
    - c) The recognition of God the Son
    - d) The recognition of God the Holy Spirit
3. Observations and Deductions Based on the Study of the Trinity
  - a. The doctrine’s non-confliction with the unity of God
  - b. Eternal distinctions
  - c. Three are equal
  - d. Practical value

**III. TH103 - The Decrees of God**

1. The Definition of the Decrees
2. The Proof of the Decrees
3. The Bases of the Decrees
4. The Purpose of the Decrees
5. The Content and Order of the Decrees
  - a. In the material and physical realm
  - b. In the moral and spiritual realm
    - a) God determined to permit sin
    - b) God determined to overrule sin for the good
    - c) God determined to save from sin
    - d) God determined to reward His servants and punish disobedience
  - c. In the social and political realm
    - a) The family and human government
    - b) The call and mission of Israel
    - c) The founding and mission of the Church
    - d) The final triumph of God

**IV. TH104 - The Works of God: Creation**

1. The Definition of Creation
2. The Proof of the Doctrine of Creation
  - a. The moral account of creation
    - a) The immediate creation of the universe
    - b) The mediate creation of the present universe
      - 1) Was the creation immediate, mediate, or a combination of both?
      - 2) What was included in the immediate creation of God?
      - 3) Does Genesis 1:2 represent the original condition of the earth or a condition due to some great cataclysm?
      - 4) What is the age of the earth?
  - b. Other biblical proofs of creation

**V. TH105 - The Works of God: His Sovereign Will**

1. The Doctrine of Preservation
  - a. The definition of preservation
  - b. The proof of the doctrine of preservation
  - c. The method of preservation
    - a) The deistic theory
    - b) The continuous creation theory
    - c) The theory of concurrence

2. The Doctrine of Providence

- a. The definition of providence
- b. The proofs of the doctrine
  - a) The nature of God and the universe
  - b) The teaching of Scripture
    - 1) Over the physical universe
    - 2) Over the plant and animal creation
    - 3) Over the nations of the earth
    - 4) Over all areas of man's existence
- c. The ends towards which providence is directed
- d. The means employed in the exercise of Divine Providence
- e. The theories opposed to the doctrine of providence
  - a) Naturalism
  - b) Fatalism
  - c) Pantheism
- f. The relation of providence to some special problems
  - a) The relation of providence to freedom
  - b) The relation of providence to prayer

**VI. TH106 - Angelology**

1. The Origin, Nature, Fall, and Classification of the Angels

- a) The Nature of Angels
  - 1) They are not glorified human beings
  - 2) They are incorporeal
  - 3) They are a company, not a race
  - 4) They are greater than man in knowledge, though not omniscient
  - 5) They are stronger than man, though not omnipotent
  - 6) They are more noble than man, though not omnipresent
- b) The Fall of Angels
  - 1) The fact of their fall
  - 2) The time of their fall
  - 3) The cause of their fall
  - 4) The result of their fall
- c) The Classification of Angels
  - 1) The good angels
    - I) The angels
    - II) The cherubim
    - III) The seraphim
    - IV) The living creatures
    - V) The archangels

- VI) The watchers
- VII) The sons of God
- 2) The evil angels
  - I) The angels that are kept in prison
  - II) The angels that are free
  - III) The demons
  - IV) Satan
- 2. The Work and Destiny of the Angels
  - a) The work of good angels
    - I) The work of the angels in connection with the life and ministry of Christ
    - II) The work of the good angels in general
  - b) The work of the evil angels
  - c) The work of Satan
- 3. The Destiny of the Angels
  - a) The destiny of the good angels
  - b) The destiny of the evil angels
  - c) The destiny of satan

## **VII. TH107 - Anthropology**

- 1. The Origin and Original Character of Man
  - a. The Origin of Man
    - 1) Arguments for the evolutionary hypothesis
      - 1. Comparative anatomy
      - 2. Vestigial organs
      - 3. Embryology
      - 4. Bio-chemistry
      - 5. Paleontology
      - 6. Genetics
    - 2) Biblical arguments for immediate creation of man
      - 1. The literal teaching of the Scripture
      - 2. Adam and Eve, male and female
      - 3. Eve made directly by God
      - 4. Man's relation with dust
      - 5. Man a living soul
      - 6. Human flesh vs. animal flesh
  - b. The Original Character of Man
    - a) It was not a physical likeness

b) The mental likeness

c) The moral likeness

d) The social likeness

2. The Unity and Permanent Constitution of Man

a. The unity of man

1) The teaching of Scripture

2) The testimony of history and science

1. The historical argument

2. The language argument

3. The physiology argument

4. The psychology argument

b. The constitution of man

1) Man's psychological constitution

1. The dichotomous theory

2. The trichotomous theory

2) Man's moral constitution

1. Conscience

2. Will

3) The origin of the soul

1. The theory of pre-existence

2. The creation theory

3. The traducian theory

4. Objections to traducianism

3. The Fall of Man: Facts and Immediate Consequences

a. The background of the fall

1) The law of God

1. The meaning of the law of God

2. The purpose of the law of God

3. The believer's relation to the law of God

2) The nature of sin

1. Sin as a specific type of evil

2. Sin is a violation of the law of God

3. Sin is a principle or nature as well as an act

4. Sin is essentially selfishness

b. Problems connected with the fall

1) How could a holy being fall?

2) How could a just God justly permit man to be tempted?



1. The need for probation
2. The need for a tempter
3. The possibility of resisting temptation
- 3) How could so great a penalty be attached to disobedience to so slight a command?
4. The Fall of Man: Imputation and Racial Consequences
  - a. The origin of sin in the personal act of Adam
    - 1) Sin is not eternal
    - 2) Sin does not originate in man's finiteness
    - 3) Sin does not originate in sensuousness
    - 4) Sin originated in the free act of Adam
  - b. The immediate consequences of Adam's sin
    - 1) Its effect on their relation to God
    - 2) Its effect on their nature
    - 3) Its effect on their bodies
    - 4) Its effect on their environment
5. The Fall of Man: The Nature and Final Consequences of Sin
  - a. Depravity
    - 1) The meaning of depravity
    - 2) The extent of depravity
  - b. Guilt
    - 1) The meaning of guilt
    - 2) The degrees of guilt
      1. Sin of nature, and personal transgression
      2. Sins of ignorance, and sins of knowledge
      3. Sins of weakness, and sins of presumption
      4. Sins of incomplete, and sins of complete hardheartedness
  - c. Penalty
    - 1) The meaning of penalty
    - 2) The character of penalty
      1. Physical death
      2. Spiritual death
      3. Eternal death

## **VIII. TH108 - Soteriology**

### **1. The Purpose, Plan, and Method of God**

- a. The purpose of God
  - 1) In human nature
    - 1. The knowledge of God
    - 2. The knowledge of sin
  - 2) In the Scriptures
    - 1. The Law
    - 2. The Prophets
- b. The plan of God
  - 1) The revelation of God's plan
  - 2) The outline of God's plan
- c. The Methods of God
  - 1) In the Old Testament Era
  - 2) In the present Era
  - 3) In the future Era

### **2. The Person of Christ**

- a. Historical Views
  - 1) The Ebionites
  - 2) The Gnostics
  - 3) The Arians
  - 4) The Apollinarians
  - 5) The Nestorians
  - 6) The Eutychians
  - 7) The Orthodox View
- b. The Preincarnate Christ
  - a) The reason for the incarnation
    - 1) To confirm God's promises
    - 2) To reveal the Father
    - 3) To become a faithful High Priest
    - 4) To put away sin
    - 5) To destroy the works of the devil
    - 6) To give us an example of a holy life
    - 7) To prepare for the second advent
  - b) The nature of the incarnation
    - 1) He emptied Himself
    - 2) He was made in the likeness of men
  - c) The humanity of Christ
    - 1) He had a human birth
    - 2) He had a human development
    - 3) He had the essential elements of human nature

- 4) He had human names
- 5) He had the sinless infirmities of human nature
- 6) He is repeatedly called a Man
- d) The deity of Christ
- e) The two natures of Christ
  - 1) The proof of their union
  - 2) The nature of their union
    1. It is not theanthropic
    2. It is personal
    3. It includes human and divine qualities and acts
    4. It assures the constant presence of both humanity and deity
- c. The Character of Christ
  - 1) He was absolutely Holy
  - 2) He had genuine love
  - 3) He was truly humble
  - 4) He was thoroughly meek
  - 5) He was perfectly balanced
  - 6) He lived a life of prayer
  - 7) He was an incessant worker
- d. The Work of Christ
  - a) The importance of the death of Christ
    - 1) It is foretold in the Old Testament
    - 2) It is prominent in the New Testament
    - 3) It is the chief purpose of the incarnation
    - 4) It is the fundamental theme of the Gospel
    - 5) It is essential to Christianity
    - 6) It is essential to our salvation
    - 7) It is of supreme interest in heaven
  - b) Misinterpretations of the death of Christ
    - 1) The accident theory
    - 2) The martyr theory
    - 3) The moral influence theory
    - 4) The governmental theory
    - 5) The commercial theory
  - c) The true meaning of Christ's death
    - 1) It is vicarious
    - 2) It is satisfaction
      1. It satisfies the justice of God
      2. It satisfies the law of God
      3. It is involved in atonement

4. It is involved in propitiation
      5. It is involved in reconciliation
    - 3) It is a ransom
  - d) The extent of Christ's death
    - 1) Christ died for the elect
    - 2) Christ died for the whole world
  - e) The resurrection of Christ
    - 1) The importance of Christ's resurrection
      1. It is the fundamental doctrine of Christianity
      2. It has an important part in the application of salvation
      3. It is important as an exhibition of divine power
    - 2) The nature of Christ's resurrection
      1. It was an actual resurrection
      2. It was a bodily resurrection
      3. It was a unique resurrection
    - 3) The credibility of Christ's resurrection
      1. The argument from testimony
      2. The argument from cause and effect
    - 4) The results of Christ's resurrection  
What are the results of Christ's resurrection?
      1. It attests to Christ's deity
      2. It assures the acceptance of Christ's work
      3. It has made Christ our high priest
      4. It provided for many additional blessings
  - f) The ascension of Christ
    - 1) The New Testament teachings
    - 2) Objections to the Ascension of Christ
  - g) The exaltation of Christ
    - 1) Things embraced in the exaltation of Christ
    - 2) Results of the ascension and exaltation of Christ
3. The Work of the Holy Spirit
  - a. His relationship to the world
    - 1) In creation and preservation
    - 2) In the affairs of non-believers
  - b. His relationship to Scripture and to Christ
    - 1) To Scripture
    - 2) To Christ

c. His relationship to the believer

- 1) The work of the Holy Spirit at Salvation
  - I) He regenerates
  - II) He indwells
  - III) He baptizes
  - IV) He seals
- 2) The Continuing work of the Holy Spirit in the believer
  - I) He fills
  - II) He guides
  - III) He empowers
  - IV) He teaches

4. Election and Vocation

a. The doctrine of election

- 1) The definition of election
- 2) Election based on prescience
  - I) Arguments for this view of election
  - II) Objections to this view of election
- 3) Election based on choice
  - I) Arguments for this view of election
  - II) Objections for the view of election

b. The doctrine of vocation

- 1) The person called
- 2) The object of the call
- 3) The means of the call

5. Conversion

a. The element of repentance

- 1) The importance of repentance
- 2) The meaning of repentance
  - I) The intellectual element
  - II) The emotional element
  - III) The volitional element
- 3) The means to repentance

b. The element of faith

- 1) The importance of faith
- 2) The meaning of faith
  - I) The intellectual element
  - II) The emotional element
  - III) The voluntary element

c. The source of faith

- 1) The divine side
- 2) The human side

- d. The result of faith
  - 1) Salvation
  - 2) Assurance
  - 3) Good Works
- 6. Justification and Regeneration
  - a. The doctrine of justification
    - 1) The definition of justification
      - I) The remission of the penalty
      - II) The restoration of favor
      - III) The imputation of righteousness
    - 2) The method of justification
      - I) It is not by works of the law
      - II) It is by the grace of God
      - III) It is by the blood of Christ
      - IV) It is by faith
    - 3) The results of justification
  - b. The doctrine of regeneration
    - 1) The meaning of regeneration
    - 2) The necessity of regeneration
    - 3) The means of regeneration
      - I) The will of God
      - II) The death and resurrection of Christ
      - III) The Word of God
      - IV) The ministers of the World
      - V) The Holy Spirit
    - 4) The result of regeneration
- 7. Union with Christ and Adoption
  - a. The believer's union with Christ
    - 1) The nature of this union
      - I) The scriptural representations
      - II) The negative side
      - III) The positive side
    - 2) The method of this union
    - 3) The consequences of this union
  - b. The believer's adoption
    - 1) The definition of adoption
    - 2) The time of adoption
    - 3) The result of adoption
- 8. Sanctification
  - a. The definition of sanctification
    - 1) Separation to God
    - 2) Imputation of Christ as our holiness

- 3) Purification from moral evil
    - 4) Conformation to the image of Christ
  - b. The time of sanctification
    - 1) The initial act of sanctification
    - 2) The process of sanctification
    - 3) Complete and final sanctification
  - c. The means of sanctification
- 9. Perseverance
  - a. The purpose of God
    - 1) The mediatorship of Christ
    - 2) God's ability to keep
    - 3) The nature of the change in the believer
  - b. Objections to the doctrine
    - 1) That induces laxness and indolence
    - 2) That it robs man of his freedom
    - 3) That Scripture teaches the contrary
    - 4) That there are many warnings
- 10. The Means of Grace
  - a. The Word of God
    - 1) It is a means of salvation
    - 2) It is a means of sanctification
  - b. Prayer
    - 1) The nature of prayer
    - 2) The relation of prayer to providence
  - c. The method and manner of prayer
    - 1) The addressee in prayer
    - 2) Posture in prayer
    - 3) The time of prayer
    - 4) The place of prayer
    - 5) Decorum in prayer
    - 6) The condition of the heart

## **IX. TH109 - Ecclesiology**

### **1. Definition and Founding of the Church**

- a. The definition of the Church
  - 1) The Church is not a continuation of the old economy
  - 2) The Church is not a continuation of the Synagogue
  - 3) The Church is not co terminal with the interregnum
  - 4) The Church is not a denomination
  - 5) The Church is considered in two senses

- I) In the universal sense
    - II) In the local sense
  - b. The founding of the Church
    - 1) The time of its founding
    - 2) The founding of other local churches
- 2. The Foundation of the Church, the Manner of the Founding, and the Organization of Churches
  - a. The foundation of the Church
    - 1) The universal Church
    - 2) The local Church
  - b. The manner of founding
  - c. The organization of Churches
    - 1) The fact of organization
      - I) They had Church officers
      - II) They had stated times of meetings
      - III) They regulated Church decorum
      - IV) They raised money for the Lord's work
      - V) They sent letters of commendation to the other churches
    - 2) The officers of the Church
      - I) Pastor, elder, overseer
      - II) Deacons
      - III) Deaconesses
    - 3) The government of the Church
- 3. The Ordinance of the Church
  - a. Baptism
    - 1) Its institution
    - 2) Its significance
    - 3) Its mode
    - 4) Its subjects
  - b. The Lord's Supper
    - 1) Its institution
    - 2) Its significance
      - I) It is memorial to Christ
      - II) It is a pledge of the new covenant
      - III) It is a proclamation of Christ's death
      - IV) It is a prophecy of Christ's coming
      - V) It is fellowship with Christ and his own
    - 3) Its participants
- 4. The Mission and Destiny of the Church



- a. The mission of the Church
  - 1) To glorify God
  - 2) To edify itself
  - 3) To purify itself
  - 4) To educate its constituency
  - 5) To evangelize the world
  - 6) To act as a restraining and enlightening force in the world
  - 7) To promote all that is good
- b. The destiny of the Church
  - 1) The church will not convert the world
  - 2) The Church will occupy a place of blessing and honor
    - I) The Church will be united with Christ
    - II) The Church will reign with Christ
    - III) The Church will be an eternal testimony

**X. TH110 - Pneumatology**

1. The Personality of the Holy Spirit

- a. The reasons for the truth of personality
  - 1) The Holy Spirit has the attribute of personality
  - 2) The Holy Spirit performs the actions of personality
  - 3) The Holy Spirit receives the ascriptions of Personality
  - 4) The Holy Spirit contradicts the accident of personality
- b. The ramifications of the truth of personality
  - 1) In relation to the idea of personality
  - 2) In relation to other people
  - 3) In relation to Deity
  - 4) In relation to us

2. The Deity of the Holy Spirit

- a. Proofs
  - 1) Appellations (Names)
  - 2) Attributes
  - 3) Actions
  - 4) Associations
- b. Procession
  - 1) Its meaning
  - 2) Its proof
  - 3) Its distinction from generation

- c. Problems
  - 1) Is there a difference between the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Jesus?
  - 2) What is the meaning of the Seven Spirits?
- d. Perplexity
- 3. Representations of the Holy Spirit
  - a. Are they legitimate?
  - b. Some definitions:
- 4. Some Definitions
  - a. A type.
  - b. An illustration
- 5. Some Specific Representation
  - a. Breath
  - b. Clothing
  - c. Dove
  - d. Earnest
  - e. Oil
  - f. Seal
  - g. Servant
  - h. Water
  - i. Wind
- 6. Evidence of the Holy Spirit's Part in Creation
  - a. From the Scripture
  - b. For the Use of Elohim
- 7. Some Particulars of the Holy Spirit's Part in Creation
  - a. He gave life to the Creation
  - b. He gave order to the Creation
  - c. He adorned the Creation
  - d. He preserves the Creation
- 8. The Holy Spirit's Part in Revelation and Inspiration
  - a. The Author of Revelation
    - 1) Human Instruments
    - 2) The Divine Instruments
  - b. The Means of Revelation
    - 1) The Spoken Word
    - 2) Dreams
    - 3) Visions
  - c. The Ministry of the Holy Spirit to New Testament Writers
    - 1) The Person and Ministry of Christ
  - d. The Divine Author in Inspiration
- 9. The Baptism by the Holy Spirit
  - a. Confusion Concerning the Baptizing Ministry

- 1) The Reasons for the Confusion
- 2) Results of the Confusion
- b. Characteristics of the Baptizing Work
  - 1) Limited to this age
  - 2) Universal among all believers in this age
  - 3) The View of the Baptism at Conversion Only
  - 4) The View of a Second Act After Conversion
  - 5) Is the Work of the Holy Spirit

10. The Spiritual Gifts of the Spirit

- a. Definition of Spiritual Gifts
  - 1) What is meant
  - 2) What is not meant
- b. The Distribution of Spiritual Gifts
  - 1) Limited by the Will of the Agents
  - 2) Limited as to extent
  - 3) Limited as to time
- c. The Development of Spiritual Gifts
- d. The Discovery of Your Spiritual Gifts

11. A Description of the Spiritual Gifts

- a. Apostleship
- b. Prophecy
- c. Miracles
- d. Healings
- e. Tongues
- f. Interpretation of Tongues
- g. Evangelism
- h. Pastor
- i. Serving
- j. Teaching
- k. Faith
- l. Exhortation
- m. Discerning of spirits
- n. Showing mercy
- o. Giving
- p. Administration

12. The Gift of Tongues

- a. Tongues and Interpretation Interrelated
- b. The Genuineness of the Gift of Tongues
- c. Some Characteristics of the Genuine Gift of Tongues
  - 1) Tongues were foreign languages
  - 2) Tongues were not experienced by all believers

- d. Are Some Gifts, Including Tongues and Interpretation, Temporary?
    - 1) The Confusion Over Temporary
    - 2) The Case For Temporary Gifts
  - e. The Purposes of Tongues
    - 1) A Sign
    - 2) For Edification
  - f. Regulations For The Use of Tongues
  - g. The Contemporary Phenomenon Called Tongues
13. The Filling of the Holy Spirit
- a. The Relationship of Spirit-Filling to Spirituality
    - 1) The Concept of Spirituality
    - 2) The Role of the Spirit in Producing Spirituality
    - 3) Some Ramifications
  - b. The Nature of Being Filled
    - 1) A Definition of Filing
    - 2) Aspects of Filling
  - c. The Command to be Filled
  - d. The Conditions for Being Spirit-Filled
    - 1) A Dedicated Life
    - 2) An Undefeated Life
    - 3) A Dependant Life
  - e. The Consequences of Being Filled
    - 1) A Christ-like Character
    - 2) Worship and Praise
    - 3) Submissiveness
    - 4) Service
14. Other Activities of the Holy Spirit
- a. He Teaches Us
    - 1) The Time
    - 2) The Content
    - 3) The Results
    - 4) The Procedure
    - 5) Hindrances
  - b. He Guides Us
  - c. He Assures Us
  - d. He Prays For Us
    - 1) The Promise
    - 2) The Need
    - 3) The Method
    - 4) The Results
15. The Anointing of the Holy Spirit

- a. The Meaning of Anointing
- b. The Biblical Use of Anointing
  - 1) Cosmetic
  - 2) Consecration
  - 3) Coronation
  - 4) Designation for Jesus as Messiah
  - 5) Medicinal
  - 6) For Discernment
  - 7)

## **XI. TH111 - Eschatology**

- 1. Personal Eschatology and the Importance of the Second Coming of Christ
  - a. Personal eschatology
    - 1) Physical death
    - 2) The intermediate state
      - I) The Scriptural evidence
      - II) Purgatory
      - III) Soul-sleep
      - IV) Annihilationism
      - V) Conditional immortality
  - b. The importance of the second coming of Christ
    - 1) Its prominence in the Scriptures
    - 2) It is a key to the Scriptures
    - 3) It is the hope of the Church
    - 4) It is the incentive to Biblical Christianity
    - 5) It has a marked effect on Christian service
- 2. The Second Coming of Christ; The Nature of His Coming and the Purpose of His Coming in the Air
  - a. The nature of Christ's coming
    - 1) The Scriptural teaching
    - 2) Some erroneous interpretations
      - I) The coming of the Holy Spirit
      - II) The conversion of the soul
      - III) The destruction of Jerusalem
      - IV) The coming of death
      - V) The conversion of the world
    - 3) The phases of Christ's coming
      - I) His coming in the air
      - II) His coming to earth
  - b. The purpose of his coming into the air
    - 1) To receive His own
      - I) The prerequisites

- II) The manner
    - 2) To judge and reward
      - I) The believer's judgment
      - II) The believer's reward
    - 3) To remove the restrainer
- 3. The Second Coming of Christ:: The Purpose of His Coming to Earth and the Period between the Rapture and the Revelation
  - a. The purpose of His coming to earth
    - 1) To reveal Himself and His own
    - 2) To judge the beast, the false prophet, and their armies
    - 3) To bind satan
    - 4) To save Israel
    - 5) To judge the nations
    - 6) To deliver and bless creation
    - 7) To set up His kingdom
  - b. The period between the rapture and the revelation
    - 1) The duration period
    - 2) The nature of the period
      - I) The political aspects
      - II) The religious aspects
      - III) The Israelitish aspect
      - IV) The economic aspect
    - 3) The chief actor of the period
- 4. The Time of His Coming: Premillennial
  - a. The Meaning of the Term
  - b. The Position of the Early Church
  - c. The Proof of the Doctrine
    - I) The manner and time of the setting up of the kingdom
    - II) The blessings that are associated with this future kingdom
    - III) The distinction between receiving the kingdom and inaugurating it
    - IV) The promise to the Apostles of rulership over the twelve tribes of Israel
    - V) The promise to believers that they will reign with Christ
    - VI) The conditions that are predicted as existing just prior to His return
    - VII) The Order of Events

5. The Resurrections

- a. The certainty of the resurrection
  - 1) Existence after death
  - 2) The Old Testament teaching as to the bodily resurrection
  - 3) The New Testament teaching as to a bodily resurrection
- b. The nature of the resurrection
  - 1) The fact of the bodily resurrection
  - 2) The nature of the resurrection body
    - I) The bodies of the believers
    - II) The bodies of the unbelievers
- c. The time of the resurrection

6. The Judgments

- a. The certainty of the judgments
- b. The object of the judgments
- c. The judge
- d. The various judgments
  - 1) The judgment of believers
  - 2) The judgment of Israel
  - 3) The judgment of Babylon
  - 4) The judgment of the beast, the false prophet, and the armies
  - 5) The judgment of the nations
  - 6) The judgment of satan and his angels
  - 7) The judgment of the unsaved dead
    - I) The basis of this judgment
    - II) The duration of the punishment
    - III) Objections to this doctrine

7. The Millennium

- a. The Scriptural basis of the millennium
  - 1) The day of the Lord
  - 2) The promised kingdom
  - 3) The revealed purpose of Christ
- b. The character of the millennium
  - 1) As regards Christ
  - 2) As regards the Church
  - 3) As regards Israel
  - 4) As regards the nations
  - 5) As regards satan
  - 6) As regards nature
  - 7) As regards conditions in general

8. The Final State

- a. The final state of satan
  - 1) He will be loosed from his prison
  - 2) He will be finally judged and sentenced
- b. The final judgment
- c. The final kingdom
- d. The new creation
  - 1) The new heaven and the new earth
  - 2) The new Jerusalem
    - I) Its character
    - II) Its inhabitants
    - III) Its blessedness



**Northwestern Theological Seminary**  
**Module Four Program**  
Assignment and Project Requirements and Instructions

## Assignment Homiletics I & II

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2. Project A: Each course will require a question and answer page, created with no less than 20 questions that are directly related to each of the subjects being studied.
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## Course Syllabus

### *Homiletics – Course Three*

#### **I. HM101 - Preaching**

1. Biblical Validity
  - a. The difference between preaching and teaching
  - b. The two basic words used in the New Testament to describe preaching: kerysso and evangelizomai
  - c. Explanation on 1 Corinthians 1:23
2. Practical Necessity
  - a. The differences between the personal one-on-one approach and the speaking to the larger crowds.
  - b. Make a list of topics that can relate to a crowd gathering
3. Psychological Effect
  - a. How crowd psychology relate to the atmosphere of emotions
  - b. The psychological effect on the speaker.
4. The Point of Decision
  - a. How preaching should demand some kind of decision on the part of the hearer.
  - b. The process of decision in the preaching of John the Baptist as described in Matthew 3:1-2
  - c. The altar call (giving the invitation)

#### **II. HM102 - The Primacy of Preaching**

1. How the wisdom of God is in sharp contrast to the world's wisdom
2. How the truth of God's wisdom is unique and unrivaled
3. How the wisdom of God exposes the errors that human wisdom makes

#### **III. HM103 - Interpretation in Preaching**

1. The importance of the context in interpreting a verse
2. What effects do grammatical elements have in interpretations
3. The relation of Biblical language in Homiletical interpretation
  - a) What relevance does the study of a word of the Biblical language have when the minister is reasoning with modern literature about the text.
  - b) Submit a review from an analytical commentary, a word study or discuss the biblical concept of the word inheritance.

4. Explain the following steps in the use of imagination in Homiletical Exposition
  - 1) Strive for the viewpoint of a child
  - 2) Seek the outlook of the novice
  - 3) Adopt the viewpoint of one who offends
  - 4) See from the perspective of various backgrounds
  - 5) Explore the non-human world
  - 6) Fashion metaphors and epigrams
  - 7) Extend your sensory experiences
  - 8) Go outside the familiar

#### **IV. HM104 - Pastoral Preaching**

1. The need for systematic preaching and teaching
  - 1) Biblical preaching should produce balanced Christians.
  - 2) The balance is found in the faithful exposition of God's truth.
  - 3) Preacher and hearer alike should expect each sermon to be an act of God, blending scriptural truth with subjective experience.
  - 4) Systematic teaching is needed in order that the people of God might grow and relate their faith to everyday life.
2. The relation between Pastoral Preaching and the Ministry of Evangelism
  - 1) The whole Christ is to be proclaimed.
  - 2) In the New Testament evangelism and teaching always go hand in hand.
3. The work of the Holy Spirit and the proclamation of the truth
  - 1) In Scripture there is always a balance between the Word and the Spirit.
  - 2) We are to be true to the Word, and then the Spirit will drive home its message in individual lives.

#### **V. HM105 - The Power of Preaching**

1. All powerful preaching begins preparation in prayer and continues in prayer and concludes with prayer
2. The importance of communicating the Gospel in every sermon
  - a. The Gospel is the power of God unto Salvation for everyone that believes
  - b. Faith in the Gospel is the key

- c. The Gospel is the story of Jesus
  - d. Let everyone see Jesus in His life, death, burial, and resurrection in your sermon and it will reflect in your altar call as you invite to receive Christ their Savior and Lord
3. Explain the following:
- a) The Message of True Preaching Is the Person of Christ
  - b) The Message of True Preaching Is the Passion of Christ
4. In the manner of the Preacher, how are the following statements related to the power of preaching:
- a) The Humility of Christ
  - b) The Simplicity of Christ
  - c) The Authority of Christ
5. In the motive of the Preacher, how are the following statements related to the power of preaching:
- a) A Sound Faith
  - b) A Saving Faith
  - c) A Steadfast Faith

## **VI. HM106 - The Study of Homiletics**

1. Sermon Points:
- a. Title
  - b. Introduction
  - c. Text
  - d. Body of sermon
  - e. Body of message
  - f. Conclusion
  - g. Altar call
2. Types of Sermons
- a. Textual – expounds on the thought of a passage; typically deals with the story
  - b. Topical – sermon that chooses topics and researches other reference on that topic
  - c. Textual / Topic – combination of the first two (textual and topical)
  - d. Biographical – uses a person as a Biblical example of a spiritual truth
  - e. Expository – expounds on a passage word for word, phrase for phrase, and thought for thought.
  - f. Typical – taking a Type in the Old Testament to illustrate a New Testament truth. The book of Hebrews is full of typology.

- g. Text with context – preaching the text but using the context for your heading.
  - h. Axiomatic – preaching from a Bible principle.
3. Developing a Sermon
- a. Subject
    - a) Make your text match your subject
    - b) A statement of the subject as a preacher proposes to develop it
    - c) Requires a conclusion
  - b. Research (scripture)
    - a) Dissecting of a text from the Bible, simply explaining what the text means.
    - b) Exploration of a theme or topic, be constructive, enlightening, leading to a climax.
    - c) Exposition of a passage, carefully study the passage and its context, what does the passage really mean.
    - d) Application of a truth or a principle
4. Sermon Preparation
- a. Six points to an effective sermon
    - 1) Interpretation of Scripture  
The literal interpretation as well as the symbolic text must be understood in any matter of interpretation.

Basic Interpretations:

- I) Allegorism – the belief that beneath the letter is the real meaning of the passage. Allegory means extended metaphor.
- II) Literalism – the basic literal meaning of the sentence.
- III) Devotionalism – an interpretation with the intention of developing the spiritual life. The average Christian reads the Bible in this method. There are some dangers to this type:
  - a) Allegorisation is easily introduced, specifically in the OT.
  - b) Exegetical and doctrinal studies can be substituted.

- IV) Liberalism – a rational fundamental assertion that what is not in harmony with educated mentality should be rejected.
- 2) Rules of interpretation – Accurate Interpretation and Presentation of Scripture
- I) Honest interpretation, not twisted to suit a personal viewpoint
  - II) In the light of context or setting
  - III) In light of the original language – use of concordance.
  - IV) In light of Biblical manners, geography, customs and history – use of Bible dictionary.
  - V) In light of the general teaching of God’s Word – No doctrine rests upon an isolated text but has supporting text on the subject.
- 3) Language Use – Passage should be closely examined, analyzed, explained, and illustrated in an orderly and intelligent way.
- I) Rhetoric – the art of effective speaking.
  - II) Grammar – the correct use of the English or language being used to communicate.
  - III) Logic – the use of sensible arguments.
- 4) Emphasis of a Gospel Sermon
- I) Declaration of God
  - II) Diagnosis of Man
  - III) Direction of Christ
  - IV) Decision of Christ
  - V) Discipleship from Conversion
- 5) The Evangelistic sermon should contain the following six “R’s”
- I) Ruin of man.
  - II) Redemption through the cross of Christ.
  - III) Resurrection of Christ.
  - IV) Repentance towards God.
  - V) Regeneration by the Holy Spirit.
  - VI) Return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

6) The Order of the Sermon

- I) Introduction – this should be arresting, interesting, leading into the main body of the sermon. This could be an illustration, poem, pithy saying, comment from radio or TV or a newspaper or magazine or a personal happening. But it must be relevant.
- II) Main Body – this should have 3 or 4 sections with sub-sections if necessary.

Layout of the Sermon

- Text – the Scripture reference
- Theme – general emphasis of the message e.g. Salvation; Faith; the Cross etc.
- Lesson – what you want to say to the congregation. You should be able to explain what your message is about in one sentence.
- Introduction – what you say as you start your message.
- Section 1 – headings of the message.
- Section 2 – headings of the message.
- Section 3 – headings of the message

Headings would contain one of the following:

- What? Definition
- Why? Necessity or Reason
- How? Conditions Needed
- Who? Personal Element
- Where? The Source
- When? Time Element
- What Then? Application

- III) Conclusion – a summary of the points of the sermon, an application of the message, an appeal to the heart and will to accept the message.

5. Illustration of the Sermon

- a. Reasons for the importance of utilizing illustration in your sermons:
  - 1) Because the Lord use them in His preaching.
  - 2) Because they arouse interest.
  - 3) Because they illuminate.
- b. Finding Illustrations
  - 1) In the Bible
  - 2) Everyday life
  - 3) Secular Literature
  - 4) Illustration Books
- c. The Role of Illustration in the Sermon
  - 1) An opening illustration – the illustration should lead into the subject of the message and be relevant.
  - 2) In each point of the sermon – it is good to vary them at the beginning of the point, in the middle, or at the end of the point.
  - 3) Closing illustration – either before of after summarizing your points put an illustration, this helps the people remember what your final appeal is. To conversion, commitment, service, prayer or whatever has been the subject of the message.

**VII. Preaching Assignment**

- a. Prepare your sermon outline, and have outline signed, dated, and approved by your Pastor
- b. Preach from the outline and have a comment on your sermon hand written on the outline signed and dated by your pastor
- c. Mail in your signed and dated outline to Seminary Headquarters along with all other completed assignments of Learning Module Four.



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## **Course Syllabus**

### ***Principles of Teaching – Course Four***

#### **I. PT101 - The Teacher's Personal Experience**

- d. Nothing can substitute personal experience in matters of faith
- e. Christianity is first and foremost a life based upon an actual experience of Christ and His grace

#### **II. PT102 - Bible Geography and History**

- a. The teacher should make a careful study of the geographic areas and their relationships to the Bible as presented in the lessons
- b. The teacher should make a general study of Bible geography in order to better describe the setting of the lesson being taught.
- c. It is impossible to properly understand the geography of the Bible without some understanding of Bible history.
- d. Biblical Archeology provides for background in uniting together Bible History and Bible Geography.

#### **III. PT103 - Prevailing Customs in Bible Times**

- a. In order to properly understand many of the passages of the Scriptures some idea of the culture and customs of the people is essential
- b. The Bible structures the customs and cultures of a time frame of between 4,000 and 5,000 years from the dawn of man's history on earth.

#### **IV. PT104 - The Psychology of Personality**

- a. Psychology is the scientific study and investigation of human personality and its relationships with others.
- b. A person's traits and characteristics are merely the outward manifestations of what the inward personality really is.
- c. The teacher must have some knowledge about the psychology of human personality if he (she) is to be successful in working with others.
- d. A teacher must always be on the lookout for the discovery of the needs of the class he or she teaches.
- e. Personality must be developed by spiritual expansion. It is within the spirit that true personality growth must begin and develop.

- f. Christian personality is developed by feeding upon God's Word and by drawing from the strength of the Holy Spirit through prayer and communion with God.
- g. You have within you and about you in God's Word and in the possibilities of prayer and study, all the tools necessary to the development of an outstanding Christian personality.

**V. PT105 - Preparing the Lessons**

- a. Lesson preparation begins with the teacher preparing his or her own heart to teach it, through prayer.
- b. Preparation should also involve spiritual, mental, and psychological aspects.
- c. Selecting the source material:
  - 1) Several versions of the Bible
  - 2) One or more good Bible commentaries
  - 3) A good Bible Dictionary
  - 4) A good Bible Handbook
  - 5) A good Concordance
- d. Lesson preparation:
  - 1) Make copious notes
  - 2) Study the material and prepare your **Teaching Outline** to
  - 3) Write out meanings of all words in the text and what the various authorities have to say about them
  - 4) Write out the explanations of the various authorities on the meanings of the textual passages
  - 5) Make notes of any historical aspects
  - 6) The most important part of the teacher's responsibility is not his or her teaching, important as this is. It is rather his ability to help the student learn
- e. The wise teacher will neither make his or her presentation all questions and answers, nor all the lecture type. He will rather vary his approach, so as to interest the largest amount of students and to get the lesson across to all who are eager to learn
- f. All the discussion should be controlled by the teacher so that time is not wasted
- g. For the end of the lesson, write out in a few short, crisp sentences a general summary of what the lesson is all about

**VI. PT106 - How to prepare a Teaching Outline**

- a. Your teaching outline should include the following:
  - 1. Objective
  - 2. Summary
  - 3. Outline
  - 4. Review
  - 5. Conclusion

**VII. Teaching Assignment**

- a. Have teaching outline signed, dated, and approved by your Pastor
- b. Teach the class from the outline and have a comment by two or more student's hand written on the outline signed and dated.
- c. Mail in your signed and dated outline to Seminary Headquarters along with all other completed assignments of Learning Module Four.

**Northwestern Theological Seminary**  
**Module Four Program**  
Assignment and Project Requirements and Instructions

## Assignment Bible Study Methods I & II

1. Assignment: Each Course requires a written essay that shows your research on each subject. Follow the course syllabus for content guidelines, be sure to research and include information relating to each point and sub-point of the course outline.
2. Project A: Each course will require a question and answer page, created with no less than 20 questions that are directly related to each of the subjects being studied.
3. Project B: A Bibliography should be created with a minimum of 5 published \*books, papers, or published works that are related to the course or Assigned Subject.

**You may research books, papers, or published works, through the Internet, by going to:**

[www.ntslibrary.com](http://www.ntslibrary.com)

**Or other Internet resources Such As:**

[Internet Christian Library](#)  
[Bible Reference Works](#)

**Or, other sources found on your own.**

## Course Syllabus

### ***Bible Study Methods – Course Five***

#### **I. BS101 - Hermeneutics**

1. Definition – The word comes from the Greek term *hermeneuein*, which means to explain or interpret. The Term “hermeneutics,” simply describes the practice or discipline of interpretation.
2. Introduction
  - a. Assumptions – coming to the text believing in its divine inspiration. The student is not adding or taking away but determining what was the original wording.
  - b. Definitions – Hermeneutics applies to the general science of linguistic and meaning.
  - c. Equipment:
    - 1) Hebrew and Greek text
    - 2) Standard Grammars, lexicons of Hebrew and Greek
    - 3) Concordances
    - 4) Commentaries
    - 5) Bible Dictionaries and Encyclopedias
    - 6) Bible Atlas
3. Hermeneutic Principles
  - a. The priority of original languages - accuracy of the translation of the original language
  - b. Accommodation of Revelation – the human understanding of the spiritual world is analogical. The Bible truth as revealed by God is accommodated to our minds in order to properly assimilate the truth.
  - c. Progressive Revelation – the progressive work of theological truth from the OT to maturity in the NT.
    - 1) In the OT, revelation came sporadically.
    - 2) The method of revelation varies.
    - 3) Period time was from the beginning of humankind to the coming of the Son of God.
  - d. Historical Propriety – having some sense as to what men may or may not have believed in any area of Biblical revelation.
  - e. In Ignorance – the meaning of given sentences on the context of conversation. Speech occurs within the context of conversation. We get sentences without the full context.
  - f. In differentiating from application – one interpretation followed by many applications. Applications are not interpretations.

- g. The Principle of Evaluation – for improvement of our work.
  - 1) Compare results with other secular studies if the passage borders on matters of science or history.
  - 2) Compare with doctrinal documents to see if we have kept the rule of faith.
  - 3) Compare with past expositors.
- h. Induction – discovering the meaning of a passage.
  - 1) Exegesis = bringing the meaning of text to the surface.
  - 2) Eisegesis = reading our own ideas into the text.
- i. Lean to the clearest interpretation – when two or more equally probably interpretations are present
  - Rule: Choose the one that is clearest.
- j. In the unity of the sense of Scripture – the meaning of Scripture is one. The unity does not intent to deny the presence of figurative language in the Bible.
- k. On the analogy of faith – ‘SCRIPTURE INTERPRETS SCRIPTURE’ we interpret the Bible as one whole, one harmonious system of doctrine.

4. Vocabulary for Interpretation

- a. Meaning – The meaning of a text is that pattern of meaning the author willed to convey by the words (shareable symbols) he used.
- b. Implications – Implications are those meanings in a text of which the author was unaware but nevertheless legitimately fall within the pattern of meaning he willed.
- c. Significance – Significance refers to how a reader responds to the meaning of a text.
- d. Subject Matter – Subject matter refers to the content or “stuff” talked about in a text.
- e. Understanding – Understanding refers to the correct mental grasp of the author’s meaning.
- f. Interpretation – Interpretation refers to the verbal or written expression of a reader’s understanding of the author’s meaning.
- g. Mental Acts – Mental acts refer to the experiences the author went through when writing the text.
- h. Norms of Language – The norms of language are the range of meanings allowed by the words (verbal symbols) of a text.
- i. Norms of the Utterance – The norms of the utterance is the specific meaning the author has given to a word, phrase, sentence, and the like in a text.
- j. Literary Genre – Literary genre refers to the literary form being used by the author and the rules governing that form.

- k. Context – Context refers to the willed meaning that an author gives to the literary materials surrounding the text.

## **II. BS102 - Doctrinal and Devotional Use of the Bible**

### **1. Principles that govern doctrinal hermeneutics**

- a. The student is a redeemed person who stands in the circle of divine revelation
- b. Doctrinal teaching must above all rest in the literal interpretation of the bible.
- c. Theology should mainly rest on the teaching of the New Testament.
- d. Exegesis is prior to any system of theology.
- e. The theologian must not extend his doctrines beyond Biblical evidence.
- f. The theological interpreter strives for a system.
- g. The theologian must use proof texts with proper understanding of his procedure.
- h. What does not fall into the matter of revelation cannot be made a matter of Creed or Faith.
- i. The theological interpreter must keep the practical nature of the Bible.
- j. The theological interpreter must recognize his responsibility to the Church.
- k. No doctrine should be constructed from an uncertain textual reading.

### **2. Principles that govern devotional hermeneutics**

- a. Practical lessons, applications, and all devotional material must be governed by general Protestant hermeneutics.
- b. The Bible is more a book of principles than a catalogue of specific directions. Emphasis is on moral and spiritual principles not upon specific and itemized lists of rules and regulations.
- c. The Bible emphasizes the inner spirit rather than the outward cloak.
- d. In some statement it is the spirit of the statement that should be our guide.
- e. Commands in terms of one culture should be translated into our culture.

## **III. BS103 - Necessary Dispositions For the Study of Scriptures**



1. The Interpretation of Types
  - a. Facts may have a symbolical significance.
  - b. Facts may have a typical significance.
2. Characteristics of Types
  - 1) There must exist some notable point of resemblance between the type and antitype.
  - 2) It must be designed by divine appointment to bear a likeness to the antitype.
  - 3) It always pre-figures something futuristic. The symbolic must first be understood before the typical can be ascertained.
3. Type Definitions
  - a. Type – Something or someone representative.
  - b. Antitype – That which is prefigured by the type.
4. General rules that always apply to types.
  - a. Something evil cannot be regarded as a type of something good.
  - b. Proper understanding of a type is achieved through the study of a symbol. What is the moral and spiritual truth conveyed?
  - c. Must turn to NT for real interpretation.
  - d. Fundamental types that are not of a complex nature have just one radical meaning.
  - e. Have due regard for types and antitypes. Truth presented on a lower level can be carnal, while the same truth presented on a higher level can be spiritual.

#### **IV. BS104 - General Observations in the Order of Biblical Language**

1. Different Forms of Scripture
  - a. Referential Language – This form of language seeks to describe. It seeks to pass on facts.
  - b. Commissive Language – This form of language evokes decision, conveys emotions, elicits feelings, and arouses emotions. Commissive language appeals to the heart.
2. Idioms – In idioms the literal meaning of the words does not convey what an author meant by the use of these words.
  - a. We can only know if a combination of words is an idiom by finding this same combination in different places and noting from the context that its meaning is different from the normal meaning conveyed by these words.
  - b. Idioms are good examples of the fact that the “meaning” of words is not determined by what the words mean in and of themselves but rather what the author willed by those words.

- c. In using idioms the authors recognized that they were idioms and expected that their readers would interpret them as such.
3. Hyperbolic Language – The use of exaggerated language used mostly in commissive language.
  - a. The use of hyperbole or exaggeration is perfectly an acceptable literary form when shared by writer and reader.
  - b. The form enables the writer to convey not just factual information but also feelings and emotions.
  - c. Unless shared, this form of language is deceitful and dishonest.
  - d. Exaggeration can be subdivided into two types: overstatement in which what it is said is exaggerated but literally possible, and hyperbole in which what is said is so exaggerated that it is literally impossible.
4. Textual Principles
  - a. Etymologically – word formation and sense development. This is best done utilizing a lexicon. It adds insight as to the meaning of the word.
  - b. Comparatively – reveals how many times the word is used, which Author used it, and the various meaning of the word. This is best done utilizing a concordance.
  - c. Historically – words that have a history or historical cultural reference.
5. Grammatical Interpretation – states the principles that arrange the formation of words into meaningful sentences. We should know the grammatical concepts.
6. Contextual Interpretation – words need sentences, sentences need context. A text out of context is a pretext.
  - a. Culture of context
  - b. Bible context
  - c. Specific book context
  - d. The context itself
7. Interpreting according to the type of literature.
  - a. Poetic
  - b. Dramatic
  - c. History – Book of Acts
  - d. Biography - Gospels
  - e. Letters - Epistles
8. The proper use of Cross Reference – a topic that occurs in 2 or more places from which we can gather information from both.
  - a. Verbal cross-reference contain the same word or expression.
  - b. Conceptual does not contain the same word but same substance.

- c. Parallel recounts the same event or material in another part of the book.
- 9. The Role of the Holy Spirit in the Interpretation of the Bible
  - a. The Holy Spirit helps the reader understand the pattern of meaning that the author willed and convinces the reader as to the truth of that teaching.
  - b. There is nothing in Scripture that tells us that the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit transforms the mental abilities of people. What it does affect is our value systems, the significance we attribute to the meaning of biblical text.
  - c. Luther, Calvin, and the other Reformers reflected on how the Spirit was involved in the interpretation of Scripture, they spoke of the inward work of ‘illumination’ and the conviction of the Holy Spirit.

**V. M101 - Research Methodology**

- 1. Planning Your Research
  - a. Purpose of the research
  - b. Your audience
  - c. Choosing the Kind of information
  - d. The use of Sources
  - e. Collecting information
- 2. Research Methods
  - a. Interviews
  - b. Documentation Review
  - c. Observation
  - d. Studies
- 3. Analyzing, Interpreting, and Reporting Results
  - a. Research Goals
  - b. Quantitative Information Analysis
  - c. Qualitative Information Analysis
  - d. Interpreting Information
  - e. Normal literal interpretation of Scripture
  - f. Interpretation of symbolism in Scripture