



**A MINISTRY OF AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF INDIANA AND KENTUCKY
IN COOPERATION WITH ABC-GI ALONG WITH SPONSORING
AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES & ASSOCIATIONS**

C102 Introduction to the Old Testament

August 3, August 17. September 7 & September 21, 2019

Rev. Dr. Bruce Cochran, Instructor

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About Your Instructor

Bruce Cochran served as the senior pastor at First Baptist Church in Seymour, Indiana for twenty-two years. He previously served at First Baptist Church in Pomona, CA, Clarklake Community Church (Clarklake, MI) and Long Run Baptist Church (Vevay, IN).

He holds a B.S. degree from Liberty University (1980), an MDiv from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (1983), a ThM from Fuller Theological Seminary (1993) and a Dmin from Carolina Graduate School of Divinity (2016).

Bruce currently serves on staff with American Baptist Churches of Indiana and Kentucky as a Region Minister working with church leaders and pastors with the primary focus of equipping leaders, empowering churches and expanding mission.

He is an USAF veteran. He has a wide variety of extracurricular interests having secured an amateur radio license and instrument rating as a private pilot. Presently, he enjoys motorcycling, bird watching and hunting. He is married and has two sons and five grandchildren.

Description and Purpose

“Introduction to the Old Testament” introduces students to the history, literature, and theology of the thirty-nine books known to Christians as The Old Testament and to Jews as the Hebrew Bible (or Torah). It provides a beginning understanding of the Old Testament story as well as a basic grasp of the contents, setting, and occasion of these thirty-nine books. It will be taught from a perspective that affirms the divine inspiration of the writers in their own time period and the spiritual illumination of the reader (student) today.

Focus of This Experience

After completing this course students should be able to do the following:

- Provide a brief summary statement of the theme of each of the thirty-nine OT books.
- List the basic stages which make up the flow of the Old Testament.
- Identify different types of literature found in the OT (e.g., poetry, history).
- Discuss the primary theological themes found in the OT (e.g., covenant, sin).
- Gain an appreciation for the redemptive and Christological significance of the OT.

Required Texts

- David & Pat Alexander, eds., Zondervan Handbook to the Bible, 4th ed. (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 2011) ISBN 0-310-23095-0, hardback. (Can be purchased new or used at Amazon.com, but Cokebury's price is very good. Available in a sturdy paperback at \$19.95 list price). This book is challenging and comprehensive, easy to read, faith-based, filled with color pictures, maps, and charts, and serves as a ready reference. **Note:** *You may use the 1999—3rd Edition David & Pat Alexander, eds., Zondervan Handbook to the Bible, 3rd ed. (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1999) ISBN 0-310-23095-0, hardback.*
- Walter C. Kaiser, Jr., The Messiah in the Old Testament. (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1995). ISBN 0-310-20030-X, paperback.
- An English translation of the Old Testament, preferably a modern translation. (New Revised Standard Version, New International Version, English Standard Version, and New King James Version are good examples.) Using a modern translation will make your reading easier and faster. For the purposes of this class, *The Message* is **not** a good text to use, because it is a paraphrase.

Note: The Zondervan book is also used for the Introduction to the New Testament class and you will find it a very helpful resource beyond these class experiences.

Student Expectations

1. Attend all sessions whenever possible.
2. Contact the instructor in advance, if you will be absent.
3. Be prepared for each class session.
4. Participate in class discussions and exercises.
5. Support and encourage other students in the class.
6. Communicate with the instructor, if you have any questions or concerns.

Please bring the following to each class session:

- Textbooks
- Good English translation of the Bible; additionally, a Spanish translation of the Bible may be brought, if desired.
- Notebook (for handouts, assignments and taking notes)
- 2 pens/pencils (electronic device to take notes, if preferred)
- Syllabus, handouts & assignments

Requirements to Earn Credit

1. Completion of reading assignments.
2. Participation in class discussions and exercises.
3. Read additional articles or blogs as may be assigned.
4. Bring textbooks and completed assignments to each class session.
5. Attend at least 15 of the 20 hours of classroom time.
6. If absent one class session, earn an excused absence by doing the following:
 - a. contact the instructor about your absence (preferably before the absence, but at least within 72 hours of the absence);
 - b. obtain notes from two students who did participate in any class session you missed;
 - c. request a copy of the PowerPoint presentation(s) for the class session you missed in note format (3 slides per page); of course, this only applies if the instructor uses PowerPoint in the class session you missed;
 - d. complete a special assignment given by your instructor in addition to regular assignments; this is usually an enriching experience that will most likely pertain to the class session the student missed in some way.

Class Sessions & Reading Preparation

Aug 3:	Introductory Matters Old Testament Overview and Stages The Messiah in the Old Testament The Pentateuch: Creation (Genesis 1-11) The Patriarchs (Genesis 12-50) The Exodus and Wilderness (Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers & Deuteronomy)	ZHB, 14-29, 46-65, 80-107 Kaiser, 13-64 ZHB, 108-219
Aug 17:	Historical Books Entry into the Promised Land (Joshua, Judges) Israel Becomes a Nation (Ruth, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles) Exile and Return (Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther)	ZHB, 220-339

- Sep 7:** Prophets ZHB 408-458, 461-514
 Pan-Exilic Prophet (Isaiah)
 A-Exilic Prophets (Joel, Jonah)
 Pre-Exilic Prophets (Amos, Hosea, Micah,
 Zephaniah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Jeremiah)
 Exilic Prophets and Apocalyptic (Ezekiel, Obadiah, Daniel)
 Post-Exilic Prophets (Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi)
- Sep 21:** Wisdom, Worship and Devotional Literature ZHB, 340-407, 459-460
 (Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs,
 Job, Lamentations)
 Theological Themes in the Old Testament

NOTE: If it seems the page numbers are inconsistent with the edition of the ZHB you have, then please make sure that you are reading the sections of the ZHB that are in accordance with the topic for the class session.

<u>TENTATIVE DAILY CLASS SCHEDULE</u>	<u>CLASS LOCATION</u>
Arrive By 8:45AM 9:00 - 10:15 Session 1 10:15 - 10:25 Break 10:25 - 11:45 Session 2 11:45 - 12:45 Lunch 12:30 - 1:40 Session 3 1:40 - 1:50 Break 1:50 - 3:15 Session 4	Westport Baptist Church Outreach Center 205 E Main St Westport, IN 47283 (across the street from the church) Please use glass door entrance on the side of the building.