



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

C103 Introduction to the New Testament

October 5, October 19, November 2 & tentatively November 9, 2019

Rev. Dr. Bruce Cochran, Instructor

Email: brucecochran@abc-indiana.org

Cell: 812.521.1575

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 Resource 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

The primary goal of this class experience is for participants to acquire and develop skills necessary to understand the Bible at a deeper level. “Introduction to the New Testament” will introduce students to the history, Jewish and Hellenistic background, language, literature, and theology of the twenty-seven books known to Christians as The New Testament. It provides a beginning understanding of the New Testament story as well as a basic grasp of the contents, setting, and occasion of these twenty-seven 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 learning experience, students should be able to do the following:

- List the twenty-seven NT books in canonical order and give a brief summary statement of the theme of each book.
- List the twenty-seven NT books in the approximate order of their writing.
- Gain an appreciation for the Intertestamental period, and how it fits into the overall development of the Kingdom of God.
- Identify unique characteristics of the four gospels
- Identify the types of literature found in the NT (e.g., parable, gospel, letter, hymn).
- Distinguish a Jewish or a Hellenistic background for a NT book or section.
- Discuss the primary theological themes found in the NT (e.g., kingdom of God, righteousness, salvation, eschatology).
- Understand and use parallel gospel accounts.

Required Texts

1. 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.
2. Burton H. Throckmorton, Jr., Gospel Parallels, 5th ed. (1992: NRSV text, ISBN 0840774842) or 4th ed. (1979: RSV text, ISBN 0840751508), or any earlier edition, (Thomas Nelson). Both are available on Amazon, used, very cheap
3. 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.

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
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
- 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. Complete assigned readings in Zondervan Handbook to the Bible (ZHB) prior to the assigned class meeting. Gospel Parallels will be used in class.
2. Read the suggested scripture passages for each class session.
3. Participation in class discussions and exercises.
4. Attend at least 15 of the 20 hours of classroom time
5. 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 & Preparation

It seems the page numbers are consistent whatever edition of the Zondervan Handbook you have, but please make sure that you are reading the appropriate sections of the ZHB depending on the edition of the ZHB you have and in accordance to the topic for the class session.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR CLASS SESSION OUTLINE & READING SCHEDULE

Date to be completed	Session Topics / Bible Reading Assignments	Reading Pages
Oct 5	Introductory Matters	14-95
	The Intertestamental Period	515-537
	Gospel of Mark	538-547, 577-594
	Gospel of Matthew	548-576
Oct 19	Gospel of Luke	595-620
	Gospel of John	621-642
Nov 2	Acts	643-673
	Paul & His Letters	674-680
	Thessalonians, Galatians, Corinthians	694-713, 728-731
	Romans, Philippians, Ephesians	681-693, 714-722
	Colossians, Philemon, Timothy, Titus	723-727, 732-739
Nov 9	Hebrews, James, 1/2/3 Peter	740-757
	1/2/3 John, Jude, Revelation	758-777
	Theological Themes in the New Testament	

<u>Tentative Daily Class Schedule</u>	<u>Class Location</u>
<p>Arrive By 8:45AM</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Westport Baptist Church Outreach Center 205 E Main St Westport, IN 47283 (across the street from the church)</p> <p>Please use glass door entrance on the side of the building.</p>