



**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**

July 17, July 31, August 28 & Sep 18, 2021

**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 baseball, bird watching, bicycling, and hiking. 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, and a brief introduction to how to study the Bible. 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. **Note:** *You may use the 1999—3rd Edition David & Pat Alexander, eds., Zondervan Handbook to the Bible, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.
- Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart, How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003. ISBN 0-310-24604-0, 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. Watch all videos related to the session prior to the attending the class, including assignments embedded in the videos.
4. Be prepared for each class session.
5. Participate in class discussions and exercises.
6. Support and encourage other students in the class.
7. Communicate with the instructor, if you have any questions or concerns.

For live sessions, be prepared by having the following close at hand:

- 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 or view at least 15 of the 20 hours of live and recorded video 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 & Preparation**

- Assignments listed under each class session date need to be completed *before* the class session meets.
- Students are strongly encouraged to schedule blocks of time each week into their personal calendar for completing preparation for each class session.
- Complete assigned reading in the texts and handouts with capability to discuss the material and join in the discussion.
- For those participating via Zoom, a notetaking document will be attached to each email with the Zoom link that will be sent out the Thursday before each class session. Those planning to participate “in-person” will also receive this email just in case that plan changes for a particular Saturday. Their will be copies of the note-taking document on-site for “in-person” participants.
- Out of respect for your instructor and classmates, *please be prepared*. Those who haven’t received your books by the week of the 1<sup>st</sup> class session, please contact the instructor and let him know. Please also contact the instructor if you need to be absent from any part of a class session (see “requirements to earn credit” section for details about earning an excused absence).

**1<sup>st</sup> Class Session-Jul 17:**

**Prior to class, watch the following 13 videos:**

Zoom Lecture Videos (Passcode: CLIOT21#)

(A) Introduction: [https://ministrelife.zoom.us/rec/share/E-xW-ZNsE-vd9kEGdcEjFJrrQQ5TDGYG\\_mZqW7QjWjXkKPW\\_fK-oAW0L4hNPwL-3.JcHOUvkfZcQVt-Br?startTime=1622752082000](https://ministrelife.zoom.us/rec/share/E-xW-ZNsE-vd9kEGdcEjFJrrQQ5TDGYG_mZqW7QjWjXkKPW_fK-oAW0L4hNPwL-3.JcHOUvkfZcQVt-Br?startTime=1622752082000)

(B) Introduction 1.1: <https://ministrelife.zoom.us/rec/share/-P7GQWhMqcDfF5Ocm9wOFFpL34T8Lm0dxITFhFCI97lMwFj28oYrBXo0f7U-pW30.ppnbiKLITZjqfmdR?startTime=1621956159000>

(C) Introduction 1.2: [https://ministrelife.zoom.us/rec/share/MtbZrX44X0Eh9cOG3bjZCFFfIcX1N6tZGL8iAT\\_DFOTUACw\\_cgmvoLReJkxKI2F3S.k0Atd-N6XP\\_XX-1k?startTime=1620834502000](https://ministrelife.zoom.us/rec/share/MtbZrX44X0Eh9cOG3bjZCFFfIcX1N6tZGL8iAT_DFOTUACw_cgmvoLReJkxKI2F3S.k0Atd-N6XP_XX-1k?startTime=1620834502000)

(D) Review: [https://ministrelife.zoom.us/rec/share/GxniHcCz1kFHQBEm14Tggg7Wj6vCN5Qc5yQbK4BPRIW-P-u9i4DTBkzFgtcgsK-Z.6typI2\\_etNtLk9wb?startTime=1622754545000](https://ministrelife.zoom.us/rec/share/GxniHcCz1kFHQBEm14Tggg7Wj6vCN5Qc5yQbK4BPRIW-P-u9i4DTBkzFgtcgsK-Z.6typI2_etNtLk9wb?startTime=1622754545000)

(E) The Bible Project

Menu of the following videos: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/book-overviews/>

*Story of the Bible:* <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/the-story-of-the-bible/>

*Literary Styles:* <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/literary-styles-bible/>

*Genesis 1-11:* <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/genesis-1-11/>

*Genesis 12-50:* <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/genesis-12-50/>

*Exodus 1-18:* <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/exodus-1-18/>

*Exodus 19-40:* <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/exodus-19-40/>

*Leviticus:* <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/leviticus/>

*Numbers:* <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/numbers/>

*Deuteronomy:* <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/deuteronomy/>

FOCUS	READING
Introductory Matters How to Study the Bible 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)	Zondervan Handbook 14-29, 46-65, 80-219  Fee & Stuart Book, 7-31, 265-268  Kaiser Book 13-64

**2<sup>nd</sup> Class Session-Jul 31:**

FOCUS	READING
Historical Books <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entry into the Promised Land (Joshua, Judges)</li> <li>• Israel Becomes a Nation (Ruth, 1 &amp; 2 Samuel, 1 &amp; 2 Kings, 1 &amp; 2 Chronicles)</li> <li>• Exile and Return (Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther)</li> </ul>	Zondervan Handbook 220-339

**3<sup>rd</sup> Class Session- Aug 28:**

FOCUS	READING
Prophets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pan-Exilic Prophet (Isaiah)</li> <li>• A-Exilic Prophets (Joel, Jonah)</li> <li>• Pre-Exilic Prophets (Amos, Hosea, Micah, Zephaniah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Jeremiah)</li> <li>• Exilic Prophets and Apocalyptic (Ezekiel, Obadiah, Daniel)</li> <li>• Post-Exilic Prophets (Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi)</li> </ul>	Zondervan Handbook 408-458, 461-514

**4th Class Session- Sep 18:**

FOCUS	READING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wisdom, Worship and Devotional Literature (Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Job, Lamentations)</li> <li>• Theological Themes in the Old Testament</li> </ul>	Zondervan Handbook 340-407, 459-460

**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.

<p><b><u>July 17: Zoom Only</u></b> 9:00 – Noon</p>	<p><b><u>2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Class Sessions</u></b></p> <p><b><u>CLASS LOCATION</u></b></p> <p>American Baptist Churches of Indiana and Kentucky office 65 Airport Parkway, Suite 120 Greenwood, Indiana 46143</p> <p>(Students may join sessions 2-4 on Zoom)</p> <p><b><u>CLASS SCHEDULE</u></b></p> <p>Arrive By 8:45AM</p> <table><tr><td>9:00 - 10:15</td><td>Session 1</td></tr><tr><td>10:15 - 10:25</td><td>Break</td></tr><tr><td>10:25 - 11:45</td><td>Session 2</td></tr><tr><td>11:45 - 12:45</td><td>Lunch</td></tr><tr><td>12:30 - 1:40</td><td>Session 3</td></tr><tr><td>1:40 - 1:50</td><td>Break</td></tr><tr><td>1:50 - 3:30</td><td>Session 4</td></tr></table>	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 - 3:30	Session 4
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