

**PREA6221/6321: Preaching from Apocalyptic Literature**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Division of Pastoral Ministries**  
**August 3-7, 2015**

Dr. Mike Miller  
Campus Pastor  
Associate Professor of Expository Preaching  
504-655-4512  
mmiller@nobts.edu

**Seminary Mission Statement**

The mission of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

**Purpose of the Course, Core Value Focus, and Curriculum Competencies Addressed**

The purpose of this course is to provide quality theological education for students in the discipline of pastoral ministries.

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for 2014-2015 is Spiritual Vitality.

The seminary has seven curriculum competencies: The course will specifically address the curriculum competencies of biblical exposition, spiritual and character formation, Christian theological heritage, disciple making, and worship leadership.

**Course Description**

This course addresses preaching approaches to apocalyptic literature within the Bible. Attention is given to the form and function of apocalyptic material during the New Testament period, as well as to the implications of the backgrounds of specific passages for preaching. Special emphasis is given to sermonic developments of selected apocalyptic passages. Prerequisite to entrance into this course is the successful completion of PREA5300 Proclaiming the Bible, BSHM5310 Biblical Hermeneutics, and NTEN5300 Exploring the New Testament. This course will focus on the apocalyptic genre.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Understand the context, nature, and genre of the book of Revelation;
2. Determine the distinctive message and other aspects of the book of Revelation
3. Understand the concepts, methods, and resources for preaching from Revelation in order to preach messages which are exegetically, hermeneutically, theologically, and homiletically sound;
4. Prepare biblical sermon briefs from Revelation, which are clearly structured and effective in application to contemporary life;
5. Value preaching Revelation in today's world.

### **Required Textbooks**

- Baldwin, Joyce. *Daniel*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentary. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2009.
- Cook, Stephen L. *The Apocalyptic Literature*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2003.
- Poythress, Vern S. *The Returning King: A Guide to the Book of Revelation*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2000.

### **Optional Textbooks**

- Collins, John J. *The Apocalyptic Imagination*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.
- Godlingay, John. *Daniel*. Word Biblical Commentary. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2015.
- Reddish, Mitchell G., ed. *Apocalyptic Literature: A Reader*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1990.
- Stevens, Gerald L. *Revelation: The Past and Future of John's Apocalypse*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2014.

### **Course Requirements**

Students who are taking the course for a grade must complete the following:

1. **Introduction Paper:** The student will write an introduction paper on the book of Revelation. The paper should include sections covering the following: author, date, recipients and occasion, genre, and structure (which will also include an outline of the book). The paper is to be 12-15 pages, double-spaced and should contain adequate footnotes and a bibliography with a minimum of ten sources.
2. **Annotated Analysis:** The student will submit **one** typed, 4 pages or less, single-spaced (or 6 pages for students taking 6321) annotated analysis of **two** of the required textbooks (all **three** for students taking 6321), plus **two** of the optional textbooks (**three** for students taking 6321). Format: this **one** single-spaced analysis should give a correct bibliographic listing of each of the **four** (or **six**) books with their associated annotations that answer the following questions:
  - a. What is a two-paragraph (or less) summary of the book?
  - b. What is one (or more) helpful feature(s) of the book for preaching?
  - c. What is one difficulty, deficiency, or limitation in using the book for preaching?A cover page is to be used, but do not include an intervening blank page.
3. **Sermon Analysis:** The student will analyze three (six for students taking 6321) **sermons** from apocalyptic passages of the Bible (written, audio, or video but not lectures, articles, or books) by one or more of the following preachers:

Origen of Alexandria	Augustine of Hippo	Chrysostom of Antioch
Martin Luther	John Calvin	John Knox
John Bunyan	John Wesley	John Broadus
Jonathan Edwards	Charles Simeon	Harold Bryson
G. Campbell Morgan	D.L. Moody	Dietrich Bonhoeffer
Karl Barth	W.A. Criswell	George W. Truett
Clyde Fant Jr.	J. I. Packer	John R. W. Stott
Warren Wiersbe	Voddie Baucham	D. Martin Lloyd-Jones
William Willimon	Haddon Robinson	J.D. Gray

John MacArthur	Donald G. Miller	B. Gray Allison
Leith Anderson	John Piper	Charles Stanley
Millard Erickson	Rick Warren	Joel Gregory
Gardner Taylor	Adrian Rogers	Calvin Miller
David Jeremiah	Chuck Swindoll	Billy Graham
Jim Shaddix	David Platt	Ed Young Jr.
Andy Stanley	Don Wilton	Steve Gaines
David Uth	Francis Chan	Robert Smith
Matt Chandler	James MacDonald	David Allen
Mark Driscoll	Jerry Vines	Mac Brunson
Joseph Parker	Chip Henderson	Charles Haddon Spurgeon
Fred Luter	Waylon Bailey	David Crosby
Alexander Maclaren	Phillips Brooks	Jim Henry

The student may instead choose to analyze how the same New Testament epistle text is treated or used in one sermon each by any three of the above preachers. The analysis must be done by using the Sermon Brief form attached in this syllabus (i.e., students must complete one form for each of the three sermons chosen). Students must put their name and the name of the preacher selected on each completed form.

4. **Preaching Plan:** Each student will design a preaching plan from apocalyptic passages of the Bible. The preaching plan should include:
  - A series of at least 10 sermons, including title, text, and a one-paragraph description of the sermon content.
  - Sermon briefs for 6 of the sermons, with no more than one brief from chapters 2 or 3. Students taking 6321 should submit 9 sermon briefs. Use the attached sermon brief form.
  - A full sermon manuscript of one of the sermons in the series. The manuscript may not be from chapters 2 or 3.
5. **Final Exam:** The final exam will be a take-home, open-book exam, and questions will come from the course presentations, required textbooks, and assignments. The exam will also include an individual assessment of the personal accomplishment of two student-selected course learning objectives in this syllabus.

**Evaluation:** All course objectives will be evaluated through the grading of the course assignments. Student participation and behavior online will also be considered in the evaluation and grading. The student's course grade will be determined, as follows:

1. Introduction Paper	25%
2. Annotated Analysis	15%
3. Analysis of Sermons	15%
4. Preaching Plan	30%
5. Final Exam	15%

**Submission of Assignments:** All assignments are to be submitted through SafeAssign on Blackboard and are due no later than 12:00 noon on these **Thursdays**:

- |                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Introduction Paper  | September 10 |
| 2. Annotated Analysis  | October 1    |
| 3. Analysis of Sermons | October 29   |
| 4. Preaching Plan      | November 19  |

Note: assignments submitted past the due date and time will incur a late penalty of ten points. Assignments will not be accepted one week past the due date and time.

The final exam will be available on Monday, November 16, and will be due to mmiller@nobts.edu no later than **12:00 noon on Friday, November 20.**

### **Centergize 2014 Event Attendance**

Students are reminded that PREA6221/6321 is a component course in the Centergize 2015 Event. As such, students in PREA6221/6321 must attend all Centergize plenary sessions on Tuesday and Thursday evenings (August 4 and 6), which will take the place of the usual PREA6221/6321 evening sessions on those days.

### **Student/Professor Conferences**

The professors are available to dialogue with students via phone or email. Please note the contact information of the professors on the first page of the syllabus.

### **In Case of a Declared Campus Evacuation or Other Emergency**

Students are to follow the guidelines of the NOBTS announcements and locate the course on Blackboard for further instructions regarding the course.

### **Selected Bibliography**

- Akin, Daniel L., Bill Curtis, and Stephen Rummage. *Engaging Exposition*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2011.
- Allen, David, and Steve Lemke, eds. *The Return of Christ: A Premillennial Perspective*. Nashville: B&H Academics, 2011.
- Ashcraft, Morris. *Revelation*. Broadman Bible Commentary Series. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1972.
- Bailey, James, and Lyle Vander Broek. *Literary Forms in the New Testament*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1992.
- Baldwin, Joyce. *Daniel*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentary. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2009.
- Bayleat, Joseph R. *Babylon: The Great City of Revelation*. Sevierville: Onward Press, 1991.
- Barclay, William. *Letters to the Seven Churches*. London: S.C.M. Press, 1957.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Revelation of John*. The Daily Bible Study. 2 Vols. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1959.
- Beale, G. K. *The Book of Revelation: A Commentary on the Greek Text*. The New International Greek Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.
- Beasley-Murray, G.R.. *The Book of Revelation*. Interpretation Series. Louisville: John Knox Press, 1989.
- Boring, Eugene M., *Revelation*. Interpretation Series. Louisville: John Knox Press, 1989.
- Brown, David. *Christ's Second Coming: Will it Be Premillennial?* Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1983.
- Bryson, Harold. *Expository Preaching: The Art of Preaching through a Book of the Bible*. Nashville: B&H, 1995.
- Carter, Terry, Scott Duvall, and Daniel Hays. *Preaching God's Word*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.
- Chilton, David. *The Days of Vengeance: An Exposition of the Book of Revelation*. Fort Worth: Dominion Press, 1987.

- Clouse, Robert G. *The Meaning of Millennium: Four Views*. Downers Grove: Inter-Varsity, 1977.
- Coleman, Robert E. *Songs of Harvest: A New Perspective on Revelation*. Old Tappan: Revell, 1980.
- Chapell, Bryan. *Christ-Centered Sermons: Models of Redemptive Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2013.
- Collins, John J. *The Apocalyptic Imagination*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.
- Cook, Stephen L. *The Apocalyptic Literature*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2003.
- Cox, James, Ed. *Biblical Preaching: An Expositor's Treasury*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1983.
- Criswell, W.A. *Expository Sermons of Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1966.
- Easley, Kendall H. *Revelation*. Holman New Testament Commentary Series, Max Anders, General Editor. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1998.
- Eller, Vernard.. *The Most Revealing Book of the Bible: Making Sense out of Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Pub., 1974.
- Ellul, Jacques. *Apocalypse: The Book of Revelation*. New York: Seabury Press, 1977.
- Erdman, Charles R., *The Revelation of John*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1966.
- Ewert, David. *And Then Comes The End*. Scottsdale: Herald Press, 1980
- Ezell, Douglas. *Revelations on Revelation: New Sounds from Old Symbols*. Waco: Word Books, 1977.
- Fee, Gordon. *New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastor*. 3d ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002.
- Ford, J. Massynberde. *Revelation: A New Translation with introduction and Commentary*. Anchor Bible Series. New York: Doubleday, 1975.
- Gentry, Jr., Kenneth L. *Before Jerusalem Fell: Dating the Book of Revelation*. Tyler: Institute for Christian Economics, 1989.
- Godlingay, John. *Daniel*. Word Biblical Commentary. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2015.

- Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Lamb and the Lion: The Gospel in Revelation*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Pub., 1984.
- Graham, Billy. *Approaching Hoofbeats: The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse*. Minneapolis: Grason Pub, 1983.
- Gregg, Steve. *Revelation: Four Views: A Parallel Commentary*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1997.
- Greidanus, Sidney. *The Modern Preacher and the Ancient Text*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.
- Grenz, Stanley J. *The Millennial Maze: Sorting Out Evangelical Options*. Downers Grove: Inter-Varsity Press, 1992.
- Guthrie, Donald. *The Relevance of John's Apocalypse*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Pub., 1987.
- Hamilton, James M. *Revelation: The Spirit Speaks to the Churches*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2012.
- Hendriksen, William. *More Than Conquerors: An Interpretation of the Book of Revelation*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2006.
- Hoeksema, Herman. *Behold, He Cometh! An Exposition of the Book of Revelation*, 2d ed. Grandville, MI: Reformed Free Publishing Association, 2000.
- Johnson, Alan F. *Revelation*. Expositor's Bible Commentary Series. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981.
- Johnson, Dennis E. *Triumph of the Lamb*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2001.
- Long, Thomas. *Preaching and the Literary Forms of the Bible*. Fortress, 1989.
- MacArthur, Jr., John. *Revelation 1-11*. The MacArthur New Testament Commentary Series. Chicago: Moody Press, 2000.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Revelation 12-22*. The MacArthur New Testament Commentary Series. Chicago: Moody Press, 2000.
- Morris, Leon. *The Revelation of Saint John: An Introduction and Commentary*. Tyndale New Testament Commentary Series. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Pub., 1969.

- Mounce, Robert H. *What Are We Waiting for? A Commentary on Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992.
- O'Leary, Stephen D. *Arguing the Apocalypse: A Theory of Millennial Rhetoric*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994.
- Osborne, Grant R. *The Hermeneutical Spiral: A Comprehensive Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1991.
- Pate, Marvin, Scott Duvall, Daniel Hays, Randolph Richards, Dennis Tucker, and Preben Vang. *The Story of Israel: A Biblical Theology*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2004.
- Pate, C. Marvin, ed. *Four Views on the Book of Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
- Poythress, Vern S. *The Returning King: A Guide to the Book of Revelation*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2000.
- Paul, Ian, and David Wenham, eds. *Preaching the New Testament*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2013.
- Reddish, Mitchell G., ed. *Apocalyptic Literature: A Reader*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1990.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Revelation*. Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwys, 2001.
- Richard, Ramesh. *Preparing Expository Sermons: A Seven-Step Method for Biblical Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2001.
- Rowley, H.H. *The Relevance of Apocalyptic*. New York: Association Press, 1964.
- Smalley, Stephen S. *The Revelation to John: A Commentary on the Greek Text of the Apocalypse*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2005.
- Stein, Robert. *A Basic Guide to Interpreting the Bible: Playing by the Rules*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1994.
- Stenger, Werner. *Introduction to New Testament Exegesis*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.
- Stevens, Gerald L. *Revelation: The Past and Future of John's Apocalypse*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2014.
- Storms, Sam. *Kingdom Come: The Amillennial Alternative*. Ross-shire, Scotland, UK: Mentor, 2013.



Summers, Ray. *Worthy Is the Lamb: An Interpretation of Revelation*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1951.

Thomas, Derek. *Let's Study Revelation*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth Trust, 2003.

Thompson, James W. *Preaching Like Paul: Homiletical Wisdom for Today*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2001.

Thompson, Leonard L. *Revelation*. Abingdon New Testament Commentary Series. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1998.

Walvoord, John F. *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1971.

**SERMON BRIEF**  
Rhetorical Sermon Outline

Name:

Assignment/Date Due:

**A. Foundational Elements**

1. Sermon Title (in quotation marks; headline capitalization style):
2. Text:
3. Subject (in one or two words--or as a short phrase, **but not a sentence**):
4. ETS (Essence of the Text in a Sentence--state in the **past** tense):
  
5. ESS (Essence of the Sermon in a Sentence--also called the Proposition; do **not** state in the past tense):
  
6. OSS (Objective of the Sermon in a Sentence--state in terms of what hearers will **do** as a result of this sermon): Hearers will....

**B. Formal Elements**

Introduction

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Body

I.

- 1.
- 2.

II.

- 1.
- 2.

III.

- 1.
- 2.

Conclusion

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**C. Notes**

1. The number of points may vary within the formal elements from the numbers shown above.
2. All main points (i.e., I, II, etc.) in the sermon body outline must be referenced to the text (e.g., I. The Motive of Salvation, John 3:16a; II. The Means of Salvation, John 3:16b).
3. Write all sermon body main points in headline capitalization style (e.g., The Motive of Salvation). Write all lesser points under the main points in sentence capitalization style.