

**Austin Graduate School of Theology**

**THE PASTOR AS A SCRIPTURE STORYTELLER**

**MIN 6399p**

Monday-Friday  
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
Session 1-June 13-17  
Session 2-June 27-July 1

Jim Reynolds [jimranddonnar@aol.com](mailto:jimranddonnar@aol.com)  
2120 Hollow Hills  
(817) 469-6053  
Fort Worth, Texas, 76120

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this course is to cast a vision of the Bible as story and the pastoral implications of **The Story**. The course will first examine story; then look at the Bible's story from Genesis to Revelation; finally the course will conclude with discussion of the practical implications of the story for ministering in today's church.

**TEXTBOOKS:**

Jim Reynolds, *The Unfinished Drama of Scripture* - Unpublished manuscript. Read entire manuscript. The entire course will be based on this book. Lectures will discuss and expand the material each day.

Howard Peskett and Vinoth Ramachandra, *The Message of Mission*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2003. Pages 33-52, 89-123, 140-156, 69-86, 172-190, 208-224, 261-276.

Christopher Wright, *Knowing Jesus Through the Old Testament*. Downer's Grove, InterVarsity Press, 1992, pages 1-102; 181-252.

Eugene Peterson, *Eat This Book*, (Grand Rapids, Eerdmans, 2006). Entire book.

**GRADUATE COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Attendance and participation in the class will be 20% of class grade.

Written reviews of and interaction with the basic arguments made in each of the reading assignments- Reynolds, Christ Wright, Peskett and Ramachandra. Written assignments will be due on the day the material is scheduled to be discussed in class. Written assignments should be no less than three pages and no more than 5 pages double spaced per assignment. The three 50 page plus assignments from *Knowing Jesus* shall each be 5 to 7 pages long. 60 % of the class grade for graduate credit.

Review of and interaction with Eugene Peterson's *Eat this Book*. Assignment shall be no less 10 pages or more than 12. Write a summary of each chapter and a response to the argument he is making in the book. Due July 8 by 5 p.m. 20% of the grade for graduate credit.

## **SCHEDULE OF TOPICS:**

(Below are the pages to read for each class period and the subject of the lecture-discussion for the day.)

### **JUNE 13-17 – SESSION 1**

#### JUNE 13-DAY 1

Introduction of class participants and material of class.

*The Unfinished Drama of Scripture*, pages 1-38.

*The Message of Mission*, pages 33-52.

Lecture and discussion of Story as art form and scripture as story.

Lecture and discussion of competing stories.

Lecture and discussion of the Bible as a 6 act drama.

Lecture and discussion of the biblical doctrine of Creation

#### JUNE 14-DAY 2

*The Unfinished Drama of Scripture*, pages 38-46.

*Knowing Jesus*, pages 1-54.

Lecture and discussion of Biblical doctrine of Creation - Act 1.

Lecture and discussion of Biblical doctrine of Sin - Act 2.

#### JUNE 15-DAY 3

*The Unfinished Drama of Scripture*, pages 46-52

*The Message of Mission*, pages 89-106

*Knowing Jesus*, pages 55-102

Lecture and discussion of Biblical doctrine of sin.

Lecture and discussion of Act 3-The election of Israel - The Patriarchs.

#### JUNE 16-DAY 4

*The Unfinished Drama of Scripture*, pages 52-78

*The Message of Mission*, pages 107-123

Lecture and discussion of Act 3, Israel-Exodus through Deuteronomy.

Lecture and discussion of Joshua through 1 Kings.

#### JUNE 17-DAY 5

*The Unfinished Drama of Scripture*, pages 78-97

*The Message of Mission*, pages 124-156

Lecture and discussion of Divided Kingdom, Exile, Rebuilding of the Temple-  
2<sup>nd</sup> Kings, The Prophets, Chronicles, Ezra and Nehemiah

Lecture and discussion of the Intertestamental interlude-400 B.C. to 4 B.C.  
and Second Temple Judaism up to and including the time of Jesus.

#### **JUNE 27-JULY 1 – SESSION 2**

#### JUNE 27-DAY 6

*The Unfinished Drama of Scripture*, pages 97-120.

*The Message of Mission*, pages 69-86, 172-190.

*Knowing Jesus*, Pages 181-252.

Lecture and discussion of Act 4, Jesus – The Plot Resolution. Jesus within the bigger story. Jesus as Kingdom bringer, The true Israelite, the Son of Man, the Son of God, The Messiah as Crucified and Resurrected Lord.

Lecture and discussion of Jesus, Abraham and the Nations.

#### JUNE 28-DAY 7

*The Unfinished Drama of Scripture*, pages 120-149.

*The Message of Mission*, pages 208-224.

Lecture and discussion of Act 5 - The Church - The Story Luke - Acts tells-The inclusion of the nations and the reconstitution of the people of God around Jesus.

Lecture and discussion of Paul's letters to Rome and to Philemon.

#### JUNE 29-DAY 8

*The Unfinished Drama of Scripture*, pages 150-187.

*The Message of Mission*, pages 261-276.

Lecture and discussion of Act 6 - The Appearance of Jesus-the Resurrection of the dead, the Setting of all Things Right, the New heaven and New Earth.

Lecture and discussion of eschatology within the life of the churches at Corinth, Ephesus and Philippi.

Lecture and discussion of the eschatological message of John's apocalypse as a pastoral letter.

JUNE 30-DAY 9

*The Unfinished Drama of Scripture*, pages 187-223.

So what? Lecture and discussion of pastoral implications for the telling of the story for reading and applying the Old Testament, the character of salvation, the living of the disciple's life, the presence of evil and suffering.

Lecture and discussion of the question, "Is the story still on after two thousand years?"

JULY 1-DAY 10

OPEN TIME FOR LECTURE AND DISCUSSION.

JULY 8 – Review of Eugene Peterson's *Eat This Book* is due by 5 p.m. Review shall be no less than 10 pages or more than 12. Discuss and interact with the major themes in this book.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

### **THEOLOGY AND OLD TESTAMENT THEOLOGY**

John Bright, *The Kingdom Of God* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1961)

Walter Brueggemann, *Theology of The Old Testament* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 1997)

John Goldingay, *Old Testament Theology*, vol. 1–3 on Israel's Gospel, Faith and Life (Intervarsity Press, 2003, 2006, 2009)

Gerald R. McDermott, ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Evangelical Theology* (England: Oxford University Press, 2010)

Bruce Waltke, *Old Testament Theology* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007)

### **OLD TESTAMENT, MISSION AND ETHICS**

Richard Bauckham, *Bible and Mission* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2003)

Christopher Wright, *The Mission of God*, (Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2006)

Christopher Wright, *The Mission of God's People* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010)

Christopher Wright, *Old Testament Ethics for the People of God*, (Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2004)

### **ISLAM STUDIES**

Miriam Adney, *Daughters of Islam* (Downer's Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2002)

Alistair Cooke, *Resistance: the Essence of the Islamic Revolution* (New York: Pluto Press, 2009)

Miroslav Volf, *Allah* (New York: Harper Collins, 2011)

## **BIBLE AS STORY**

Bernhard W. Anderson, *The Unfolding Drama of the Bible* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2006)

Craig R. Bartholomew and Michael Goheen, *The Drama of Scripture* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2004)

Craig G. Bartholomew and Michael W. Goheen, *The True Story of the World* (Grand Rapids: Faith Alive, 2004)

James O. Chatham, *Creation To Revelation* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2006)

Graeme Goldsworthy, *According To Plan* (Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 1991)

Brian D. McClaren, *The Story We Find Ourselves In* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2003)

Vaughn Roberts, *God's Big Picture* (Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2002)

Mark Strom, *The Symphony of Scripture* (New Jersey: P&R Publishing, 2001)

Kevin J. Vanhoozer, *The Drama of Doctrine* (Louisville: WJK Press, 2005)

## **OLD TESTAMENT BACKGROUNDS, HISTORY AND COMMENTARIES**

Don C. Benjamin and Victor H. Matthews, *Old Testament Parallels* (New Jersey: Paulist Press, 1997)

John Bright, *The History of Israel*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. (Louisville: WJK Press, 1981)

Walter Brueggemann, *The Prophetic Imagination* (Minneapolis: Augsburg, 2001)

Abraham Heschel, *The Prophets* (New York: Harper and Row, 1962)

Robert W. Jenson. *Commentary on Ezekiel* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2009)

Eugene Peterson, *1 and 2 Samuel* (Louisville: WJK Press, 1999)

Eugene Peterson, *Answering God* (New York: Harper Collins, 1991)

Eugene Petersen, *Leap Over A Wall* (New York: Harper Collins, 1997)

Iain Provan, Longman and V. Phillip Long, *A Biblical History of Israel* (Louisville: WJK Press, 2003)

Iain Provan, *Commentary On 1 and 2 Kings* (Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 1995)

Iain Provan, *Ecclesiastes and the Song of Songs* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001)

Bruce Waltke, *Commentary on Genesis* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001)

John H. Walton, *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2006)

John H. Walton, *Chronological and Background Charts Of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994)

Gordon Wenham, *Genesis* (Waco: Word, 1994)

Gordon Wenham, *Exploring the Old Testament, A Guide to The Pentateuch* (Downer's Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2003)

## **JESUS STUDIES**

Marcus Borg and N. T. Wright, *The Meaning of Jesus* (New York: Harper Collins, 1999)

Thomas Cahill, *Desire of the Everlasting Hills* (New York: Random House, 1999)

Gerrit Scott Dawson, *Jesus Ascended* (New Jersey: P&R Publishing, 2004)

Joachim Jeremias, *Jesus' Promise To The Nations* (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1982)

Douglas Farrow, *Ascension and Ecclesia* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999)

Martin Hengel, *Crucifixion* (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1977)

Vinoth Ramachandra, *The Scandal of Jesus* (Downer's Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2010)

Geza Vermes, *Jesus the Jew* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1981)

N.T. Wright, *The Challenge of Jesus* (UK: SPCK, 2000)

N.T. Wright, *Jesus and the Victory of God* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 1997)

N.T. Wright, *The New Testament and the People of God* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 1992)

N.T. Wright, *The Resurrection of the Son of God* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2003)

## **PASTORAL THEOLOGY AND PASTORING**

Eugene Peterson, *Christ Plays In Ten Thousand Places* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005)

Eugene Peterson, *Eat This Book* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2006)

Eugene Peterson, *Five Smooth Stones* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992)

Eugene Peterson, *The Jesus Way* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2007)

Eugene Peterson, *Working the Angles* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1987)

## **HISTORICAL STUDIES**

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- James Herrick, *The Making of the New Spirituality* (Downer's Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2003)
- Richard Hughes, *Myths America Lives By* (Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 2004)
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- Edmund H. Olive, *The Social Achievements of the Christian Church* (Vancouver: Regent College Publishing, 2004)
- Jaroslav Pelican, *The Christian Tradition*, vol. 1–5 (Chicago: University of Chicago Press)
- Rodney Stark, *For the Glory of God* (New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2004)
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- Rodney Stark, *The Rise of Christianity* (New York: Harper Collins, 1996)
- Charles Williams, *The Descent of the Dove* (Vancouver: Regent College Publishing, 1939)

## **ETHICS**

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- Richard Hayes, *The Moral Vision of the New Testament* (San Francisco: Harper Collins, 1996)
- Alasdair MacIntyre, *After Virtue*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (Indiana: Notre Dame Press, 1984)
- Jeffrey Satinover, *Homosexuality and the Politics of Truth* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996)
- N. T. Wright, *After You Believe* (New York: Harper Collins, 2010)

## **BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION**

- Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart, *How To Read the Bible Book by Book* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002)
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## **POETRY AND THE ARTS**

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## **CHURCH**

Rodney Clapp, *A Peculiar People* (Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 1996)

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## **ESCHATOLOGY AND THE APOCALYPSE**

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