

Exegesis of the Pentateuch

Academic credits

6 KP (9 ECTS)

Prerequisites

Overview of the Bible

Approved by

Methodological Commission (August, 2021)

Course Author and Lecturer

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Content (Course Annotation)

In this course, students gain deeper insight into the five Pentateuch that make up Torah or Pentateuch. The exegetical method of the course is based on the recognition and separation of the main teachings of the Bible – Law and the Gospel. The conditions of Law and the rituals of sacrifice are viewed in the context of the New Testament, contributing to students' understanding of the unity of the Old and New Testaments. The course focuses on the events of the history of the Old Testament Israel, which announce the coming of Christ and the Kingdom of God, and the similarities of the desert travels of Israel with the journey of the people of God and each faithful to the promised proximity of God. In the course, the necessary use of theological terms and concepts is taught (such as original sin, faith, prophet's calling, Law, Gospel, God's promise, Savior, etc.). Thus, the course forms a close link with other LA courses in the fields of biblical and systematic theology.

Aims

- To deepen students' awareness of the Old Testament: the Pentateuch;
- promoting students' understanding of the relationship between Pentateuch and the New Testament;
- promote the ability of students to use Pentateuch in ministry and in their life of faith.

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge

The students will know:

- The content and themes of Pentateuch;
- the meanings of theological terms used in this course.

Assessment

Presentations 1, 2
Interim test
Examination

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Skills

The students will be able to:

- explain the relationship between Pentateuch and the New Testament; Presentations 1, 2
Interim test
- use appropriate theological terminology; Examination
- to see the meaning of Pentateuch in a Christian's everyday life.

Competencies

The students will be able to:

- analyze a specific passage of Scripture from Pentateuch in the context of the entire Bible (including the New Testaments); Interim test
Examination
- explain the importance of Pentateuch in building the foundations of faith.

FULL-TIME STUDIES

Lesson Plan

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Ac. hours (45 min)</i>
1 Introduction. Torah/Pentateuch in the context of Judaism and Church The meaning, purpose, and history of Genesis	4
2 The structure of Genesis. The story/stories. of creation	4
3 Falling into sin and its consequences. Two civilizations. Cause of flood and flood	8
4 The beginning of a new civilization. From Shem to Abram. God's promises. (9-15)	4
5 Ismael and Isaac. (16-26)	4
6 The story of Esau and Jacob. (25-36)	4
7 Joseph's story. Israel enters Egypt (46-50)	4
8 <i>Seminar (presentation): What do I know about this biblical person?</i>	4
9 The birth of the savior. Egypt's torment. (Exod. 1-11)	4
10 Exodus. Journey to Receive the Commandments (Exod. 12-20)	4
11 Laws and Testament. The Tabernacle (Exod. 12-31)	4
12 Falling back and a new start. (32-40)	4
Interim test	2
13 The place of Leviticus in canon and its importance in Israel's history	2
14 "Sacrifice Manual", types of OT sacrifice (Lev. 1-7)	2
15 Blessing of priests (8-10)	2
16 Distinction between pure/impure (Lev. 11-15)	2
17 Day of Atonement, its Christological importance (Lev. 16)	4
18 Separation between holy/unholy (Lev. 17-22)	2
19 Holiday periods, etc. special instructions (Lev. 23-27)	4
20 <i>Seminar (presentation): The concept of holiness in the Old Testament</i>	4
21 The time and place of action of Numbers. Two census and their meaning (Num 1-4; 26)	2

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22	Preparing and going out (Num 5-10)	2
23	Tests and grumbling (Num 11-21)	2
24	Balaam's prophecy and further instructions (Num 22-36)	4
25	Introduction to Deuteronomy; Moses' first speech (Deut. 1-4)	4
26	Second speech of Moses (5-26)	2
27	Moses third speech (Deut. 27-28), fourth speech (29-30) and transfer of authority to Joshua (31-34)	2
	Examination	2
	<i>TOTAL</i>	96

Individual study plan

No.	Individual studies	Hours
1	Perform a study and prepare a presentation for the selected OT person	28
2	Do research and prepare presentation on the concept of holiness in the Old Testament	28
3	Prepare interim test using the specified literature sources	44
4	Prepare answers to questions using the specified sources	44
	<i>TOTAL</i>	144

Assessment

	Learning Outcomes			% of the final score
	Knowledge	Skills	Competencies	
Presentation 1	+	+		20
Presentation 2	+	+		20
Interim test	+	+	+	30
Examination	+	+	+	30
	<i>TOTAL</i>			<i>100%</i>

Readings

Mandatory Readings

- Lutens, Mārtiņš. *1. Mozus grāmatas skaidrojums*. 5 sēj. Rīga: LMF, 2007–2009.
- Walvoord, J. F. & R. B. Zuck (eds.). *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*. Vol. 1. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985.
- Kleinig, John, W. *Leviticus*. Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2003.

Additional Readings

- Budd, P. J. *Word Biblical Commentary*. Vol. 5: Numbers. Dallas: Word, Incorporated, 1998.
- Čakare, Laila. "Dažas iesakņojušās Vecās Derības interpretācijas". *Tulkojums – kultūrvēsturisks notikums III. Valsts valodas komisija Raksti 6. sējums*. Rīga: Zinātne, 2014. 23.–34.lpp.

- Čakare, Laila. "Kaina civilizācija: grēka daba un dzīves vērtības". *Biķeru draudzes avīze*, 2008, 6 (31).
- Christensen, D. L. *Word Biblical Commentary*. Vol. 6A: Deuteronomy 1-11. Dallas: Word, Incorporated, 1998.
- Hartley, J. E. *Word Biblical Commentary*. Vol. 4: Leviticus. Dallas: Word, Incorporated, 1998.
- Keil, Carl. F. and Delitzsch Franz. *Biblical Commentary on the Old Testament. The Pentateuch*. Tr. J. Martin. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1956.
- Sārnivāra, Ūrass. *Vai Bībelei var uzticēties?* Rīga: Augsburgas institūts, 2001.

Internet sources

- <http://www.lmf.lv/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Pirma-Mozus.pdf>
- <https://enduringword.com/#commentary>
- <http://www.ancienttexts.org/library/mesopotamian/gilgamesh/index.html>