# The Books of Galatians and Hebrews

## Description

This is a course on Bible Interpretation, demonstrated with the books of Galatians and Hebrews.

## Course Objectives

By completing this course, the student will:

1. Better understand the process of interpreting a book of the Bible and teaching it to their disciples.
2. Understand the contents and context of Galatians and Hebrews.
3. Better understand rhetoric and letter writing.
4. Have a greater appreciation for the history of interpretation so that they are better prepared to enter into the ongoing discussion.
5. Have a greater motivation to make disciples.

## Textbooks

1. The Bible
2. Class notes

## Assignments

1. Read Galatians and Hebrews through during the course, marking up the book with questions and associations.
2. Keep folders (3-ring binder, or a computer folder) devoted to these books with a collection of material relevant to their interpretation.
3. Final exam. Completion of the course is dependent on attendance on the final night and passing an exam on the material covered in the class.

## Schedule

Class times are 7:00–7:55 (15 minute break), 8:10–9:00.

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| Date | Session | Content |
| 1/9 | 1  2 | Galatians: Author and Audience  Galatians 1 and 2 |
| 1/16 | 3  4 | Rhetoric and Letter Writing  Galatians 3–4 |
| 1/23 | 5  6 | Pauline theology  Galatians 5-6 |
| 1/30 | 7  8 | Hebrews: Author and Audience  Hebrews 1 |
| 2/6 | 9  10 | Hebrews 2  Hebrews 3:1–4:13 |
| 2/13 | 11  12 | Hebrews 4:14–5:10  Hebrews 5:11–6:20 |
| 2/20 | 13  14 | Hebrews 7:1-28  Hebews 8:1–10:31 |
| 2/27 | 15  16 | Hebrews 10:32–11:2  Hebrews 11:3–12:2 |
| 3/5 | 17  18 | Hebrews 12:18-29  Hebrews 13 |
| 3/12 | 19  20 | Final Questions and Discussion  Final Exam and Celebration |

## Select Bibliography

Though there are no required textbooks for this course, you may wish to acquire some of the following for your personal study. If you have questions regarding these or other books, please ask.

Galatians

Betz, Hans Dieter. Galatians: A Commentary on Paul’s Letter to the Churches in Galatia. Hermeneia. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1979.

Herrick, Greg. The Date and Destination of Galatians. Biblical Studies Press, 1997. Accessed 14 December 2008. Internet. Available from <http://www.bible.org/page.php?page_id=1338>.

Hietanen, Mika. Paul’s Argumentation in Galatians: A Pragma-Dialectical Analysis. Library of New Testament Studies, ed. Mark Goodacre, vol. 344. London: T & T Clark, 2007.

Longenecker, Richard N. Galatians. Word Biblical Commentary, ed. Bruce M. Metzger et al., vol. 41. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1990.

Martyn, J. Louis. *Galatians: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*. Anchor Bible, ed. David Noel Freedman, vol. 33A. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1997.

Russell, Walter B., III. “Rhetorical Analysis of the Book of Galatians, Part 1.” Bibliotheca sacra 150, no. 599 (1993): 341-58.

Russell, Walter B., III. “Rhetorical Analysis of the Book of Galatians, Part 2.” Bibliotheca sacra 150, no. 600 (1993): 416-39.

Silva, Moisés. Interpreting Galatians: Explorations in Exegetical Method. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001.

Witherington, Ben, III. Grace in Galatia: A Commentary on Paul's Letter to the Galatians. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1998.

Hebrews

Bateman, Herbert W., IV, ed. *Four Views on the Warning Passages in Hebrews*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2007.

Bateman, Herbert W., IV. “Jewish and Apostolic Hermeneutics: How the Old Testament Is Used in Hebrews 1:5-13.” PhD diss., Dallas Theological Seminary, 1993.

Bateman, Herbert W., IV. “Psalm 45:6-7 and Its Christological Contributions to Hebrews.” Trinity Theological Journal (Spring 2001): 3-21.

Bruce, F. F. The Epistle to the Hebrews. Rev. ed. New International Commentary on the New Testament, ed. Gordon D. Fee. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1990.

DeSilva, David A. Perseverance in Gratitude: A Social-Rhetorical Commentary on the Epistle "to the Hebrews." Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2000.

Ellingworth, Paul. The Epistle to the Hebrews. New International Greek Testament Commentary, ed. I. Howard Marshall and W. Ward Gasque. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1993.

France, R. T. “The Writer of Hebrews as Biblical Expositor.” *Tyndale Bulletin* 47, no. 2 (1996): 245-76.

Guthrie, Donald. *Hebrews: An Introduction and Commentary*. Tyndale New Testament Commentaries, ed. Leon Morris, vol. 15. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1983.

Guthrie, George H. “Hebrews.” In *Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament*, ed. G. K. Beale and D. A. Carson, 919-95. Grand Rapids: Baker Publishing Group, 2007.

Kent, Homer A., Jr. *The Epistle to the Hebrews: A Commentary*. Winona Lake, IN: BMH Books, 1972.

Lane, William L. *Hebrews 1–8*. Word Biblical Commentary, ed. David A. Hubbard, Glenn W. Barker, and New Testament Editor Ralph P. Martin, vol. 47A. Dallas, TX: Word Books, Publisher, 1991.

Lane, William L. *Hebrews 9–13*. Word Biblical Commentary, ed. David A. Hubbard, Glenn W. Barker, and New Testament Editor Ralph P. Martin, vol. 47B. Dallas, TX: Word Books, Publisher, 1991.

Lane, William L. “Hebrews.” In *Dictionary of the Later New Testament and its Developments*, ed. Ralph P. Martin and Peter H. Davids, 443-58. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1997.

Motyer, Stephen. “The Psalm Quotations of Hebrews 1: A Hermeneutic-Free Zone?” Tyndale Bulletin 50, no. 1 (1999): 3-22.

Pentecost, J. Dwight. Faith That Endures: A Practical Commentary on the Book of Hebrews. Rev. ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 1992.

Witherington, Ben, III. Letters and Homilies for Jewish Christians: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on Hebrews, James and Jude. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2007.