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Center Point Bible Institute  
September 2–November 11, 2007  
Tuesdays 7:00–9:00 PM

## **The Books of Judges and Ruth God's Grace in Difficult Days Syllabus**

### **Course Description**

This course is an expositional study of the books of Judges and Ruth.

### **Course Objectives**

After completing this course the student will:

1. Remember the basic content and message of Judges and Ruth.
2. Identify the major themes in Judges and Ruth.
3. Know the major problem passages and their possible solutions in Judges and Ruth.
4. Gain a greater appreciation for the canonical contribution of Judges and Ruth.
5. Grow in spiritual maturity by learning the spiritual lessons found primarily in the persons and events in Judges and Ruth.

### **Course Textbooks**

1. The Bible
2. Class notes

Note: The student will be responsible for reading the Bible passage that will be discussed that day before each class and also any assigned class notes or handouts.

### **Course Assignment Description**

1. Read the entire Book of Judges and Ruth at least once during the length of the course. There is no substitute for reading the Scriptures!
2. Keep a notebook (preferably a 3-ring binder) devoted *specifically* to Judges and Ruth. The notebook should contain the course handouts, your notes, and any assignments that you do for this course. Organizing these materials now will make them accessible in the future as you continue your studies and as you may have opportunity to teach the book.

## Course Schedule

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

Day	Session	Content To Be Covered
9–2	1	Introduction to the syllabus and the Book of Judges and Ruth
	2	Introduction to the historical books and Judges
9–9	3	Judges 1:1–36
	4	Judges 2:1–3:6
9–16	5	Judges 3:7–31
	6	Judges 4:1–5:31
9–23	7	Judges 6:1–40
	8	Judges 7:1–8:3
9–30	9	Judges 8:4–35
	10	Judges 9:1–57
10–7	11	Judges 10:1–11:11
	12	Judges and Ruth 11:12–12:15
10–14	13	Judges 13:1–25
	14	Judges 14:1–20
10–21	15	Judges 15:1–20
	16	Judges 16:1–31
10–28	17	Judges 17:1–18:31
	18	Judges 19:1–21:25
11–4	19	Introduction to Ruth
	20	Ruth 1–2
11–11	21	Ruth 3–4
	22	Conclusion and summary

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Although there are no textbooks required for this course, you might want to consider purchasing one or more of the books below to enhance your personal study. In the case of Judges and Ruth there are a number of good commentaries available. The following list is a very select list of

some that might be the most helpful for you. If you have specific questions please do not hesitate to ask or contact me.

### **For Judges**

Block, Daniel I. *Judges, Ruth*. New American Commentary, ed. E. Ray Clendenen. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1999.

Cundall, Arthur E. and Leon Morris. *Judges and Ruth: An Introduction and Commentary*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries, ed. D. J. Wiseman. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1968.

Davis, John J. and John C. Whitcomb. *Israel from Conquest to Exile: A Commentary on Joshua - 2 Kings*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1970.

Enns, Paul P. *Judges*. Bible Study Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1982.

Goslinga, C. J. *Joshua, Judges, Ruth*. Translated by Ray Togtman Bible Student's Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986.

Harris, J. Gordon, Cheryl A. Brown, and Michael S. Moore. *Joshua, Judges, Ruth*. New International Biblical Commentary Old Testament Series, ed. Robert L. Hubbard, and Robert K. Johnston. Peabody: Hendrickson, 2000.

Lindsey, F. Duane. "Judges." In *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: Old Testament*, ed. John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck, 373–429. Wheaton, IL: Scripture Press Publications, Victor Books, 1985.

Matthews, Victor Harold. *Judges and Ruth*. New Cambridge Bible Commentary, ed. Bill T. Arnold. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004.

Schneider, Tammi J. *Judges*. Berit Olam. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2000.

Wilcock, Michael. *The Message of Judges*. Bible Speaks Today, ed. J. A. Motyer. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1992.

Wood, Leon. *Distressing Days of the Judges*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1975.

### **For Ruth**

Block, Daniel I. *Judges, Ruth*. New American Commentary, ed. E. Ray Clendenen. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1999.

Bush, Frederic. *Ruth/Esther*. Word Biblical Commentary, ed. David A. Hubbard and Glenn W. Barker. Dallas: Word, 1996.

- Campbell, Edward F., Jr. *Ruth: A New Translation with Introduction, Notes and Commentary*. Anchor Bible. Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Company, 1975.
- Davis, John J. and John C. Whitcomb. *Israel from Conquest to Exile: A Commentary on Joshua - 2 Kings*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1970.
- Goslinga, C. J. *Joshua, Judges, Ruth*. Translated by Ray Togtman. Bible Student's Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986.
- Harris, J. Gordon, Cheryl A. Brown, and Michael S. Moore. *Joshua, Judges, Ruth*. New International Biblical Commentary Old Testament Series, ed. Robert L. Hubbard, and Robert K. Johnston. Peabody: Hendrickson Publishers, 2000.
- Hubbard, Robert L., Jr. *The Book of Ruth*. New International Commentary on the Old Testament, ed. R. K. Harrison, and Robert L. Hubbard, Jr. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.
- Huey, F. B., Jr. "Ruth." In *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, ed. Walter C. Kaiser Jr., vol. 3, 507–49. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992.
- Lacocque, André. *Ruth*. Translated by K. C. Hanson, ed. Continental Commentary. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2004.
- Linafelt, Tod, and Timothy K. Beal. *Ruth, Esther*. Berit Olam, ed. David W. Cotter. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1999.
- Matthews, Victor Harold. *Judges and Ruth*. New Cambridge Bible Commentary, ed. Bill T. Arnold. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004.
- Reed, John W. "Ruth." In *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: Old Testament*, ed. John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck, 415–29. Wheaton, IL: Scripture Press Publications, Victor Books, 1985.
- Sakenfeld, Katharine Doob. *Ruth*. Interpretation, ed. James L. Mays. Louisville, Ky.: John Knox Press, 1999.