

Charles Savelle
Phone: (972) 414-1094 [H]
E-mail: chsavelle@hotmail.com
Blog: www.bibleexposition.net

Center Point Bible Institute
September 8–November 10, 2009
Tuesdays 7:00–9:00 PM

The Books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon God's Grace in Difficult Days Syllabus

Course Description

This course is an expositional study of the books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.

Course Objectives

After completing this course the student will:

1. Remember the basic content and message of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.
2. Identify the major themes in Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.
3. Know the major problem passages and their possible solutions in Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.
4. Gain a greater appreciation for the canonical contribution of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.
5. Grow in spiritual maturity by personal application of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.

Course Textbooks

1. The Bible
2. Class notes

Course Assignment Description

1. Read the entire Book of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon 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 Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon. 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
9–8	1	Introduction to the syllabus and Wisdom Literature
	2	Introduction to Proverbs
9–15	3	Proverbs 1:1–9:18 (part 1)
	4	Proverbs 1:1–9:18 (part 2)
9–22	5	Proverbs 1:1–9:18 (part 3)
	6	Various Proverbs (topics)
9–29	7	Various Proverbs (topics)
	8	Various Proverbs (topics)
10–6	9	Various Proverbs and Introduction to Ecclesiastes
	10	Ecclesiastes 1–2
10–13	11	Ecclesiastes 3–4
	12	Ecclesiastes 5–6
10–20	13	Ecclesiastes 7–8
	14	Ecclesiastes 9–10
10–27	15	Ecclesiastes 11–12
	16	Introduction to Song of Solomon
11–3	17	Song of Solomon 1–4
	18	Song of Solomon 5–8
11–10	19	Review
	20	Review

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 Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon 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 Proverbs

- Alden, Robert L. *Proverbs: A Commentary on an Ancient Book of Timeless Advice*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1983.
- Clifford, Richard J. *Proverbs: A Commentary* Old Testament Library, ed. James L. Mays, Carol A. Newsome and David L. Peterson. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1999.
- Fox, Michael V. *Proverbs 1-9: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*. 1st ed. Anchor Bible, ed. William Foxwell Albright and David Noel Freedman. New York: Doubleday, 2000.
- Garrett, Duane A. *Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs*. The New American Commentary, ed. E. Ray Clendenen. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1993.
- Kidner, Derek. *Proverbs: An Introduction and Commentary*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentary, ed. D. J. Wiseman. Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press, 1964.
- Koptak, Paul E. *Proverbs*. NIV Application Commentary, ed. Terry Muck. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.
- Longman, Tremper, III. *Proverbs* Baker Commentary on the Old Testament Wisdom and Psalms, ed. Tremper Longman III. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2006.
- Murphy, Roland. *Proverbs*. Word Biblical Commentary, ed. David A. Hubbard and Glen W. Barker. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1998.
- Murphy, Roland E., and Elizabeth Huwiler. *Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs*. New International Biblical Commentary, ed. Robert L. Hubbard, Jr. and Robert K. Johnston. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1999.
- Ross, Allen P. "Proverbs." In *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, ed. Frank E. Gaebelein, 5, 881-1134. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1991.
- Waltke, Bruce K. *The Book of Proverbs: Chapters 1–15*. New International Commentary on the Old Testament, ed. Robert L. Hubbard Jr. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004.
- Waltke, Bruce K. *The Book of Proverbs: Chapters 15–31*. New International Commentary on the Old Testament, ed. Robert L. Hubbard Jr. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005.
- Whybray, R. N. *Proverbs*. New Century Bible Commentary, ed. Ronald E. Clements. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994.

For Ecclesiastes

- Crenshaw, James L. *Ecclesiastes*. Old Testament Library, ed. Peter Ackroyd. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1987.
- Eaton, Michael A. *Ecclesiastes: An Introduction and Commentary*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries, ed. D. J. Wiseman, vol. 16. Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity, 1983.
- Fox, Michael V. *Ecclesiastes*. The JPS Bible Commentary, ed. Nahum M. Sarna. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 2004.
- Garrett, Duane A. *Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs*. New American Commentary, ed. E. Ray Clendenen, vol. 14. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1993.
- Glenn, Donald R. "Ecclesiastes." In *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: Old Testament*, ed. John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck, 975–1007. Wheaton: Scripture Press Publications, Victor Books, 1985.
- Hubbard, David A. *Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon*. Communicator's Commentary, ed. Lloyd J. Ogilvie, vol. 15b. Waco, TX: Word, 1991.
- Kaiser, Walter C., Jr. *Ecclesiastes: Total Life*. Everyman's Bible Commentary. Chicago: Moody, 1979.
- Kidner, Derek. *The Message of Ecclesiastes: A Time to Mourn, a Time to Dance*. Bible Speaks Today, ed. J. A. Motyer. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1976.
- Konkel, August H., and Tremper Longman, III. *Job, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs*. Cornerstone Biblical Commentary, ed. Philip W. Comfort. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale, 2006.
- Leupold, H. C. *Exposition of Ecclesiastes*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1952.
- Longman, Tremper, III. *The Book of Ecclesiastes*. New International Commentary on the Old Testament, ed. Robert L. Hubbard Jr. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.
- Murphy, Roland. *Ecclesiastes*. Edited by John D. W. Watts. Word Biblical Commentary, ed. David A. Hubbard and Glen W. Barker, vol. 23A. Dallas: Word, 1992.
- Provan, Iain. *Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs*. The NIV Application Commentary, ed. Terry Muck. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.
- Seow, Choon-Leong. *Ecclesiastes: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*. Anchor Bible, ed. David Noel Freedman, vol. 18c. New York: Doubleday, 1997.
- Whybray, R. N. *Ecclesiastes*. New Century Bible Commentary, ed. Ronald E. Clements. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989.

For Song of Solomon

- Carr, G. Lloyd. *The Song of Solomon: An Introduction and Commentary*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries, ed. D. J. Wiseman. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1984.
- Curtis, Edward M. *Song of Songs: Bible Study Commentary*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2000.
- Deere, Jack S. "Song of Songs." In *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: Old Testament*, ed. John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck, 1009–23. Wheaton: Scripture Press Publications, Victor Books, 1985.
- Fox, Michael V. *The Song of Songs and the Ancient Egyptian Love Songs*. Madison, Wisconsin: The University of Wisconsin Press, 1985.
- Garrett, Duane A. *Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs*. New American Commentary, ed. E. Ray Clendenen, vol. 14. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1993.
- Glickman, S. Craig. *A Song for Lovers: Including a New Paraphrase and a New Translation of the Song of Solomon*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1976.
- Hess, Richard S. *Song of Songs*. Baker Commentary on the Old Testament Wisdom and Psalms, ed. Tremper Longman III. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.
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- Pope, Marvin H. *Song of Songs: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*. Anchor Bible, ed. William Foxwell Albright and David Noel Freedman, vol. 7c. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1977.
- Provan, Iain. *Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs*. The NIV Application Commentary, ed. Terry Muck. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.