

PAUL: MODEL AND SOURCE OF PREACHING (86870)

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
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Spring 2010
Wednesday, 8-10AM
Norton 232

Seminar Description:

The intent of this course is to help each of us understand better the content and dynamic of Paul's preaching. Answers will be sought to two fundamental questions: What did Paul preach? Why did Paul preach?

Seminar Objectives:

- To induce an environment of research for Ph.D. and Th.M. students on the Pauline corpus, particularly as it relates to preaching.
- To extrapolate an understanding of Paul's theology, especially his theology of preaching.
- To implement an approach to contemporary preaching that is consistent with Paul's subjects and methodologies.
- To familiarize students with the present status of Pauline scholarship, particularly as it relates to preaching and to furnish them with the tools to stay current in Pauline scholarship in the future.
- To breakdown and to diagram a Pauline passage in order to see the inherent structure and meaning of a Pauline passage
- To formulate a sermon based on the diagram of a Pauline passage and then to deliver it effectively, formulating a sermon that is rooted in the biblical text and directed to contemporary challenges
- To glorify God by becoming more effective preachers of the Word.

Requirements and Procedure:

- 1) Attendance at all seminar sessions is mandatory. Seminar participants may be excused for serious illness or circumstances such as would warrant a last minute excuse from preaching a sermon in a church.

- 2) Seminar participants are expected to have an adequate working knowledge of the Greek language so as to be able to prepare a passage, to present it in class, and to follow class discussions.
- 3) Each student must write a 5-7 page review of each of the required textbooks.
- 4) Each student will diagram approximately two chapters from 1 Corinthians and will present sermon outline from within that passage (this depends on the size of the seminar enrollment). A bibliography of 20 books and at least 20 journal articles on the assigned passage will be turned in as well. The student will also compose and present to the seminar ten one-page abstracts of the ten most salient articles and ten abstracts of the most pertinent books. These copies may be distributed electronically, but every member of the seminar must receive copies of the abstracts the day before the presentation. Though we may not have time to present all abstracts in class, be prepared to discuss the books and articles and how they affected your understanding of the passage and the way you would preach it.
- 5) Write a fully documented 25-page research paper on one of the following subjects related to Paul's preaching. Deal primarily with preaching passages and secondarily with the epistles. You will make a presentation of your paper on an assigned date. Copies of your paper will be distributed to all seminar participants by noon Tuesday before the paper is presented on Wednesday.
 - a) Paul's use of the Old Testament
 - b) Paul's use of personal testimony in his preaching
 - c) Paul's use of non-canonical and traditional material and its relation to biblical authority
 - d) Paul's treatment of the law in his preaching
 - e) Paul's appeal to the will of man and emphasis on human responsibility
 - f) Paul's use of God's sovereignty in doctrinal preaching
 - g) Paul's soteriological preaching
 - h) Paul's background and his use of rhetoric and their role in shaping his thought and methodology
 - i) Paul and Rhetoric
 - j) The concept of Christian liberty in Pauline thought
 - k) Other with professor's approval

Seminar Grade:

Grades will be given according to the seminary's four-point scale. Failure to be prepared for a seminar class will diminish one's overall grade, as will failure to turn in an assignment on time. If a student is unable to present an assignment to the class at the appointed time, he will be given no opportunity to make it up.

The overall grade will be assigned by the professor reflecting the quality of each participant's completion of the requirements listed above. Grades below B are not sufficient for credit in the Ph.D. program.

Textbooks:

Bruce, F. F. *Apostle of the Heart Set Free*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1978 (2000).

_____. *Paul and His Converts*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1985.

Hawthorne, Gerald, *et al.* *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1993.

Hughes, R. Kent. *Ephesians: The Mystery of the Body of Christ*. Crossway, 1990.

Polhill, John. *Paul and His Letters*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2000.

Schreiner, Thomas R. *Paul: Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*. Downers Grove, IL.: IVP, 2001.

_____. *Interpreting the Pauline Epistles*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1990.

Strom, Mark. *Reframing Paul*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2000.

Thompson, James W. *Preaching Like Paul*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2000.

Witherington, Ben III. *Conflict and Community in Corinth: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on 1 and 2 Corinthians*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1995.

York, Hershael W. and Bert Decker. *Preaching with Bold Assurance*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2003.

Schedule:

To be determined based on class size and faculty schedule.

January 27:

February 3:

February 10:

February 17:

February 24:

March 3: No class

March 10:

March 17:

March 24:

March 31:

April 14:

April 21:

April 28: