

#216 Life and Epistles of Paul
Western Reformed Seminary
John A. Battle, Th.D.
Pastoral Mentorship Program
Academic Year 2015-2016

COURSE INFORMATION

Goals

The purpose of this course is to enable you to be able to summarize the life of Paul, to explain its chronology, and to be able to identify the important events of his life, along with the primary scholarly interpretations of those events and the reasons for them. You also will be able to explain the background, purpose, and basic content of each of the Pauline epistles. By intensely studying Paul's life and epistles, you will obtain the necessary background for a lifetime of study and teaching from Paul's life and epistles. Also, we trust, you will grow spiritually to a greater love and appreciation for Paul and for Paul's Lord!

Attendance and participation

Attendance at the two-week concentrated session in the spring, with its lectures and class discussion, is an essential part of this course. Your participation in these sessions will contribute toward your grade.

Reading

The following works are required reading for the course:

- New Testament: Acts, Pauline epistles (Romans – Philemon)
- Appropriate chapters of a standard New Testament introduction (choose one):
 - Everett F. Harrison, *Introduction to the New Testament*, ch. 10-17, OR
 - D. A. Carson, Douglas J. Moo, and Leon Morris, *An Introduction to the New Testament*, ch. 6-16
- James Stalker, *The Life of St. Paul*

- J. Gresham Machen, *The Origin of Paul's Religion*, ch. 3: "The Triumph of Gentile Freedom" (pp. 71-113)
- Frank J. Goodwin, *A Harmony of the Life of St. Paul*
- F. F. Bruce, *Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free*

Geography of Paul's life – Bible atlas

In addition to the required reading texts, you will need to obtain the *Holman Quick Source Bible Atlas*. Bring this atlas to the concentrated sessions, as we will be referring to it frequently during class lectures and discussions. Each student will be expected to be able to locate on a map of the Mediterranean world the important cities Paul lived in and visited, and the various routes he took on his journeys

Examinations

There will be two examinations, a midterm and a final. These examinations will be taken from the Study Questions and will cover the material in the class notes. The midterm will cover questions #1-50, and the final will cover #51-104. An unmarked Bible may be used during the exams.

Contacting the professor

Feel free to contact the professor any time during the course if you have a question or need clarification.

- Email: battle@wrs.edu
- Phone: 253-720-7586 (cell)
- Skype: johnbattle1

Grading

The final grade for this class will be determined as follows:

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| • Midterm examination | 30% |
| • Final examination | 30% |
| • Reading assignments | 30% |
| • Attendance & participation | 10% |