

#223 Greek Exegesis (#2321 Philippians)
Western Reformed Seminary
John A. Battle, Th.D.
Pastoral Mentorship Program
Academic Year 2006-2007

COURSE INFORMATION

Course goals

On completion of this course the student will have studied the historical background of Paul's ministry to the Macedonian churches and to Philippi in particular and will have translated Philippians from the original Greek. He will know the outline and subjects covered in the book and will be able to relate them to Paul's teachings in other books. He also will have completed a special project related to the exegesis of the book.

Translation assignment

The student will translate the book of Philippians into English, using the format described by the professor. This translation will be completed in sections. As each section is completed, the student will orally translate the portion to the professor, either using the Internet, or during the concentrated session.

Philippians translation sections:

- Philippians 1:1-11
- Philippians 1:12-20
- Philippians 1:21-30
- Philippians 2:1-11
- Philippians 2:12-21
- Philippians 2:22-30
- Philippians 3:1-11
- Philippians 3:12 – 4:1
- Philippians 4:2-14
- Philippians 4:15-23

Special project

Select one of the following:

1. Select a standard commentary of Philippians to read. This reading should be done by the final class before the final exam. It will be most helpful to read the sections of the commentary after translating and analyzing each section of the Greek text.
2. Prepare a series of three sermon or Bible study outlines using parts of Philippians.
3. Write a critical review of a scholarly journal article dealing with Philippians. The review should be about 1000 words long.
4. Read a scholarly book related to Philippians or to one of its major doctrines. Write a one-page evaluation of the book.
5. Write a paper explaining the various views regarding a difficult or controversial verse or passage in Philippians. Use exegetical arguments to support the view you prefer. The paper should be about 3000 words long and be in standard format.

Examinations

The midterm examination will include the introductory material for Philippians. For the midterm and final examinations the student will be expected to translate portions of Philippians, to parse verb forms and identify nouns, and to be able to discuss the grammatical construction of each sentence. He should be able to intelligently discuss textual variants that appear in the UBS text. For the exams the student will have use only of the Greek text. He also will be responsible for other material discussed in class. The midterm exam will cover the introductory material and Philippians 1 – 2:11. The final exam will cover Philippians 2:12 – ch. 4.

Grading

Translation	30%
Special Project	20%
Midterm Examination	25%
Final Examination	25%