

NORTHEAST BIBLICAL INSTITUTE

COURSE SYLLABUS: NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY 3: THE LETTERS OF PETER, JOHN, JAMES & JUDE

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Course Begin Date: September 25, 2023

Course End Date: November 13, 2023

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The Letters of Peter, John, James & Jude is a course designed to improve the students understanding of the early church, and the core teachings of the first apostles and church leaders. Students will complete an overview study of the letters. Through reading, studying, and discussion, and writing weekly papers, students will gain a deeper knowledge of the New Testament and the challenges faced by the infant church.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Whether you are a relatively new believer in Jesus Christ or if you have known and grown in Christ for a number of years and need further encouragement and edification, this course will greatly help you by clearly and faithfully explaining the importance of God's Word. Students will gain a deeper understanding of the early church leaders and their impact on the world. As always, my hope for this course goes beyond academic achievement. My hope is that Christ will touch your life as He touched His first disciples, leading you to joyfully worship and serve Him as you minister His grace and peace to others.

This course is not designed to replace the student's personal devotion to the Lord. Guard your heart and your time, and keep yourself positioned close to the Lord so that His Spirit may continue the work of sanctification in your life. To that end, integrate your studies with your walk of faith; reflect on the content of the course and evaluate your life in light of what you are learning. "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you."

COURSE TEXTS: The Bible, NKJV preferred but other versions accepted. A Popular Survey of the New Testament, Norman Geisler.

GENERAL GUIDELINES, ASSIGNMENTS, GRADING, AND POLICIES

1. Participation

- a. **Begin each study session and lesson with prayer**, committing yourself to being open to the Holy Spirit in your life. Any study of the Bible is meant to change lives, improve them, and draw the student closer to God. Ask the Lord for insight into how the message of your study can impact your life, your relationships, and your ministry.
- b. **Arrive to class early.** There's an old saying which I adhere to: "Better three hours early than three minutes late!" Turn off your cell phone prior to class; be respectful during discussions & lectures; submit course assignments on time. Commit yourself, wholeheartedly, to the entire course to study diligently and seek to grow closer to the Lord and your fellow students.

- c. **Late Policy.** Any assignments turned in after the scheduled due date are penalized five percent (5%) of the original value per day including weekends, breaks, and holidays. No work will be accepted more than a week after the due date.
- d. **Classroom participation.** Part of the student's grade will be based on how much he/she participates in class.
- e. **Missed Classes.** Each missed class will result in a 5% reduction of the student's grade unless he/she contacts the professor beforehand (or shortly after the start of the class) with a valid excuse (e.g., emergencies and illnesses).

2. Reading

Read the assigned Scripture passages, book chapters, articles, etc., before each class. Take notes in a separate notebook. These notes may come in handy later as you are called to teach others.

3. Writing Assignments

A 5 to 8-page **term paper** will be due on the last week of class. The term paper will describe **one** of the letters, the author and its general impact upon you.

Each week students will write a 1-2-page **reflection paper** answering the following: What theme or principle was the most important to you? Why is it significant? As a result of this lesson, what steps can you take to affect your thoughts and actions to be more Christ-like?

4. GRADING

Seven Reflection Papers	28 total points
Term Paper & Introductory Questions	49 total points
Classroom Participation & Reading Assignments	23 total points

Grade:	Points:
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69