

## Introduction to New Testament II (Romans-Revelation)

Dr. Mark Lawson

January 24 & 31, February 21 & 28, 9:00-2:30 p.m.

*Course Objectives.* We will seek to gain an understanding of the epistolary material of the New Testament by answering the following questions:

- 1) What factors led to the creation of our Christian New Testament?
- 2) What do the New Testament epistles teach us about the development of early Christianity?
- 3) How do these epistles function as “scripture” in our own time?

*Required texts.*

Raymond Brown, *The Churches the Apostles Left Behind*

Victor Paul Furnish, *The Moral Teaching of Paul* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition)

Gary Wills, *What Paul Meant*

(While different sections of these books are assigned reading for specific classes, students are encouraged to read them from start to finish in order to appreciate the authors’ overall work.)

In addition, you need to have on hand for class a copy of the New Testament in one of the following translations: Revised Standard, New Revised Standard, New International, or Jerusalem Bible.

*Requirements.* Your final grade for the course will be determined by the following:

- 1) Four reflection essays (40%).
- 2) Exegesis Paper (40%)
- 4) Attendance and Participation (20%). Any classes missed without advance notice will result in a reduction of your final grade by 2%. If circumstances require you to miss more than one session, you will not be able to complete the course.

*Reflection Essays.* For each class, I will assign a reflection essay to help you organize your thoughts about that day’s material. This essay will be due at the next class meeting. Your last essay will be due on March 7.

*Exegesis Paper.* This paper is a close study of a passage of your choosing from any of the New Testament epistles. I will provide instructions for how to write an exegesis. You will need to secure approval for the passage you choose from me before writing this paper. It is due on February 28.

*Grading.* Letter grades will be assigned according to the total point value of all your work. The grading scale is as follows:

92.5-100	A	77.5-80	C+
90-92.5	A-	72.5-77.5	C
87.5-90	B+	70-72.5	C-
82.5-87.5	B	60-70	D
80-82.5	B-	Below 60	F

### **Course Schedule** (*Subject to Change*)

- January 24 Introduction to Course  
Development of New Testament Canon  
The Life and Ministry of the Apostle Paul  
(Brown, pp. 13-30; Wills, pp. 19-88, 125-170)
- January 31 1 and 2 Thessalonians  
Galatians  
Corinthian Correspondence  
(Wills, pp. 89-109, 113-116; Furnish, pp. 28-54, 94-130; Brown, pp. 61-74)
- February 21 Romans  
Philippians, Philemon  
Colossians, Ephesians, Pastoral Epistles  
(Wills, pp. 110-113, 117-124; Furnish, pp. 55-93; Brown, pp. 31-60)
- February 28 Hebrews & James  
1 and 2 Peter, Jude  
1, 2, and 3 John  
The Revelation  
(Brown, pp. 75-123)