



**Introductory Letter/Syllabus**

***The Drama of Redemption: From New Creation to Consummation***

**A Survey/Biblical Theology of the New Testament  
Autumn 2019 – Spring 2020**

Rev. Charles R. Biggs, Th.M.

ESV Mark 1:14b-15: ... Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "**The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.**"

ESV Romans 15:4: *For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.*

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

As part of your theology curriculum for this 2019-2020 school year, Providence Preparatory Academy and Loudoun Classical School are very pleased to announce this year's class: **From New Creation to Consummation: A Survey/Biblical Theology of the New Testament** class. This year’s class is a survey/biblical theology of the New Testament, or the time of fulfillment and is a sequel from last year’s **From Chaos to New Creation: A Survey/Biblical Theology of the Old Testament**. Last year’s class is not a prerequisite to taking and learning much from this year’s class. Pastor Charles R. Biggs will teach this weekly class on Friday mornings from 7:30-8:30 for students and for others interested.

This year’s class will be designed so that each student might master the books of the New Testament (Matthew to Revelation), gain a better understanding of the theological, literary, historical, and devotional/practical content of the books with a proper understanding of the eschatological or progressive nature of historical revelation in Holy Scripture. We seek to focus much on application for life that is lived for the glory of the Father, through the mediation of the Son, in the power and influence of the Holy Spirit. All good theology is for devotion of the heart to the servant-life in Christ, in order that we might glorify and please God. This is our aim.

**Goals of the Class (if each student follows assignments prayerfully and carefully, then...):**

- Students will gain a better appreciation for the unity of the Bible, and the main story of Scripture revealed in Creation, Fall, Redemption and New Creation and fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
- Students will learn how to interpret scripture with scripture (*analogia fidei*).
- Students will see how Christ is the “main character” of Scripture, and how He is revealed throughout the Story of Redemption.

- Students will be more familiar with Biblical concepts such as Covenant, Kingdom, Eschatology, and Apocalyptic and how they teach us about Jesus Christ.
- Students will master introductions to each New Testament book, with outlines, memory verses, and practical applications for growth in understanding and grace.
- Students will be able to put in one sentence both (1) The primary purpose/theological teaching of each New Testament book; and (2) The overall purpose/theological teaching of each book within the whole of the Biblical Story.
- Students will learn how to understand, appreciate, and interpret the Bible as literature, recognizing the different genres of the New Testament books.

Each week you will be given an outline on board or a handout to follow along, and Pastor Biggs will lecture on topics and encourage interaction from students. You will be asked to memorize outlines of Biblical books and scripture passages. In our first class together, I will teach you how to prayerfully and carefully answer in your journal these primary questions as you study each book:

- What is the Main Theme of this Book of the NT?
  - How is the Triune God Revealed?
  - How is Christ particularly revealed?
- How is man revealed? (FCF: Fallen Condition Focus)
- How should we then live? (Practical Application)

### **A Proposed Outline for the Class in Three Cycles:**

Cycle I: The Story of Holy Scripture: the Redemptive-Historical Storyline of the Old Testament

Cycle II: Between the Testaments, Canon, Apocalyptic, and the Books of Daniel and Revelation

Cycle III: New Testament Theological Survey in Two Parts:

PART 1: Life, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus Christ

PART 2: Gospels, Acts, and Epistles

### **Note assignments for each student level:**

**All Students/Basic Level (9th grade students):** You will be asked to read all of the New Testament over the summer before you begin the class lectures. During the year, you will memorize all 27 of the names of the books of the New Testament, and you will be able to break them down into appropriate parts. Each week you will be asked to read and memorize certain passages of Holy Scripture to prepare you, and you will complete a journaling outline to complete for each class. You will be asked to come to class prepared to follow along and listen, taking notes where it is appropriate so that you will learn the most. All students will read and journal from two introductory volumes on Biblical Theology entitled *'Understanding the Big Picture of the Bible: A Guide to Reading the Bible Well'* edited by Wayne Grudem, C. John Collins, and Thomas R. Schreiner, and Geerhardus Vos' classic essay on *'The Kingdom of God'* (available as ebook).

**Intermediate Students (10th+ grade students, 9th grade honors students):** You will do all of the basic level assignments and reading, but you will also read assigned portions of Willem VanGemeren's most

excellent classic ['The Progress of Redemption: the Story of Salvation from Creation to New Jerusalem'](#) and all of Herman Ridderbos' ['Redemptive History and the New Testament Scriptures'](#).

**Advanced Students (10th+ grade honors students):** You will be asked to do all that is required of intermediate and advanced, and also read assigned portions of G. K. Beale's masterpiece ['A New Testament Theology: The Unfolding of the Old Testament in the New'](#).

*\* When registering, please let us know if you're planning on pursuing the basic, intermediate, or advanced level. \**

### **Due Dates & Late Policy**

Assignments must be submitted properly and on time in order to be evaluated. Some assignments will be due at the next class, to be physically turned in; others will be due before class via online submission, either by scanning handwritten work or uploading computer files. Specifications for each assignment will be given in Moodle. Late submissions are allowed up to five school days late (i.e., Saturday and Sunday do not count as additional late days); however, 10% will be deducted for each school day late, and after the final cut-off date, late assignments will receive a 0.

In rare cases, unforeseen family circumstances or illnesses might make it impossible for a student to submit an assignment before the cutoff date. In such cases, where there is a good excuse, a conference may be requested with the instructor, the student, and the student's parent(s); limited additional arrangements may be made on a case-by-case basis.

### **Grading System**

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Reading             | 40% |
| Journal Assignments | 30% |
| Exams               | 20% |
| Participation       | 10% |

### **Information:**

REGISTRATION:

COST (CLASS AND MATERIALS):

TIME COMMITMENT: About 1-3 hours/weekly (in addition to the lecture time)

Thank you for allowing me to serve you,

Rev. Charles R. Biggs, Th.M.

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## **Outline of Class** (Fall 2019 through Spring 2020)

### **Three Cycles for this class-Overview:**

Cycle I: The Story of Holy Scripture: the Redemptive-Historical Storyline of the Old Testament

Cycle II: Between the Testaments, Canon, Apocalyptic, and the Books of Daniel and Revelation

Cycle III: New Testament Theological Survey in Two Parts:

PART 1: Life, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus Christ

PART 2: Gospels, Acts, and Epistles

### **Fall 2019 (Sept. 6-Dec. 6)- Lecture Schedule/Scripture Memorization**

1. Sept. 6:  
Read Entire New Testament Over the Summer.  
Memory Verses: Mark 1:9-15; Romans 16:25-27
2. Sept. 13:  
Memory-Mediation Verses: Galatians 4:4-7
3. Sept. 20:  
Memory-Mediation Verses: Galatians 5:1, 16-24
4. Sept. 27:  
Memory-Mediation Verses: Ephesians 1:3-10
5. Oct. 4:  
Memory-Mediation Verses: Ephesians 1:11-14

### **Oct. 11: No Classes (Break)**

6. Oct. 18:  
Memory-Mediation Verses: Ephesians 1:15-23
7. Oct. 25:  
Memory-Mediation Verses: Ephesians 2:1-3
8. Nov. 1:  
Memory-Mediation Verses: Ephesians 2:4-7
9. Nov. 8:

Memory-Mediation Verses: Ephesians 2:8-10

10. Nov. 15:

Memory-Mediation Verses: Ephesians 3:14-21

**Nov. 22: No Classes (Thanksgiving Break)**

11. Nov. 29:

Memory-Mediation Verses: Ephesians 4:11-16

12. Dec. 6:

Memory-Mediation Verses: Ephesians 6:10-18

**Spring 2020 (January 10-May 9)**

13. Jan. 10:

Memory-Mediation Verses: Philippians 2:1-4

14. Jan. 17:

Memory-Mediation Verses: Philippians 2:5-11

15. Jan. 24:

Memory-Mediation Verses: Philippians 3:12-16

16. Jan. 31:

Memory-Mediation Verses: Colossians 1:15-20

17. Feb. 7:

Memory-Mediation Verses: Colossians 3:1-4

18. Feb. 14:

Memory-Mediation Verses: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

**Feb. 21: No Classes (Spring is Coming Break)**

19. Feb. 28:

Memory-Mediation Verses: 1 Timothy 3:14-16

20. March 6:

Memory-Mediation Verses: 1 Timothy 6:11-16

21. March 13:

Memory-Mediation Verses: 2 Timothy 2:11-15

22. March 20:

Memory-Mediation Verses: 2 Timothy 2:22-26

23. March 27:

Memory-Mediation Verses: Titus 2:11-14

24. April 3:

Memory-Mediation Verses: Hebrews 4:11-16

25. April 10:

Memory-Mediation Verses: Hebrews 12:1-7

26. April 17:

Memory-Mediation Verses: 1 Peter 5:6-11

**April 24: Easter Break**

27. May 1:

Memory-Mediation Verses: 1 Corinthians 13

28. May 8:

Memory-Mediation Verses: 2 Peter 1:3-11

CRB/March 2019