

# HEBREW EXEGESIS



**MARK D. FUTATO. PH.D.**

**020T5150, 2 HOURS**

**FALL 2022**

**REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, ORLANDO**

## Course Overview

### Course Description

This course is designed to increase your skills in the science and art of Hebrew Exegesis. You will learn a model for interpreting the Hebrew text through reading two textbooks on exegesis. You will apply this model through a series of assignments and through writing an exegesis paper on a sub-text of 1 Kings 17-18. You will also increase your knowledge of biblical Hebrew for exegesis through your study of the text of Jonah, your use of an intermediate reference grammar, your learning of the Hebrew accent system, your study of Hebrew vocabulary, and your review of Hebrew verb forms.

### Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course you will:

- Know your Hebrew Bible better,
  - Having used *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia* and
- Know Hebrew grammar better,
  - Having reviewed the morphology of the noun and verb and having advanced your knowledge of Hebrew syntax,
  - Having learned how to use an intermediate reference grammar: *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar*.
  - Having learned how to use a Hebrew lexicon such as *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* or *The Concise Classical Hebrew Dictionary*.
- Know the exegetical method better,
  - Having studied the exegetical method in *Seeing the Text and Old Testament Exegesis* and
  - Having practiced the exegetical method on 1 Kings 17-18.
- Know more about the message of the book of Jonah,
  - Having read the book in Hebrew,
  - Having studied the grammar and theology of the book,
  - Having examined your vision for God's work in the world, and
  - Having become more like God in your compassion for those who are not like you.

**Course Dates: August 24-December 13**

## Resources Needed

- **Hebrew Bible**
  - Elliger, Karl, and Wilhelm Rudolph, eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1997. (Abbreviated *BHS*)
- **Hebrew Reference Grammar**
  - van der Merwe, Christo H. J., Jan H. Kroeze, and J. A. Naudé. *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar*. Sheffield, England: Sheffield Academic, 1999. (Abbreviated *BHRG*)
- **Hebrew Lexicon**
  - Holladay, William L. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1988. (Abbreviated *CHALOT*)
- **Exegetical Textbooks**
  - Schertz, Mary H. and Perry B. Yoder. *Seeing the Text: Exegesis for Students of Greek and Hebrew*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2001.
  - Stuart, Douglas. *Old Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors*. 4th ed. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2009.
- **Literary Structure**
  - Dorsey, David A. *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament: A Commentary on Genesis-Malachi*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1999.
- **Hebrew Accents**
  - Futato, Mark D. *Basics of Hebrew Accents*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2020.
- **Masoretic Text**
  - Chapter 36 in Pratico, Gary D., and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar: Third Edition*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Academic, 2019.
- **Hebrew Vocabulary Cards**
  - Van Pelt, Miles V. *Old Testament Hebrew Vocabulary Cards*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2019.
- **Commentary on Jonah**
  - Futato, Mark D. *Jonah: A Commentary* (Unpublished).
    - Available on Canvas
- **For Extra Credit**
  - Van Pelt, Miles V., and Gary D. Pratico. *Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary in Context: Building Competency with Words Occurring 50 Times or More*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2019.

## Commentary Suggestions on the Book of Kings for the Exegetical Paper

- Davis, Dale Ralph. *1 Kings: The Wisdom and the Folly*. Fearn, Scotland: Christian Focus, 2007.
- Devries, Simon J. *1 Kings*. Vol. 12. 2nd ed. WBC. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2004.
- Hobbs, T. R. *1, 2 Kings*. WBT. Word Books, 1989.
- House, Paul R. *1, 2 Kings*. Vol. 8. NAC. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 1995.
- Jones, Gwilym H. *1 And 2 Kings*. Eerdmans Pub Co, 1984.
- Konkel, August H. *1 and 2 Kings*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006.
- Leithart, Peter J. *1 & 2 Kings*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2006.
- Nelson, Richard D. *First and Second Kings*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1987.
- Provan, Iain W. *1 and 2 Kings*. NIBC. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1995.
- Wiseman, D. J. *1 and 2 Kings: An Introduction and Commentary*. TOTC. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2008.

## Course Requirements

### Summary of Requirements

- |                    |      |
|--------------------|------|
| • Notebooks        | ≈20% |
| • Quizzes          | ≈20% |
| • Reading Reports  | ≈12% |
| • Accent Exercises | ≈5%  |
| • Final Exam       | ≈21% |
| • Paper            | ≈21% |

### Notebooks

- There are 12 notebook assignments to be turned.
  - The notebook assignments will give you the opportunity to apply to the 1 Kings 17-18 what you are learning in *Seeing the Text* and *Old Testament Exegesis*.
- Consult "Notes for Seeing the Text" in Canvas for explanatory and supplemental notes on *Seeing the Text*.
- Consult the "Guide for the Notebook " in Canvas for the details of each assignment.
- Submission:
  - Upload each Notebook as a PDF at the appropriate week at Modules on Canvas.

- In the top left corner of each Notebook document, put your name, the Notebook number, and the biblical reference, e.g.,  
Mark Futato  
Notebook 01  
1 Kings 1:1-7
- Use the following naming format for each electronic file:  
LastName\_FirstName\_Notebook\_##  
E.g., Futato\_Mark\_Notebook\_01
- Each week's Notebook is worth 8 points, and the total constitutes  $\approx 20\%$  of your course grade.

### Quizzes

- There are 12 quizzes to be taken weekly on Canvas.
- The quizzes cover:
  - The assigned Hebrew text from Jonah (translation, vocabulary, and parsing),
  - The assigned Hebrew vocabulary from Van Pelt,
  - The assigned Hebrew verb forms.
- Consult the Schedule below for the details of the weekly assignments.
- You may take each quiz 2 times. If you do not do well on the first attempt, you may restudy the material and retake the quiz. Canvas will record the higher of the 2 scores.
- Each quiz is worth 8 points, and the total constitutes  $\approx 20\%$  of your course grade.

### Reading Reports

- There are 11 reading report quizzes to be taken.
- Each quiz is T/F questions:
  - "I read the assigned Hebrew text of 1 Kings 17-18."
- Each reading report is worth 5 points, and the total constitutes  $\approx 12\%$  of your course grade.

### Accents Exercises

- There are 12 accents exercises.
- Each accent exercise is worth 12 points, and the total constitutes  $\approx 5\%$  of your course grade.

## Final Exam

- There is a final exam.
- This exam covers the material from:
  - The Hebrew text of Jonah: translation, parsing,
  - The quiz vocabulary,
  - The quiz paradigms,
  - The material on the Hebrew Bible (see Study Guide for Van Pelt in Canvas > Modules > Course Resources),
  - The material on the Hebrew accents (see Study Guide for Hebrew Accents in Canvas > Modules > Course Resources),
  - The assigned material in BHRG (see Study Guide for BHRG in Canvas, > Modules > Course Resources).
- You may take the final exam 2 times. If you do not do well on the first attempt, you may restudy the material and retake the final. Canvas will record the higher of the 2 scores.
- The exam is worth 100 points, and the total constitutes  $\approx 21\%$  of your course grade.

## Paper

- There is a paper required for this course.
- The paper will give you the opportunity to synthesize what you have learned from *Seeing the Text*, *Old Testament Exegesis*, and the Notebook exercises.
- Consult the "Guidelines for the Paper" in Canvas > Modules > Course Resources for further details.
- Submission:
  - Upload the paper as a PDF at the appropriate Week at Modules on Canvas.
  - Use the cover sheet template that is downloadable from Canvas.
  - Use the following naming format for the electronic file:  
LastName\_FirstName\_Text  
E.g., Futato\_Mark\_1Kings17v2-7
- The paper is worth 100 points, and the total constitutes  $\approx 21\%$  of your course grade.

## Bonus Points Quiz

- You may earn up to 24 bonus points by taking a quiz on the first 24 texts in Van Pelt, Miles V., and Gary D. Pratico. *Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary in Context: Building Competency with Words Occurring 50 Times or More*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2019.
- The quiz will cover translation only.

## Grading Scale

- I use the Seminary's published grading scale.

## Course Schedule

### Class Preparation

- For each Week A
  - Be able to read the Hebrew text of Jonah out loud and to translate the text into English. You can download audio files of the Book of Jonah from Canvas.
  - Complete the quiz
- For each Week 2
  - Study the assigned section in *BHRG*.
  - Study the assigned section in Schertz or Stuart.
  - Read the assigned text of 1 Kings 17-18
  - Complete the Notebook, Accents Exercise, and Reading Report

### Unit 1A (August 24)

The Book of Jonah

The Hebrew text of Jonah 1:1-3

Futato, Jonah 1:1-3

Futato, *Accents*, Chapter 2

Complete Quiz 01:

Hebrew: Jonah 1:1-3

Vocabulary: VanPelt 507-18

Verbs: Qal Regular (consult *BHRG* §15 and §16.1-2)

### Unit 1B (August 29)

Grammar

*BHRG* §§19.1

An Exegetical Model

Reading the Text (Part 1): Delimiting the Sub-texts - Schertz, pp. 19-25

1 Kings 17-18

Hebrew: 1 Kings 17:1-6

Complete Notebook 01

Complete *Accents* Exercise 1.1

Complete Reading Report 01

## **Unit 2A (August 31)**

The Book of Jonah

The Hebrew text of Jonah 1:4-6

Futato, Jonah 1:4-6

Futato, *Accents*, Chapter 3

Complete Quiz 02:

Hebrew: Jonah 1:4-6

Vocabulary: VanPelt 519-530

Verbs: Niphal Regular (consult *BHRG* §16.3)

## **Unit 2B (September 7)**

Grammar

*BHRG* §§19.2

An Exegetical Model

Reading the Text (Part 2) Delimiting the Clauses - Schertz, pp. 25-32

1 Kings 17-18

Hebrew: 1 Kings 17:7-12

Complete Notebook 02

Complete *Accents* Exercise 1.2

Complete Reading Report 02

## **Unit 3A (September 12)**

The Book of Jonah

The Hebrew text of Jonah 1:7-9

Futato, Jonah 1:7-9

Futato, *Accents*, Chapter 4

Complete Quiz 03:

Hebrew: Jonah 1:7-9

Vocabulary: VanPelt 531-542

Verbs: Piel Regular (consult *BHRG* §16.4)

## **Unit 3B (September 14)**

Grammar

*BHRG* §§19.3

An Exegetical Model

Tabling the Text (Part 1): Lexical Analysis - Schertz, pp. 33-40

1 Kings 17-18

Hebrew: 1 Kings 17:13-18

Complete Notebook 03

Complete *Accents* Exercise 1.3

Complete Reading Report 03



### **Unit 4A (September 19)**

The Book of Jonah

The Hebrew text of Jonah 1:10-13

Futato, Jonah 1:10-13

Complete Quiz 04:

Hebrew: Jonah 1:10-13

Vocabulary: VanPelt 543-54

Verbs: Hiphil Regular (consult *BHRG* §16.7)

### **Unit 4B (September 21)**

Grammar

*BHRG* §§19.4-5

An Exegetical Model

Tabling the Text (Part 2): Textual Criticism - Schertz, pp. 40-45

1 Kings 17-18

Hebrew: 1 Kings 17:19-24

Complete Notebook 04

Complete *Accents* Exercise 1.4

Complete Reading Report 04

### **Unit 5A (September 26)**

The Book of Jonah

The Hebrew text of Jonah 1:14-2:2

Futato, Jonah 1:14-2:2

Complete Quiz 05:

Hebrew: Jonah 1:14-2:2

Vocabulary: VanPelt 555-566

Verbs: I & II Guttural (consult *BHRG* §18.2)

### **Unit 5B (September 28)**

Grammar

*BHRG* §20.1

An Exegetical Model

Contouring the Text (Part 1): Semantic Patterns - Schertz, pp. 46-56

1 Kings 17-18

Hebrew: 1 Kings 18:1-6

Complete Notebook 05

Complete *Accents* Exercise 2.1

Complete Reading Report 05

### **Unit 6A (October 3)**

The Book of Jonah  
The Hebrew text of Jonah 2:3-7a  
Futato, Jonah 2:3-7a  
Complete Quiz 06:  
Hebrew: Jonah 2:3-7a  
Vocabulary: VanPelt 567-578  
Verbs: III Hey (consult *BHRG* §18.5)

### **Unit 6B (October 5)**

Grammar  
*BHRG* §§20.2  
An Exegetical Model  
Dorsey, pp. 290-295  
Contouring the Text (Part 2): Grammatical Patterns - Schertz, pp. 57-65  
1 Kings 17-18  
Hebrew: 1 Kings 18:7-12  
Complete Notebook 06  
Complete *Accents* Exercise 2.2  
Complete Reading Report 06

### ***Reading Week (October 10-14)***

### **Unit 7A (October 17)**

The Book of Jonah  
The Hebrew text of Jonah 2:7b-11  
Futato, Jonah 2:7b-11  
Complete Quiz 07:  
Hebrew: Jonah 2:7b-11  
Vocabulary: VanPelt 479-590  
Verbs: I Nun (consult *BHRG* §18.6)

### **Unit 7B (October 19)**

Grammar  
*BHRG* §§20.3  
An Exegetical Model  
Plotting the Text (Part 1): Regions in the Text - Schertz, pp. 66-77  
1 Kings 17-18  
Hebrew: 1 Kings 18:13-18  
Complete Notebook 07  
Complete *Accents* Exercise 2.3  
Complete Reading Report 07

### **Unit 8A (October 24)**

The Book of Jonah

The Hebrew text of Jonah 3:1-5

Futato, Jonah 3:1-5

Complete Quiz 08:

Hebrew: Jonah 3:1-5

Vocabulary: VanPelt 591-602

Verbs: I Yod (consult *BHRG* §18.7)

### **Unit 8B (October 26)**

Grammar

*BHRG* §21.2

An Exegetical Model

Plotting the Text (Part 2): Flow of the Text - Schertz, pp. 78-88

1 Kings 17-18

Hebrew: 1 Kings 18:19-25

Complete Notebook 08

Complete *Accents* Exercise 2.4

Complete Reading Report 08

### **Unit 9A (October 31)**

The Book of Jonah

The Hebrew text of Jonah 3:6-9

Futato, Jonah 3:6-9

Complete Quiz 09:

Hebrew: Jonah 3:6-9

Vocabulary: VanPelt 603-616

Verbs: Synopsis of Hollow and Geminat (consult *BHRG* §18.8-9)

### **Unit 9B (November 2)**

Grammar

*BHRG* §46

An Exegetical Model

Studying the Historical Context: Place in History - Stuart, 1.7, 2.7, 3.4

1 Kings 17-18

Hebrew: 1 Kings 18:26-31

Complete Notebook 09

Complete *Accents* Exercise 2.5

Complete Reading Report 09

### **Unit 10A (November 7)**

The Book of Jonah

The Hebrew text of Jonah 3:10-4:3

Futato, Jonah 3:10-4:3

Complete Quiz 10:

Hebrew: Jonah 3:10-4:3

Vocabulary: VanPelt 617-628

Verbs: Perfect: Qal, Niphal, Piel, Hiphil

### **Unit 10B (November 9)**

Grammar

*BHRG* §47.1-2

An Exegetical Model

Studying the Literary Context: Place in Book and Genre - Stuart, 1.8, 2.8, 3.4

1 Kings 17-18

Hebrew: 1 Kings 18:32-37

Complete Notebook 10

Complete *Accents* Exercise 2.6

Complete Reading Report 10

### **Unit 11A (November 14) - ETS**

The Book of Jonah

The Hebrew text of Jonah 4:4-7

Futato, Jonah 4:4-7

Complete Quiz 11:

Hebrew: Jonah 4:4-7

Vocabulary: VanPelt 629-642

Verbs: Imperfect: Qal, Niphal, Piel, Hiphil

### **Unit 11B (November 16) - ETS**

Grammar

*BHRG* §47.1-48.2

An Exegetical Model

Studying the Canonical Context: Place in Canon - Stuart, 1.9, 1.10, 2.9, 2.10, 3.5

1 Kings 17-18

Hebrew: 18:38-42

Complete Notebook 11

Complete *Accents* Exercise 2.7

Complete Reading Report 11

***Review Day (November 22)***

***Thanksgiving (November 25)***

**Unit 12A (November 28)**

The Book of Jonah

The Hebrew text of Jonah 4:8-11

Futato, Jonah 4: 8-11

Complete Quiz 12:

Hebrew: Jonah 4:8-11

Vocabulary: All

Verbs: All Verbs

**Unit 12B (November 30)**

Grammar

*BHRG* §25.4

An Exegetical Model

Integrating the Text and Life: Application - Stuart, 1.11, 2.11, 3.6

1 Kings 17-18

Hebrew: 1 Kings 18:43-46

Complete Notebook 12

Complete *Accents* Exercise 2.8

Complete Reading Report 12

***Review Day (December 5)***

## Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes

Course: 02OT5150  
 Professor: Futato  
 Campus: Global

<b><u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u></b> <i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i> <i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i>		<b><u>Rubric</u></b> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None	<b><u>Mini-Justification</u></b>
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Strong	Students write an exegetical paper
<b>Scripture</b>	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	Students learn advanced Hebrew grammar.
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	Students learn exegesis from a Reformed theological view point.
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	Students reflect on their relationship to God throughout the reading of the book of Jonah.
<b>Desire for Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Moderate	Students reflect on their worldview through reflecting on the book of Jonah.
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Moderate	Students interact with non-Reformed perspectives in the exegetical paper.
<b>Preach</b>	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Minimal	Students reflect on preaching and teaching the book of Jonah.
<b>Worship</b>	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Minimal	Students reflect on worship while reading the book of Jonah.
<b>Shepherd</b>	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	Minimal	Students reflect on pastoral ministry while reading the book of Jonah.
<b>Church/World</b>	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	None	