

Studies in Daniel 6OT6430

Syllabus

- **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will study the Book of Daniel from a literary, historical, and theological perspective. It will include a brief discussion on the apocalyptic genre and the contribution of the Book of Daniel in eschatological expectations.

- **COURSE OBJECTIVES**
 - Comprehension:
 1. To increase your knowledge of the content of the Book of Daniel.
 2. To increase your knowledge of introductory issues regarding the Book of Daniel
 3. To increase your knowledge of the development of redemptive themes as they progress in the Book of Daniel.

 - Competence
 1. To sharpen your ability to interpret the Book of Daniel in its historical, theological, and literary contexts.
 2. To sharpen your ability to apply the teaching of the Book of Daniel in your own life and in the life of the local church.
 3. To prepare those who are called to the ministry for licensure and ordination exams at their local presbyteries.

 - Character
 1. To be a person of growing faith.
 2. To be a person of increasing hope.
 3. To be a person of deepening love.

- **OFFICE HOURS:** I enjoy meeting with students, so I will be available as much as possible before and after classes. For persona meetings, contact me directly to set up an appointment.

- **REQUIRED READING**
 - ☐ Tremper Longman. *How to Read Daniel*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2020

 - ☐ Richard A. Taylor, *Interpreting Apocalyptic Literature*. Grand Rapids: Kregel. 2016

 - ☐ James Hamilton, *With the Clouds of Heaven: The Book of Daniel in Biblical Theology* (NSBT)

- Collection of articles

- ❑ Richard Belcher, “Appendix A: The Seventy Weeks of Daniel 9” in *A Biblical-Theological Introduction to the Old Testament: Gospel Promised*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2016. Edited by Miles V. Van Pelt. Pages 543-546
- ❑ _____, “Appendix B: The Role of Heavenly Beings in Daniel” in *A Biblical-Theological Introduction to the Old Testament: Gospel Promised*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2016. Edited by Miles V. Van Pelt. Pages 547-550
- ❑ John J. Collins, “Introduction: Towards the Morphology of a Genre”
- ❑ Meredith G. Kline, “The Covenant of the Seventieth Week” in *The Law and the Prophets: Old Testament Studies in Honor of Oswald T. Allis*. Edited by John H. Skilton. Nutley, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1974. Pages 452-469
- ❑ E. C. Lucas, “The Book of Daniel” in *Dictionary of the Old Testament Prophets*. Edited by Mark J. Boda, J. Gordon McConville; Downers Grove: IVP, 2012. Pages 110-123
- ❑ Heleen Sancisi-Weerdenburg, “Darius I and the Persian Empire”

- ASSIGNMENTS

- *Attendance*: Due to the intensive format of this course, students are required to attend class lectures. If you know you cannot make it to a class session, notify the professor in advance.
- *Longman Questions*: Answer all the questions at the end of each chapter of *How to Read Daniel* by Tremper Longman. This will be prepared before class and used during the course lectures.
- *Reading Report*: This will be discussed in more detail on the first day of class.
- *Book Review*: Students will write a book review for James Hamilton, *With the Clouds of Heaven: The Book of Daniel in Biblical Theology*. This should not be longer than 5 pages (double spaced). Please use the following outline for your review
 1. Summaries: Give a summary of each chapter
 2. Critique: Offer a brief critique of the book, including strength and weakness
 3. Best Quotes: Write significant quotes as you come across them and write a brief paragraph explaining why you found this to be significant (minimum of 5 needed)
- *Research Paper*: Students will turn in a term paper of approximately 15-20 pages. This will be discussed in more detail on the first day of class.

- *Due Dates of Assignments:*
 - ✓ Longman Questions Beginning of class
 - ✓ Book Review Due Feb 9 (Friday)
 - ✓ Research Paper Due Feb 23 (Friday)
 - ✓ Reading Report Due Mar 1 (Friday)

- **TOTAL GRADE:** The final grade for the course will be the total of each of the required assignments listed above
 - Longman Questions: 20% of total grade
 - Book Review: 30% of total grade
 - Research Paper: 30% of total grade
 - Reading Report: 20% of total grade

The following scale will be used to determine your final grade for the course:

A (97-100), A- (94-96), B+ (91-93), B (88-90), B- (86-87), C+ (83-85), C (80-82), C- (78-79), D+ (75-77), D (72-74), D- (70-71), F (below 70).



READING REPORT FORM

Provide the date in which you complete each of the required reading assignments and turn in the completed form on the due date for Reading Reports (**Due Mar 1**).

NAME:

- Tremper Longman
How to Read Daniel _____
- Richard A. Taylor
Interpreting Apocalyptic Literature _____
- Richard Belcher
“Appendix A: The Seventy Weeks of Daniel 9” _____
- Richard Belcher
“Appendix B: The Role of Heavenly Beings in Daniel” _____
- John J. Collins
“Introduction: Towards the Morphology of a Genre” _____
- Meredith G. Kline
“The Covenant of the Seventieth Week” _____
- Heleen Sancisi-Weerdenburg
“Darius I and the Persian Empire” _____
- E. C. Lucas,
“The Book of Daniel” _____

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: Studies in the Book of Daniel

Professor: Peter Y. Lee

Campus: Washington, D. C.

Date: October 1, 2023

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u> <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>		<u>Rubric</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong • Moderate • Minimal • None 	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	Understanding through lectures and reading, articulation through essay exams and a research paper
Scripture	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	Focus of the class is on understanding the original meaning, with some emphasis on language and more on hermeneutics, with the goal of understanding modern meaning
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	The class has a good dose of Reformed distinctives, such as the emphasis on covenant, divine inspiration, redemption, and eschatology.
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Strong	One conscious goal is to see students benefit personally in their faith from their understanding of the work of God in the revelation of the Scripture and the apocalyptic plan that continues to be worked out in our day.
Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. Includes ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	Several issues in class deal directly with world view, especially the materials on the covenants and their impact on modern issues.

Winsomely Reformed	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.)	Minimal	Differing views of issues are set forth in an objective, fair, and winsome way
Pastoral Ministry	Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both church and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading and shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Christians.	Moderate	Several issues in covenant fulfillment are relevant with on-going dialogue in areas of incorporation of peoples into the church and coping through trials.