

# **HERMENEUTICS**

## **Syllabus**

### **I. GENERAL INFORMATION.**

- A. This course consists of 21 video lessons.
- B. Each class is approximately 38 minutes long.
- C. Instructor: Lindell Mitchell.

### **II. DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE.**

- A. This is an in-depth study of biblical Hermeneutics (principles of Bible interpretation).
- B. Much attention will be given to the practical application of the rules and methods involved.
- C. The student will gain a working knowledge of hermeneutical tools and study detailed information contained in a proper biblical hermeneutic.
- D. The student will understand the relationship between faith and proper interpretation.
- E. The student will understand the requirements of in-depth Bible study.
- F. The student will understand the pitfalls and results of faulty interpretation.

### **III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS.**

- A. Required:
  - 1. Bible (KJV, NKJV, NASB OR ESV)  
  
For purposes of textual accuracy and uniformity in this course Bible study is to be done out of one of the versions above. No Bible translation is perfect, but these versions have earned reputations for reliability.
  - 2. 21 video lessons.
  - 3. Course Notes.

B. Recommended (not required):

Adler, Mortimer J. and VanDoren, Charles. *How To Read A Book*. Simon and Schuster. NY, NY. 1972.

Autrey, William. *Hermeneutics New & Old*. Gold Three Publications. Yorba Linda, CA. 2000.

Deaver, Roy C. *Ascertaining Bible Authority*. Firm Foundation Publishing House. Pensacola, FL. 1987.

Dungan, D. R. *Hermeneutics*. Gospel Light Publishing Company. Delight, AR. (No date).

Hightower, Terry M. (editor). *Rightly Dividing The Word I – General Hermeneutics: Fourth Annual Shenandoah Lectures*. Firm Foundation Publishing House. Pensacola, FL. 1990.

Hightower, Terry M. (editor). *Rightly Dividing The Word II – Special Hermeneutics: Fifth Annual Shenandoah Lectures*. Firm Foundation Publishing House. Pensacola, FL. 1991.

Lockhart, Clinton. *Principles Of Interpretation*. Gospel Light Publishing Company. Delight, AR. ND.

Warren, Thomas B. *Logic And The Bible*. National Christian Press. Moore, Oklahoma. 1982.

Warren, Thomas B. *When Is An “Example” Binding?* National Christian Press. Moore, Oklahoma. 1975.

#### IV. REQUIREMENTS.

- A. View each video lesson in its entirety.
- B. Read the Course Notes in their entirety. It is good to go through the notes at the same time you view the lessons adding your own notes as needed.
- C. Submit three exegetical papers.
  - 1. The first after the second exam.
  - 2. The second after the third exam.
  - 3. The third after the final exam.

- D. Take four exams
- E. Have a grade average of 70 or more for each exam and a combined grade average of 70 or more for the course.

## **V. EXAMS.**

- A. There are four exams. The exams cover the material as presented on the videos and in the written notes.
- B. The exams cover the course as follows:
  - 1. The first exam shall be taken after you have completed studying through chapter eight.
  - 2. The second exam shall be taken after you have completed studying through chapter twenty-eight.
  - 3. The third exam will be taken after you have completed studying through chapter thirty-one.
  - 4. The final exam is to be taken after you have finished viewing all of the lessons.
  - 5. Each exam may also cover any or all of the material covered in any previous exam.
- C. The study guides may be downloaded at any time. You may use the study guide while you are viewing the videos.
- D. When you take an exam you must do so completely from memory with no help from your Bible, Course Notes, etc.
- E. You do not need a proctor when taking the exams, God is your witness.

## **VI. TERM PAPERS.**

- A. Submit three (3) papers - each is to be an exegesis **in your own words**.
  - 1. The first passage to exegete and submit with your completed second exam is Matthew 16:13-20. Be sure to explain the importance of Peter's role as it relates to the other apostles and the church.

2. The second passage to exegete and submit with your completed third exam is Luke 23:39-43. Be sure to explain how Jesus' saving of the thief on the cross relates to baptism and our salvation today.
  3. Final passage to exegete and submit with your completed final exam is Acts 8:14-24. Be sure to explain how this relates to the Bible's teaching concerning miracles today.
- B. These passages were chosen because so much incorrect teaching exists regarding them.
  - C. Draw a conclusion at the end of each exegesis that is supported and defended by your research.
  - D. Each paper should be two to three pages long (12 point font, **double** spaced). **Do not exceed four pages.** The paper should be approximately 600 to 900 words.

## VII. GRADING.

- A. Term papers and exams will be graded separately.
- B. Final grade is based on an average of all assigned work.
- C. You may request a grade be explained or reconsidered, but in any case the *WVBS Online Bible School* will have the final say.

## VIII. CREDIT.

- A. Credit will be issued, including a certificate, only after all work has been successfully completed.
- B. May God richly bless your study of this significant material!

## IX. COURSE ORDER.

<u>Class</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
1	Ch 1 - Hermeneutics Is The Science Of Interpretation	Ch 2 - Biblical Interpretation
2	Ch 2 - A Correct Translation	Ch 3 - Bible Prop. of Priesthood
3	Ch 3 - Bible Prop. of Priesthood	Ch 4 - The Church Is Required
4	Ch 4 - How The Spirit	Ch 5 - Matthew 7:16-20

Strengthens Within		
5	Ch 5 - Galatians 5:22-25	Ch 6 - Dogmatic Method
6	Ch 6 - Dogmatic Method	Ch 7 - Each Covenant
7	Ch 7 - Language Under One Covenant	Ch 7 - The Trial As To Time
8	Ch 8 - Who Is The Writer?	Ch 9 - General & Special Scope
9	Ch 9 - Etymological Construction	Ch 10 - The Type & Antitype
10	Ch 11 - Figures Of Thought	Ch 12 - The Special Design Of The Parables
11	Ch 12 - The Interpretation Of Parables	Ch 14 - Similes
12	Ch 14 - Similes	Ch 16 - Rules For Interpreting Allegories
13	Ch 17 - Metonymy	Ch 19 - Sarcasm
14	Ch 19 - Sarcasm	Ch 21 - Learn To Appreciate Figurative Language
15	Ch 22 - Recognizing & Interpreting Personification	Ch 23 - Conclusion
16	Ch 24 - Anthropomorphism & Anthropopathism	Ch 26 - What The Pattern Is Not
17	Ch 26 - The New Testament Pattern	Ch 28 - Books By Other Writers
18	Ch 28 - Sectional Context	Ch 29 - Conclusion
19	Ch 30 - Paradox	Ch 32 - The Campbells Recognized This Point
20	Ch 32 - Victims Of Rationalism	Ch 32 - Conclusion
21	Ch 33 - Jesus' Use Of The Bible	Ch 33 - Conclusion