Course Syllabus for *Special Studies in the New Testament*
NT 632: The Study of Atonement in the NT

A course offered at the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary

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Course Description:

According to the current catalog (2010-12), on p. 68, this course is described as the following: “Advanced and specialized studies are made in various facets of the New Testament. These may include current approaches to New Testament Interpretation, studies in the canonization of the New Testament and New Testament criticism.” The various facet of the New Testament that this course will cover includes an examination of the Atonement. This will be accomplished by focusing on the Old Testament understanding of the atonement, followed by an examination of the atonement in each NT genre and how the atonement has been interpreted in church history.

Course Textbooks:

1. The Bible


Course Objectives:

*By the end of the course, the student should . . .*

1. possess a basic understanding of the atonement as it relates to the OT.

2. be able to explain how the different NT genres treat the atonement.

3. be able to define what is meant by the atonement.

4. possess a fundamental understanding of the atonement and evaluate how it has been interpreted throughout church history.

5. be familiar with journal articles related to the atonement, and be able to appraise their value in understanding the atonement.
Course Requirements:

Reading:

The student is required to read, *The Glory of the Atonement* in its entirety. Most of the book should be read in conjunction with the course schedule, but the remainder of the book is to be read as well. The student will be asked on the final exam what percentage of the book he or she has read.

Critical Book Review:

The student is required to prepare a critical review of *The Glory of the Atonement*. A critical review is more than just a summary of the book. A good critical review examines the author’s thesis, and determines whether or not the author stayed true to that thesis. The student should also comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the book (pertaining to both content and format), interact with portions of the book, and make a determination of the usefulness of this resource for one’s ministry. This review should be 3-5 pages in length and double-spaced.

Journal Review:

The student is required to read five journal articles related to the atonement and write a one page review on each article double-spaced. These articles must come from a juried journal (not just an internet article).

Research Paper:

The student is required to write a 10-12 page research paper on some aspect of the atonement as it relates to the New Testament. This paper must include a title page, table of contents, and a selected bibliography. The page count includes the body of the paper only. The paper should be typed double-spaced, using Times New Roman 12 pt. font. The paper should be written according to Turabian utilizing footnotes. The student should strive for a full page of bibliographic references, including two journal articles (these two articles can count toward the five journal articles reviewed for this class). Internet sources can be used, but should comprise of no more than 20% of the research.

Late Work:

Any late work will be deducted two percentage for every day it is late.

Tests:

Two tests will be given in this course: a mid-semester test and a final exam. The final exam is not cumulative. *Tests must be taken on the day they are scheduled.*
Course Grading:

There is a total of 1,000 points that may be earned for this course. Percentage points will not be rounded up. For example, if a student earns 90.7 points for the course, the percentage will be 90.7%, which is a “B.” The percentage breakdown and point value for the course is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-semester test</td>
<td>200 pts. (20%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>200 pts. (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>250 pts. (25%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical Review</td>
<td>100 pts. (10%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five Journal article reviews</td>
<td>100 pts. (10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>100 pts. (10%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
<td>50 pts. (5%)</td>
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</tbody>
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BMATS Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>91-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>81-90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>71-80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>61-70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Incomplete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WP</td>
<td>Withdrawal while passing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WF</td>
<td>Withdrawal while failing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class Attendance and Participation:

The students are to be in class for each class session. Missing class will result in a reduction in one’s overall grade. Missing more than ¼ of class sessions (4 absences constitutes more than ¼ - students can technically miss only 3 class periods), except for extenuating circumstances, can place the student at risk of failing the course. Students are allowed to use their personal computers in class for taking notes only (no internet usage is allowed during class unless allowed by the professor). Any violation of computer privileges can result in the loss of such privileges.
Course Schedule:

Jan. 25: Course Introduction
Feb. 1: Atonement in the OT (Pentateuch) (GOTA, 23-50)
Feb. 8: Atonement in the OT (Psalm 51 & Isaiah 53) (GOTA, 51-89)
Feb. 15: Atonement in the Synoptic Gospels & Acts (GOTA, 90-105)
Feb. 22: Atonement in the Johannine Literature (GOTA, 106-18; 190-208)
Mar. 1: Atonement in the Pauline Corpus (GOTA, 119-39)
Mar. 8: Atonement in the Pauline Corpus, cont. (GOTA, 140-62)
Mar. 15: Atonement in Hebrews (GOTA, 163-75)
Mar. 22: MID-SEMESTER EXAM
Mar. 29: Atonement in the General Epistles (GOTA, 176-89)
Apr. 5: Atonement and the Wrath of God – Journal Reviews Due
Apr. 12: SPRING BREAK
Apr. 19: Atonement in Church History (Augustine) (GOTA, 221-38)
          Research Paper Due
Apr. 26: Atonement in Church History (Medieval Thought) (GOTA, 239-62)
May 3: Atonement in Church History (Luther & Calvin) (GOTA, 263-303)
          Critical Book Review Due
May 10: FINAL EXAM

* The professor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus or course schedule at his discretion.

* This class will meet on Tuesdays from 2-5 PM in the Grimsley Building.
Course Syllabus Contract

I have carefully read through the syllabus for this course. I fully comprehend what is expected of me as a student in this course.

I have duly noted the due dates on the course schedule and agree that I will turn in all assignments on time.

If I am late for any assignments, I understand that they will be deducted 2 percentage points for every day they are late.

I understand that the tests must be taken on the dates they are scheduled.

I understand the 1,000 point grading scale for this course, and further understand that percentage points will not be rounded up.

I understand that attending class is vital to my seminary education, and that missing class may result in points deducted from my class attendance and participation grade. I further understand that three tardies is equal to one absence according to the BMATS catalog.

By affixing my signature below, I fully comply with the procedures for this course:

Printed Name __________________________

Date ____________  Signature __________________________