

## COURSE SYLLABUS

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# OT128: Old Testament Basics

Course Lecturer: Sid Buzzell, PhD

## Course Description

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Many people are curious about the Old Testament but may lack an understanding of how it fits together. In this course, Dr. Sid Buzzell will provide a simple overview of this enduring and influential part of the Bible and examine spiritual insights that speak to our hearts today. We hope that this short course will whet your appetite for further study in the Old Testament.

Special Note: Dr. Buzzell would like to thank Dr. Howard G. Hendricks, professor at Dallas Theological Seminary, for his insights into the Old Testament and the impact it made on Dr. Buzzell's teaching of this course.

## Course Objectives

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Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe what the Old Testament teaches us about God's character.
2. Understand why the Old Testament books are placed in the order that they are and identify the categories of books contained within the Old Testament.
3. Explain the characteristics of each of the categories of books in the Old Testament.
4. Identify the four eras (or periods) into which the Old Testament is divided.
5. Understand the general narrative flow and major events in Old Testament history.
6. Describe the important people in the Old Testament and their contribution to Old Testament history.
7. Gain a deeper understanding of the authors of the Old Testament books, their purpose, and the context in which they were writing.
8. Know the characteristics of Hebrew poetry and gain a deeper understanding of wisdom literature.
9. Understand the context of the Prophets and summarize their collective eternal message.

## Course Lecturer

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*Sid Buzzell, PhD*

**Education:**

- Michigan State University, PhD
- Dallas Theological Seminary, ThM
- Philadelphia College of the Bible, BS

**Teaching Career:**

- Academic Dean, Christian University GlobalNet

- Dean of the School of Theology, Academic Vice President, and Professor of Biblical Exposition and Leadership, Colorado Christian University
- Academic Dean and Professor of Pastoral Theology, Biblical Theological Seminary (1995-1997) and Conservative Baptist Seminary (1993-1995)
- Director of Christian Leadership Program and Professor of Management and Leadership, Colorado Christian University (1992-1993)
- Assistant Professor, Dallas Theological Seminary (1974-1982)
- Adjunct Professor, Denver Seminary, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and Eastern College
- Trainer and teacher of leaders across Europe, Asia, and Africa, with extensive work in Austria, China, Indonesia, and Poland

### **Other Career Highlights:**

- Founding and senior pastor at several churches nationwide
- Ordained at the Billings Bible Church in Billings, Montana (1998)
- Ethics lecturer for Russian military officers at the Russian Humanitarian Academy in Moscow for the World International Military Conference (1993)
- Dallas Area Director, Christian Medical Society (1973-1979)
- Staff, Word of Life Inn fellowship ministry
- Participant in numerous conferences in well-respected organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, The Navigators, the National Association of Evangelicals, and World Vision International

### **Publications:**

- Noted published author, with works including *Handbook to Leadership*
- Contributor to various biblical commentaries such as the *Bible Knowledge Commentary* and *Learning from Sages*
- General editor and a contributor to *The Leadership Bible* and *The Promise Keepers Bible* both by Zondervan Publishing

## **Course Methods**

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The lecture content for each lesson is provided in three easy-to-use formats: video, audio, and PDF text. Students can choose the medium (or combination of media) that most closely aligns with their individual learning styles.