

COURSE SYLLABUS

Ecclesiastes-Isaiah: God Guides His People Through Poets and Prophets

Course Lecturer: Douglas Stuart, PhD

Course Description

This course, *Ecclesiastes-Isaiah: God Guides His People Through Poets and Prophets*, takes you through two of the Old Testament books of poetry and then introduces them to the writing prophets—who also used a great deal of poetry in their writings. Ecclesiastes and Song of Songs present the importance of living life under God’s direction. Isaiah introduces the prophetic literature, which is a series of calls to abandon the pursuit of alternative lifestyles and live life God’s way.

Course Objectives

- To introduce you to survey information of the Old Testament
- To help you develop critical and practical aptitudes in understanding the Bible
- To provide scholarly information that will help you better understand the historical and biblical context of the Old Testament

Course Lecturer



Douglas K. Stuart, PhD

Education:

- Harvard University, PhD
- Yale Divinity School, graduate studies
- Harvard University, BA

Teaching Career:

- Professor of Old Testament, specializing in Assyrian and Babylonian languages and literature, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary
- Co-chair of the Old Testament Colloquium for the Boston Theological Institute
- Visiting professor, guest lecturer, and speaker at colleges, seminaries, and universities across the United States

Other Career Highlights:

- Activity in several organizations, including The Evangelical Theological Society, the International Organization for Septuagint and Cognate Studies, and the Society of Biblical Literature
- Radio and television broadcasts, including appearances in both *Mysteries of the Bible* and *Christianity: The First Thousand Years*
- Ordained minister, pastoring numerous churches in Massachusetts and New Hampshire
- Ministry work among gypsies in Eastern Europe
- Fluent in several languages and able to navigate through several others, including Arabic, Aramaic, Assyrian, Babylonian, Egyptian, English, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Latin, Romanian, Syriac, Targumic Aramaic, and Ugaritic

Publications:

- Author of several books, including *Old Testament Exegesis: A Primer for Students and Pastors*, *Studies in Early Hebrew Meter*, and various Bible commentaries including volumes on Hosea, Ezekiel, Malachi, and Jonah. His most bestselling book, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*, has been translated into more than 20 languages.
- Author of numerous journal articles for publications such as *Christianity Today*, *Decision Magazine*, the *Journal of Biblical Literature*, and *Hebrew Union College Annual*

Course Methods

Throughout this course, a number of methods will be used to engage you in understanding, processing and applying the information learned in this course to your life. These methods include the following:

- **Video-based teaching**

The primary teaching session in each lesson is provided in video format. If you do not have the bandwidth required to view the video, we provide the option of listening to the lesson or reading the lesson from a transcript.

- **Additional Resources**

Lessons may be accompanied by additional readings, images, etc. that you can use to supplement your learning.

Course Requirements

To earn a Certificate of Completion, you must complete the course requirements. Course requirements include:

1. Viewing the following for each lesson:

- **Lesson Overview:** A brief outline of what the lecturer will cover in the lesson.
- **Lesson Objectives:** Objectives describe the learning outcomes you should achieve by the end of the lesson.
- **Reading:** Suggested readings that will supplement your learning.
- **Lectures:** 20-30 minute lessons that can be viewed as many times as needed.

- **Glossary:** Key terms that will help you understand the lesson material.
2. Responding to the discussion questions for each lesson.
 3. Earning a 70% or higher score on each lesson Quiz and the Final Exam.
Quizzes and the Final Exam will cover the material presented in the lectures.