

## COURSE SYLLABUS

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# The Book of Isaiah

Course Lecturer: Allen P. Ross, ThD, PhD

Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at Beeson Divinity School

## Course Description

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Few Old Testament books are as theologically rich and literarily compelling as Isaiah. Learners discover those dynamics as they complete an exegetical study of the Book of Isaiah. In addition to surveying the contents of the book, the course develops the understanding and skills of exegetical exposition. In the process, students examine key chapters in Isaiah, such as the Promise of Immanuel (7), the Message of Hope (40), and the “Suffering Servant” (53). The course demonstrates how the theology of the Messiah is integral to successful Christian life and ministry.

## Course Objectives

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Upon completion of the course, you should have:

- Gained a better understanding of the Book of Isaiah, becoming familiar with the theological motifs, the hermeneutics of prophetic literature, and the major theories about the book.
- Come to a better understanding of the method of doing exegesis in the Old Testament prophetic literature, observing how the approach is used in passage after passage through the lectures and the reading, seeing how the details of exegesis must be carefully selected and arranged for interpretation, and in the process learning what books and procedures will be most helpful in the future.
- Learned how to adapt the findings of exegesis to exposition, and how to identify and apply the biblical theology of a passage, to word the ideas in an expository form, to correlate the subject matter with the New Testament, and to make useful applications.

## Course Lecturer

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*Allen P. Ross, ThD, PhD*

**Education:**

- St. John’s College of the University of Cambridge, PhD
- Dallas Theological Seminary, ThM and ThD
- Bob Jones University, BA

### **Teaching Career:**

- Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew, Beeson Divinity School of Samford University (2002-present)
- Director, Christian Leadership Center
- Instructor, Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry
- Chair, Old Testament Department at Dallas Theological Seminary
- Faculty, Bob Jones University's Graduate School

### **Other Career Highlights:**

- Literary, exegetical, and theological works used as valuable resources for professors, pastors, and Christian lay leaders alike

### **Publications:**

- Commentaries on Proverbs and Leviticus and *Creation and Blessing: A Guide to the Study and Exposition of Genesis*
- Assisted in translating the *Living Bible* and *The New King James Bible*
- Numerous articles in scholarly journals

## Recommended Reading

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The student should have access to at least one version of the biblical text of Isaiah, preferably one that is new to the student and will require some comparison with the more familiar translations.

Though not required, you may choose to read the textbook shown below to supplement your learning.

Motyer, J. Alec. *The Prophecy of Isaiah: An Introduction and Commentary*. Downer's Grove, IL: IVP, 1993.

Textbooks can be ordered through your local bookstore, various online bookstores, or through your preferred eReader when available.

## Course Methods

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

## Course Assessment and Requirements

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

1. Listening to all 24 audio lectures.
2. Completing a final self-assessment form in which you will reflect on the content in the course and evaluate your life in light of what you have learned. The specifics of this assessment are provided in the course materials.

Course requirements noted in this syllabus will be validated before a Certificate of Completion is awarded to any student.