

Syllabus

I. Course Description

A survey of biblical geography and the political, socio-economic, religious, and literary developments of the intertestamental period which prepared for Christ's coming as well as factors in the first century which influenced the ministry of the early church and affect us in our world mission today.

II. Course Objectives

By the end of the course the student should be able to...

- A. Show how the geography of Israel and the Roman world enables a better comprehension of the NT and the modern church's world mission.
- B. Place the NT writings in their historical mould, which includes political, sociological (esp. economic), religious, and linguistic backgrounds for interpreting the NT and present society.
- C. Show how cultural values and practices in Roman, Hellenistic, and Jewish societies aid understanding of the NT and find parallels in the church and society today.

III. Course Requirements

- A. **Readings** (33% of grade) will be completed mostly from the course notes during this week. Students are encouraged to highlight issues that are unclear so they can ask questions in class. This way the professor will not be the only one talking! Be sure to keep track of your reading on the course schedule. You will report on these on the quizzes. These total only 205 pages. Especially note readings from Richard L. Niswonger, *New Testament History* (Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 1988).
- B. **Quizzes** (33% of grade) over readings since the last quiz will be given each day. Half of the quiz grade will report on the readings since the last quiz (50 points per quiz and 30% of the semester grade) and half will generally comprise five questions (10 points each or 50 points total; also 30% of the semester grade). A bonus question may be included for up to 5 points. The first two quizzes depart from this norm as they cover the Israel map (p. 2) and the Roman Empire map (p. 5). There are no makeup quizzes.
- C. **Translate NTB PPT** (33% of grade) into Tamil or Sinhala 100 NT Backgrounds slides in the course PPT. Download English slides at the BibleStudyDownloads.org New Testament Backgrounds link. After the course I will upload the newly translated presentations for all to use. For more instructions, please download and read the TBB_Translation_Instructions.doc file at my website's TBB [link](#). Your grade sheet is at the end of the syllabus.

IV. Readings and Course Schedule

On your quizzes you will indicate which readings were completed late or partially.

Session	Day	Time	Class Time Subjects	Readings	#
1	Monday	9:30-10:20	Syllabus		
2	Monday	10:25-11:15	Geography Part 1		
3	Monday	11:30-12:20	Geography Part 2		
4	Monday	12:25-1:15	Political Context: Part 1A		
5	Monday	2:30-3:20	Political Context: Part 1B		
6	Monday	3:35-4:25	Quiz 1 (Israel map, p. 2); Political Context: Part 2A	Study for Quiz	
Session	Day	Time	Class Time Subjects	Readings	#
7	Tuesday	9:30-10:20	Quiz 2 (Acts map, p. 5); Political Context: Part 2B	Study for Quiz Beitzel, 150-53 Niswonger, 15-27	4 13
8	Tuesday	10:25-11:15	Political Context: Part 3A	Beitzel, 154-55, Beitzel, 166-68 Niswonger, 28-41	2 3 14
9	Tuesday	11:30-12:20	Political Context: Part 3B		
10	Tuesday	12:25-1:15	Political Context: Part 3C		
11	Tuesday	2:30-3:20	Political Context: Part 4A Quiz 3	Beitzel, 185-87; Niswonger, 42-52 Coleman, 181-91 (notes, 73-78)	3 11 11
12	Tuesday	3:35-4:25	Political Context: Part 4B		61 total
Session	Day	Time	Class Time Subjects	Readings	#
13	Wednesday	9:30-10:20	Socio-Economic Context: Part 1A		
14	Wednesday	10:25-11:15	Socio-Economic Context: Part 1B		
15	Wednesday	11:30-12:20	Quiz 4 ; Socio-Economic Context: Part 2A	Coleman, 248-55 (notes, 101-104)	8
16	Wednesday	12:25-1:15	Socio-Economic Context: Part 2B	Coleman, 202-11 (notes, 116-20)	10
17	Wednesday	2:30-3:20	Religious Context: Part 1	Niswonger, 53-78	25
18	Wednesday	3:35-4:25	Religious Context: Part 2		43 total

Session	Day	Time	Class Time Subjects	Readings	#
19	Thursday	9:30-10:20	Religious Context: Part 3	Coleman, 212-29 (notes, 127-35)	18
20	Thursday	10:25-11:15	Religious Context: Part 4		
21	Thursday	11:30-12:20	Religious Context: Part 5	Niswonger, 79-95	17
22	Thursday	12:25-1:15	Religious Context: Part 6		
23	Thursday	2:30-3:20	Quiz 5 ; Literary Context: Part 1A (MT, LXX)	Apocrypha: <i>Tobit</i> , <i>Susanna</i> , and <i>Bel & the Dragon</i> found in notes, 188-98	22
24	Thursday	3:35-4:25	Literary Context: Part 1B		57 total
Session	Day	Time	Class Time Subjects	Readings	#
25	Friday	9:30-10:20	Literary Context: Part 1C		
26	Friday	10:25-11:15	Literary Context: Part 2A NT Apocrypha	Vermes, 61-80 (notes, 242-52)	19
27	Friday	11:30-12:20	Literary Context: Part 2B Dead Sea Scrolls (DSS)	Vermes, 103-27 (DSS <i>War Scroll</i> , <i>Manual of Discipline</i>) in notes, 253-65	25
28	Friday	12:25-1:15	Work on Translation Project		
29	Friday	2:30-3:20	Work on Translation Project		
30	Friday	3:35-4:25	Work on Translation Project		44 total

IV. Course Bibliography

* An asterisk indicates books on reserve in the library (this includes those books needed for the literature paper on the previous page)

† The cross designates helpful books for this course in the reference section of the library

A. Required Reading

*†Beitzel, Barry J. *The Moody Atlas of Bible Lands*. 2d ed. Chicago: Moody, 2009. xii+304 pp. \$72.00 hb.

This major revision of *The Moody Atlas of Bible Lands* (1986) retains the strengths of being evangelical, excellent in both physical geography and historical geography with maps superior to *The NIV Atlas*, and maps nicely tied in with the text. The revised edition still retains two weaknesses of the first edition: it lacks regional maps and often lacks Scripture references on the maps (though cited in supporting material). However, it improves on it with many color photographs, 23 new maps, 48 pages of added commentary, plus Scripture and General Indexes. These maps appear in the NLT, ESV, and NIV Study Bibles. Beitzel teaches OT at Trinity International Univ. (TEDS) in Deerfield, IL.

*Coleman, William L. *Today's Handbook of Bible Times and Customs*. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House, 1984. 303 pp.

Many cultural insights on both OT and NT. Content is similar to Wight's book. Many photographs but no drawings. Three of his chapters are in these notes.

*Niswonger, Richard L. *New Testament History*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1988. 332 pp.

A sequential history of the land of Israel from the Greek era (332 BC) to the end of the first century. Chronologically addresses Roman, Jewish, and pagan issues and their influence upon Jesus and the early church.

*Vermes, Geza. *The Dead Sea Scrolls in English*. 4th ed. Baltimore: Penguin Books, 1962, 1975, 1987, 1995. 320+ pp.

The standard translation of 42 non-biblical Qumran scrolls with introductions and the significance of this massive literary discovery that has aided biblical studies; very readable. SBC call #220.93 VER. The readings are in these notes on pages 252-65.

B. Recommended Reading

†Aharoni, Yohanan, and Avi-Yonah, Michael. *The Macmillan Bible Atlas*. 3d. ed. New York: Macmillan, 1968, 1977, 1993.

The authors are professors of archaeology at Tel Aviv University and Hebrew University of Jerusalem, respectively. As such they provide a Jewish perspective on geography and Israel's history. This used to be the best non-evangelical Bible atlas until James Pritchard wrote *The Harper Atlas of the Bible* in 1987.

*Backhouse, Robert. *The Student Guide to the Temple*. Tim Dowley, ed. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1996. 32 pp. Formerly *The Kregel Pictorial Guide to the Temple*.

Stunning, full-colour close-up pictures of Herod's temple from a beautiful model built by Alec Garrard of England. Research is based on the Bible, Talmud, Mishnah and latest archaeological discoveries. Includes many photos and helpful drawings too.

*Barrett, C. K. *The New Testament Background: Selected Documents*. New York: Harper Collins, 1989. 361 pp.

Actual sources selected by a noteworthy scholar to aid understanding of the NT.

BADG: Bauer, Walter. *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. 5th ed., 1957. Trans. by William F. Arndt and F. Wilbur Gingrich. Rev. F. Wilbur Gingrich and Frederick W. Danker, 2d ed. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago, 1979.

The standard Greek lexicon, also known as “BAG” or “BAGD”; includes the most up-to-date archaeological findings in determining the meanings of Greek words.

†Beers, V. Gilbert. *The Book of Life*. 24 vols. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1980.

A guide for reading through both OT and NT narrative literature, supplemented by numerous photos, application sections, and background articles. Organized into 500 reading units of about 8-10 pages each. Unfortunately, it costs about US\$700. Several line drawings used in this course are taken from this work.

*Benware, Paul N. *Survey of the New Testament*. Chicago: Moody, 1990. 304 pp.

A popular-level, concise, clear, conservative treatment of the NT by a professor at Moody Bible Institute; helpful NT historical and religious background (23 pp.) and brief presentations of the NT books around the New Covenant theme. Contains many helpful charts and maps.

**The Bible Visual Resource Book: for Do-It-Yourself Bible Scholars*. By Keith Kaynor (?).

[no author given.] Ventura, CA: Regal Books of Gospel Light, 1989. 332 pp.

This contains copyright-free reproducible maps, charts, time lines and graphics for group or individual study. An excellent resource for teaching!

*Bruce, F. F. *New Testament History*. England: Nelson, 1969; reprint, Garden City, NY:

Anchor Books (Doubleday), 1971. 462 pp.

The best evangelical book on NT backgrounds, insightful, but sometimes difficult for those new to the subject and poorly outlined and illustrated.

*Charlesworth, James H. *Jesus Within Judaism: New Light from Exciting Archaeological Discoveries*. New York, NY: Doubleday, 1988. xvi+265.

Charlesworth teaches NT at Princeton and is an expert on extra-biblical writings. This volume revises his 1985 Gunning (Victoria Jubilee) lectures delivered at New College, the Univ. of Edinburgh, Scotland. It shows the Jewish roots of many of Christ’s sayings and practices recently discovered in archaeological finds.

†_____, ed. *The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha*. 2 vols. Garden City, NY:

Doubleday, 1983, 1985. li+995 pp. l+1006 pp.

The standard, annotated work on these extra-biblical writings written from 200 BC to AD 200. These were not included in the Septuagint (Greek translation of the OT ca. 250 BC) or Roman Catholic Bibles (which do include the Apocrypha).

*Connolly, Peter. *The Jews in the Time of Jesus: A History*. Previously published under the title *Living in the Time of Jesus of Nazareth*. Oxford: Oxford Univ. Press, 1983, 1994; Bnei Brak, Israel: Steimatsky, 1993. 96 pp. \$15.00 hb. Available from Blackwell Pub.

Historical summary of Herod the Great, Pontius Pilate, and the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70. Stunning colour drawings of maps, key events and cultural customs.

Cornell, Tim, and Matthews, John. *Atlas of the Roman World*. New York & Oxford: Facts on File, 1982. 240 pp.

A beautifully done atlas of 80,000 words in text and 30,000 in captions to over 500 maps and illustrations (257 in colour!) by experts on the Roman world at Christ’s College, Cambridge and Queen’s College, Oxford (respectively).

- *Danby, Herbert, trans. *The Mishna: Translations from the Hebrew with Introductory and Explanatory Notes*. Oxford, 1933. 876 pp.
The standard translation of this authoritative collection of rabbinic writings in the first three centuries AD with the legal and procedural practices of the intertestamental and first century oral tradition followed by the Pharisees (cf. contents on p. 170).
- Deary, Terry. *The Groovy Greeks*. Horrible Histories. New York: Scholastic, 1996. 128 pp.
Humorous cartoons and interesting stories on Greek culture and history.
- _____. *The Rotten Romans*. Horrible Histories. New York: Scholastic, 1996. 128 pp.
Humorous cartoons and interesting stories on Roman culture and history.
- *Elwell, Walter A., and Yarbrough, Robert W. *Encountering the New Testament: A Historical and Theological Survey*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998. 448 pp. US\$45.00 hb. w/ CD.
The nicest layout of NT surveys in its use of colour and supplemental CD with more pictures, quizzes, etc. However, it tries to do too much by covering background and survey in a single volume so that neither is treated in enough detail, though it is good at a popular level. This may be compensated, though, by also using the companion volume, *Readings from the First-Century World* (see below).
- _____. *Readings from the First-Century World: Primary Sources for New Testament Study*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998. 223 pp. US\$20.00 pb.
The companion volume to their *Encountering the New Testament*. Ancient writings from AD 30-600 illuminate the NT and are arranged parallel to the NT canonical order. Includes Scripture, subject, and readings indices.
- *Evans, Craig A. *Noncanonical Writings and New Testament Interpretation*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1992. 281 pp.
The only one-volume (concise) work on the Dead Sea Scrolls, OT and NT Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha, OT Versions, Philo, Josephus, Targums, and rabbinic writings, early church fathers, Gnostics, etc. Good bibliographies and indexes of NT parallels. Evans teaches Bible at Trinity Western University in Vancouver, BC.
- *Ferguson, Everett. *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1987; 2d ed. 1993. 612 pp.
A standard text analyzing Greek, Roman, and Jewish political, social, literary, and religious backgrounds to the NT. Detailed treatment of Roman-Hellenistic religions and philosophies (236 pp.) and well documented (bibliographies, footnotes, pictures).
- Fleming, Jim. *The World of the Bible Gardens, Ein Karem, Jerusalem: A Journey Through Full-Scale Replicas Which Help Interpret the Scriptures*. Israel & USA: Biblical Resources, 1999. 56 pp.
This extensive brochure of the Archaeological Garden & Biblical Resources site adjacent to Jerusalem has 175 photos and 80 diagrams of the lives of shepherds, farmers, and village people in biblical times. Christ's era is portrayed in seating for the Last Supper, types of actual crosses used in the Roman era, tombs, etc.
- Garrard, Alec. *The Splendour of the Temple: A Pictorial Guide to Herod's Temple and Its Ceremonies*. Carlisle, England: Candle, 2000. 96 pp. S\$21.50 Life Bookstore.
Stunning, colour close-up pictures of Herod's temple from Garrard's beautiful model (expanded from Backhouse's book). He is a farmer, former builder and lay preacher in Norfolk, England who took 18 years building this model based on the Bible, Talmud, Mishnah and archaeology. Includes both photos and helpful drawings.

- *Gower, Ralph. *The New Manners and Customs of Bible Times*. Chicago: Moody, 1987.
Updates and expands (408 pp.) upon Fred Wight's similar book published in 1953 (see entry below). Part 1 addresses "The Individual in Family Life" (e.g., family, education, work) and Part 2 concerns "National Institutions and Customs" (e.g., hospitality, travel, leisure, social/political groupings). Excellent colour photographs.
- Grassmick, John D. "New Testament Introduction." Unpublished class notes for the course NT 207: New Testament Introduction, Dallas Theological Seminary, Fall, 1985.
My indebtedness to Prof. Grassmick cannot be overstated. These notes originally expanded upon and summarized his notes, though he is not cited within the notes as quotations would be too extensive.
- Hengel, Martin. *Judaism and Hellenism: Studies in their Encounter in Palestine during the Early Hellenistic Period*. 2 vols. in 1. 2d ed. Trans. John Bowden. Tübingen: J. C. B. Mohr (Paul Siebeck), 1973; English ed., Philadelphia: Fortress, 1981.
A scholarly treatment of how the Greek way of life affected the Jews politically, economically, culturally, and hermeneutically, including the clashes between them.
- _____. *The Zealots*. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1989. 487 pp.
Here's the best work on this sect of Jewish revolutionaries.
- Hoehner, Harold W. "A Chronological Table of the Apostolic Age." ThD diss., Dallas Theological Seminary, 1964, rev. 1972.
Provides very exact dates for NT events backed by scholarly research. This course follows his chronology with minor variations (summarized on pages 42-43).
- _____. *Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1977.
Shows dates for Christ's birth, ministry, and crucifixion, plus Daniel 9. His conclusions are summarized on the page "Chronology of the Life of Christ" (p. 40).
- Horsley, Richard A., and Hanson, John S. *Bandits, Prophets, and Messiahs: Popular Movements at the Time of Jesus*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1985. 271 pp.
A brilliant portrayal of the complex Jewish social culture during Christ's day. Emphasizes historical background and how bandit forces (incl. Zealots, sicarii), apocalyptic prophets, and false messiahs affected the masses.
- *House, H. Wayne. *Chronological and Background Charts of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981.
Very helpful overhead transparencies used in this course.
- Jagersma, H. *A History of Israel from Alexander the Great to Bar Kochba*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1986. xiv+224 pp. Paper, US\$13.95.
Here's one of the few up-to-date books on the intertestamental period, covering 334 BC—AD135. The text is but 161 pages for a 475-year period (rather skimpy), but good for a basic grasp (though Christ and the early church take up only 7 pages). The translation from the Dutch is also brief, choppy, and repetitive.
- **Josephus: The Essential Writings*. Trans. Paul Maier. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1988. 413 pp.
A new, condensed version of Josephus' *Jewish Antiquities* and *The Jewish War*. Much more readable than Whiston's translation. Many maps, charts, and drawings.
- **The Works of Josephus*. 2nd ed. Trans. William Whiston. N.p., 1737; reprint, Lynn, MA: Hendrickson, 1980, 1987. 930 pp.
The traditional, classical, unabridged translation of this 1st century Jewish historian who wrote for the Romans on Jewish history from creation to their revolt (AD 66-70).

This edition translates and updates the text type of Josephus' six works in contrast to Maier's abridgement of only his two most popular works (see below). The English is old but E. J. Brill has commissioned Steve Mason of York Univ. (Ontario) to update it and add a commentary on Josephus (see *BAR*, [Sept./Oct 1997], 71; cf. pp. 58-68).

de Lange, Nicholas. *Atlas of the Jewish World*. New York & Oxford: Fact on File [distributed by Thomas Nelson], 1984. 240 pp.

Impressive maps, texts, drawings, and photographs of worldwide Jewish migration in history. Includes historical and cultural background and the Jewish world today.

Langley, Andrew. *The Roman News*. Consultant: Philip de Souza. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 1997. 32 pp. Published and distributed by Scholastic, Inc., 555 Broadway, New York, NY 10012.

Roman history and culture in a newspaper format with many colour drawings.

†Lightfoot, J. B., trans. *The Apostolic Fathers*. 2d ed. Ed. Michael W. Holmes. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989. 347 pp.

The standard, annotated translation of these thirteen letters of the late first and early second century AD. While these writings appear *after* the time of the NT, they nonetheless help us understand the practices of the early church.

*May, Herbert G., and Metzger, Bruce M., eds. *The New Oxford Annotated Apocrypha: New Revised Standard Version*. Expanded ed. with 3-4 Maccabees and Psalm 151. Revised edition of New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 1977; also Baker, 1998. 340 pp. + xxii.

An easy-to-read revision of the 1977 RSV translation of the 18 uninspired books (but very helpful for background information) written between 250 BC and AD 100. Includes an excellent but brief (11 page) introduction to the Apocrypha, numerous annotations, and an index to the annotations. This edition may be more easily obtained with the RSV Bible in the RSV *New Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha* (Oxford, 1977) or the more recent NRSV *New Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha*. The NRSV is also distributed by Baker as the *Cambridge Annotated Study Bible and Study Apocrypha* (US\$40) or one without annotation used in this course called *The Apocrypha: NRSV* (Cambridge Univ. Press, 1992), also available from Baker (247 pp. for US\$13). The readings are in these notes on pages 188-98.

McCarter, P. Kyle, Jr. *Ancient Inscriptions: Voices from the Biblical World*. Washington, DC: Biblical Archaeology Society, 1996. 180 pp. US\$30 for book alone and US\$140 for book and slides. SBC Library 411 (R) McC.

Contains the story of how writing came into being, starting from Mesopotamian cuneiform and ending in the Roman period at the time of Christ by tracing the evolution of the alphabet from pictographs to symbols which each represent a single sound. Includes 97 drawings cross-referenced to 140 separately available slides. McCarter teaches at John Hopkins Univ.

*Metzger, Bruce M., ed. *A Concordance to the Apocrypha/Deuterocanonical Books of the Revised Standard Version*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans & London: Collins Liturgical, 1983. 479 pp.

Very helpful for looking up verses in the Apocrypha (see entry under required reading) given that most Bible students are unfamiliar with these books.

†NBD: Marshall, I. Howard; Millard, A. R.; Packer, J. I.; and Wiseman, D. J., eds. *New Bible Dictionary*. 3d ed. Leicester, England: InterVarsity and Wheaton, IL: Tyndale, 1962, 1982; Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 1996. 1326 pp. US\$40 hb.

Many helpful articles for NT backgrounds. A highly acclaimed Bible dictionary originally edited by one of SBC's former late lecturers, Dr. J. D. Douglas.

Packer, James I.; Tenney, Merrill C.; and White, William, eds. *The Land of the Bible*. Nashville: Nelson, 1980, 1985. 170 pp.

A small, handy resource for Palestinian geography, minerals and gems, animals and insects, plants and herbs, and agriculture.

Powell, Anton, and Steele, Philip. *The Greek News*. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick, 1997. 32 pp. Published and distributed by Scholastic, 555 Broadway, New York, NY 10012. Greek history and culture in a newspaper format with many colour drawings.

†Pritchard, James B., ed. *The Harper Atlas of the Bible*. New York: Harper & Row, 1987. 254 pp. CBD for \$34.95.

Most of the 134 maps are two pages and supplemented by smaller maps, charts, diagrams, photographs, drawings and text; comprehensive (10,000 BC to AD 600, though only one map addresses Genesis 1–11); maps and detailed full-colour paintings of terrain have a three dimensional look, appearing as if viewed from the ground or on larger maps taking into account the curvature of the earth's surface; probably the best atlas for backgrounds (other ancient peoples, pagan temples, writing, commerce, archaeology, practices of everyday life, etc.); indexes have summaries of events in the lives of significant biblical characters and a map index with variant, Arabic, Palestinian Grid Reference numbers, and Modern Hebrew names for cities. However, some maps are difficult to read due to lack of compass directions and excess material; mostly conservative, but the 50 contributors from varied perspectives (Christian, Jewish, liberal, etc.) tend to be moderately critical in the narrative and hold to late date for the Exodus. The book is also difficult to fit upright on most bookshelves due to its enormous size (nearly 11" x 14 1/2" or 27.5 cm. x 37 cm.).

†Rasmussen, Carl G. *The Zondervan NIV Atlas of the Bible*. Regency Reference Library. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1989 and Jerusalem: Carta, 1989. 256 pp.

Similar in features to Beitzel with a comprehensive geographical section (57 pp.) and historical section (131 pp.), so purchasing both Beitzel and Rasmussen will have much overlapping. However, they are not the same. This is better than Beitzel in its topological overview of The land of Israel, extra graphs and diagrams, and its inclusion of excellent regional maps but worse in that the maps throughout are poorly colored and not tied into the text with coordinates as is true of Beitzel; too few color photographs (Beitzel's weakness too but strengths in Rogerson and Pritchard).

*Rengstorf, K. H., ed. *A Complete Concordance to Flavius Josephus*. 4 vols. Leiden: Brill, 1973-83.

Extensive treatment of all four books of Josephus by the words he used.

*Rogers, Jr., Cleon L. *The Topical Josephus*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992. 238 pp.

A brief summary of historical events told by Josephus (fall of Galilee, Jerusalem, and Masada), important people (Herod the Great, Archelaus, John, Jesus, etc.), and institutions (Jewish sects, Roman army). Helpful insights into the NT and a Scripture index. Rogers is an evangelical missionary teacher in Germany (ThD, Dallas).

†Rogerson, John. *Atlas of the Bible*. New York: Facts on File [distributed by Thomas Nelson], 1986. 237 pp. CBD for US\$32.50.

Visually stunning, includes regional maps and many full color photographs (Beitzel's weaknesses), but weak in physical geography and too-brief summaries of biblical events (Beitzel's strengths).

†Schürer, Emil. *The History of the Jewish People in the Age of Jesus Christ (175 BC-AD 135)*. 4 vols. (incl. index) Rev. ed. Geza Vermes, Fergus Millar, and Martin Goodman. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1886-90; rev. 1973-87, reprint of 1st ed., Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1995(?). 2144 pp. \$239.80 (\$155.95 CBD). Orig. ed. \$199.95 hb. (\$49.95 CBD). SBC call # 933 (R) SCH

The standard and exhaustive work on NT backgrounds, covering history, Jewish sects, messianic movements, and pertinent Greek and Jewish literature. Unfortunately, the revised edition does not have an index yet. Too expensive for most students, but CBD has a bargain in the original edition with an extra index but is more difficult to read and without modern updates in archaeology, language (e.g., Ugaritic) and history.

Walton, John H. *Chronological and Background Charts of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984.

Very helpful overhead transparencies used in this course.

*Wight, Fred H. *Manners and Customs of Bible Lands*. Chicago: Moody, 1953. 336 pp.

Older than Coleman's but readable and interesting with short chapters on marriage customs, dress, education, music, etc. Helpful line drawings but no photographs.

Wilkinson, Bruce. *Walk Thru the New Testament Bible Survey Seminar Notebook*. Atlanta, GA: Walk Thru The Bible Ministries, 1979.

Very helpful charts and maps. May say "do not reproduce," but copying approval has been granted as they are not for profit and noted to be by Walk Thru.

Wise, Michael; Abegg, Martin, Jr., and Cook, Edward. *The Dead Sea Scrolls: A New Translation*. New York, NY: HarperCollins (HarperSanFrancisco), 1996. 513 pp. US\$20 pb.

All but the most minute of the previously unknown nonbiblical DSS texts. Its 300 texts are 200 more than the previous standard by Geza Vermes. This volume from a new generation of evangelical Dead Sea Scroll scholars is the most comprehensive yet—and at an affordable price. It contains never-before-seen stories about Abraham, Jacob, and Enoch—including one showing why God demanded Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. Also included are twelve texts not included in the Bible that claim Moses as their author and new data on biblical history and the roots of Christianity.

Woodrow, Ralph. *Babylon Mystery Religion: Ancient and Modern*. 2d ed. Riverside, CA 92502: Ralph Woodrow, P.O. Box 124), 1966, 1981. 177 pp.

Traces false religion from Babylon into NT times—especially into Catholicism.

†*The Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible*. 5 vols. Ed. Merrill C. Tenney. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1975, 1976. Abbreviated ZPEB.

Perhaps the best evangelical Bible encyclopedia. Clear, comprehensive articles.

PowerPoint Translation Grade Sheet

Student _____ Mailbox _____ Date _____
 Bible Book or Presentation Translated _____ Language _____

	1	2	3	4	5
	Poor	Minimal	Average	Good	Excellent

Translation

Overall content translated accurately	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No English on any slide (design new memory aids)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Fonts

Notes page # in Arial bold 24 point upper right screen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Generic fonts or popular language fonts (e.g., unicode)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sans-serif fonts used that lack “feet” (e.g., Arial)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Text

Text does not overlap other text, image, or page edge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Text shadow not seen prior to animation appears	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Text did not need to be enlarged (should fill the slide)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Text has good contrast with background	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Text fits text boxes correctly with extra space on sides	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Text box colors match surroundings w/o perimeter lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Images

Images do not overlap text or edge of page	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Embedded text in English covered with translation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Miscellaneous

Format of fonts & background colors same as English	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Animations don’t need correction; in PPT, not Keynote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slide order remains the same as the English version	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Done right the first time (no email trail with me!)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
File name <i>translated</i> with dash & number of slides at end	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easy transfer by CD or Memory Key or Email	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sent as one PowerPoint file (not separate ones or a pdf)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Summary

Number of ticks per column					
Multiplied by point values of the column	<u> x 1 </u>	<u> x 2 </u>	<u> x 3 </u>	<u> x 4 </u>	<u> x 5 </u>
Equals the total point value for each column	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Net points _____ minus 3 points per day late (____ points) equals % grade of _____%

Comments: