

## GATEWAY SEMINARY

Los Angeles-Brea Campus

S1113-21 Old Testament Introduction II - 3 Credit Hours

Tuesday, 6-10 PM

Brea Campus Days: Jan. 31; Feb. 14, 28; Mar. 14, 28; Apr. 11, 25; May 9

Online Sessions (Week of): Feb. 6, 20; Mar. 6, 20; Apr. 3; May 1

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### Course Description

This course is a continuation of the general introduction to the content, background, interpretation, and critical studies of the Old Testament. The focus is a survey and study of the books of the Former Prophets (Samuel and Kings), Latter Prophets and the Writings, with attention directed to hermeneutical application of the foundation given in OT Introduction I.

### Course Objectives

Upon completion of the two-course Old Testament requirement the student will possess and evidence

1. An introductory graduate-level understanding of the Old Testament's:
  - Authority as canonical Scripture;
  - Literary content, contexts, genre, semantics, structures;
  - Historical, cultural, and geographic settings;
  - Theological concepts and messages;
2. A demonstrated ability to conduct solid research - based on an introductory knowledge of:
  - Old Testament hermeneutical issues, methods and tools; including
  - Appropriate information literacy; and
3. Basic skill in properly interpreting the Old Testament and applying it to modern, multi-cultural life.

### Course Format

Lecture will be the basic teaching method, with time reserved for discussion (both in-class and online), case studies and group *lectio divina* will also be utilized.

### Required Texts

English Bible.

Brisco, Thomas V. *Holman Bible Atlas: A Complete Guide to the Expansive Geography of Biblical History*. Nashville: Holman Reference, 2014.

Longman, III, Tremper, and Raymond B. Dillard. *An Introduction to the Old Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2006.

## MANDATORY ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES

Gateway Seminary engages in regular assessment of its academic programs. Student participation is essential to this process through the following two activities.

- 1. CoursEval Assessments** – Each semester a link to a CoursEval survey for each course taken will appear in the student's MyGateway page. Students are required to complete this **online evaluation of course/instructor** no later than the last scheduled meeting of the class. A summary of results (without student ID) is released to the professor only after grades have been submitted for the course.
- 2. ePortfolio Reflections** - All degree-seeking students must reflect on the work completed as part of **required courses** by commenting upon the manner in which the course contributed to his/her **growth in relation to at least five Essential Leadership Characteristics** selected by the student (see <http://www.gs.edu/about/our-mission/> for the complete list). These reflections must be recorded in the student's ePortfolio and a copy emailed to the professor no later than the last scheduled meeting of the class.

## SEMINARY POLICY ON ACADEMIC CREDIT AND WORKLOAD EXPECTATIONS

For each hour of academic credit granted for a Gateway Seminary face-to-face, hybrid or online course, the Seminary assigns a workload of approximately 45 clock hours of academic learning activities per academic credit hour earned. Traditional in-class format normally apportions 15 hours of in-class instruction and 30 hours of instructional exercises to be completed outside of class meetings per credit hour granted. For androgogical reasons, individual courses may adjust the ratio of assignments inside and outside class meetings.

### Course Requirements

**1. Class participation and attendance:** The student is expected to **be on time** for class and be ready to participate actively in class by contributing to the discussions based on his or her reading of the assigned material. Students who miss more than one class period, for any reason, are in danger of failing the course. A student who falls into this category should contact the professor immediately to prevent automatic failure. The professor may, at his discretion, allow the student to continue by arranging for additional work to be done to make up for any extra classes missed. Each student is responsible for all material discussed in class. If there are more than two unexcused absences **4 % of student's total grade will be deducted for each unexcused absence.**

**2. Online Meetings:** There will be 1 to 2 hours of mandatory online sessions on the designated weeks when there are no in-class sessions (The time for these sessions will be determined on the first day of the class). These sessions will focus on two things: 1) answering and clarifying any questions about the material for the preceding week, and 2) discussing the material for that week based on the assigned reading and students' answers to the discussion questions that your professor will post on the Discussion Forum located in the Course LMS for this course. The discussion questions will be available by the Friday evening before the online session. Students are expected to post their responses starting Monday of the week of the online session and

finish posting by the time session begins on Thursday. Furthermore, each student will read through the responses provided by three other students and respond critically and analytically to their posts. “Critical” response does not mean responding “negatively,” instead, these are well-analyzed replies that take into consideration whether other students’ answer reflects a full consideration of the evidence, a dogmatic stance that may or may not be supported by the evidence, or a weak answer that does not really answer the question. These answers will be graded based on how fully developed students’ initial post and three responses to other students’ posts are. **The average of the grades will comprise up to 10 % of your final grade.**

**3. Assigned Reading (20 % of the final grade):** Students are expected to have completed the assigned reading for each class period (Scripture and textbook readings indicated in the parentheses) prior to the beginning of the class. Students will be required to submit a statement indicating the degree of his/her completion at the end of semester.

**4. Reflections on the Psalms (20 %):** Each student will work on a set of 30 psalms assigned at the beginning of the semester according to the following instructions:

- A. During **February**, read a different psalm each day and identify the psalmists’ notions of God and self. What are their beliefs and confessions about who God is and what God does? How do these psalms describe who the psalmists are in relation to God and how do the psalmists relate to God? Record and organize your reflections on each of these thirty psalms.
- B. During **March**, choose one of the psalms that you are working on and engage in a month-long exercise of *Lectio Divina* as described in **Assignment 5** below.
- C. During **April**,
  - 1) Process and analyze further on your reflections on all the assigned psalms and develop overall summary statements on God, the psalmists, and how they present themselves and relate to God.
  - 2) Based on the summary statements developed in C. 1), compare and contrast your own understanding of who God is and how you have been relating to God with that of the psalmists. In what ways are your and the psalmists understanding and beliefs about God, self and the ways to approach God alike and different? Recognizing that the psalms are divinely inspired words spoken through the mouths of human beings, what new and fresh insights notions and beliefs about God, yourself and ways to approach God do you glean from your semester long engagement with the psalms? Document your findings, as the purpose of the assignment is to compare and contrast our human and possibly fragmented and distorted view of God and of ourselves with the beliefs and confessions of the psalmists.
  - 3) When step C. 2) is completed, develop a strategy for implementing your discoveries in your daily actions. How would you practice the truths you have gained through this assignment in your daily life?
- D. Turn the contents of this exercise into a reflection paper, 8-10 pages long, double spaced, in Times New Roman font size 12. The paper is **due May 2, 2017**.

**5. Lectio Divina (10 %):** Engage in a month-long (30 consecutive days) practice of chewing and reflecting on a psalm of your choice from the 30 psalms assigned to you. Spend 15-20

minutes each day working on the same psalm; read and listen to the text reflectively and meditatively to allow the word to work on you. Make sure that your task is not so much to master the text of Scripture as to be mastered by the text.

Recite the passage slowly with your mouth or silently trace the words in each verse repeatedly with the intention of hearing and savoring it. Let this slow and deliberate pace allow the words to penetrate and work on your heart. Listen quietly to what is being stirred up inside. Following a careful reading and meditating on the text, respond with your voiced prayer. Conclude your time with a silent prayer of surrender and rest. Here is an outline for your daily exercise:

**Read**—read through the selected passage twice. Observe silence for a minute or two, repeating a word or phrase that attracted your attention. Jot down the word or phrase without much elaboration.

**Reflect**—read through the passage quietly again, followed by two to three minutes of silent reflection on the question, “Where does the content of this reading touch my life today?” Enter in your journal what the reading means to you: “I hear...,” “I see...,” or “I was struck by....”

**Respond**—read through the passage quietly once more. Observe silence for two to three minutes reflecting on how God is calling you to respond. Enter a brief, spontaneous prayer in your journal expressing your response to God’s call.

**Rest**—read through the passage again quietly. Rest in the Word, in silence for few moments. Pray quietly, “Lord I surrender my desire for control, security, and significance. I relinquish all my anxious thoughts to you. Have mercy on me! Embrace me tightly as your treasured possession.” Following this movement, enter a brief reflection into your journal.

Upon completion of this exercise, write a reflection paper (up to 3-5 pages) detailing your experience. Please include the psalm of your choice and your reflections at the end of each day (should be limited to a paragraph per day—no longer than 3-5 sentences) along with your overall observation and reflection on your experience. Include your start and end dates along with the date when you successfully memorized the entire passage. **Due, April 4, 2017.**

**6. Examinations (40 % total):** There will be two examinations including the final. These will vary in form and will be based on class lectures/discussions, textbooks and Bible readings. Each examination is worth 20 % each of the final grade.

### **Grading**

Student’s grade will be according to the following:

A: 98-100	A-: 95-97	B+: 93-94	B: 89-92	B-: 87-88	C+: 84-86
C: 80-83	C-: 77-79	D+: 75-76	D: 72-74	D-: 70-71	F: Below 70

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Students are encouraged to seek the professor's personal help during the semester. Your

professor's spring semester office hours are as follows: Mondays (Ontario)-10 to 11 AM, 1:30-2:30 PM; Tuesdays (Brea)-12-1PM, 4:30-5:30 PM; Thursdays (Brea)-4-5 PM. Please contact him for individual appointment.

**Class and Reading Schedule (Online Session Dates Are in Bold Types)**

1. Jan 31                   A. Introduction to the course  
B. 1 and 2 Samuel  
(Intro: 151-166; Atlas: 91-106)
  
- 2. Week of Feb 6        A. 1 and 2 Kings**  
**(Intro: 167-189; Atlas: 107-139, 142-156)**
  
3. Feb 14                A. Introduction to the Latter Prophets  
B. Amos  
C. Hosea  
(Intro: 397-408, 420-434, 449-455; Atlas: 140-141)
  
- 4. Week of Feb 20      A. Isaiah**  
**B. Micah**  
**(Intro: 301-320)**
  
5. Feb 28                A. Nahum, Habakkuk and Zephaniah  
B. Jeremiah  
C. Ezekiel  
(Intro: 456-476, 321-341, 354-370; Atlas: 157-163)
  
- 6. Week of Mar 6       A. Obadiah, Joel, and Jonah**  
**B. Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi**  
**(Intro: 409-419, 435-448, 477-502)**
  
7. Mar 14                A. Introduction to the Writings  
B. Worship in Israel  
**C. Mid-term Exam**
  
- 8. Week of Mar 20      Spring Break—No Class**
  
9. Mar 28                A. Psalms  
B. Introduction to the Wisdom Books  
(Intro: 237-264)
  
- 10. Week of Apr 3     A. Proverbs**  
**B. Job**  
**(Intro: 224-236, 265-277)**

- April 4, 2017**      **Lectio Divina Reflection Paper Due**
11. Apr 11      A. The Megilloth (Ruth, Song of Songs, Ecclesiastes, Lamentation, Esther)  
(Intro: 144-150, 213-223, 278-300, 342-353)
- 12 Apr 25      A. 1-2 Chronicles  
B. Ezra and Nehemiah  
(Intro: 190-212)
- 13. Week of May 1**    **A. Introduction to Apocalyptic Literature**  
**B. Daniel**  
**C. Apocryphal Literature**  
(Intro: 371-396; Atlas: 164-173; Tobit, Judith, Susanna, Bel and the Dragon)
- May 2, 2017      **Reflections on the Psalms Paper Due**
14. May 9      **Final Examination**

All work turned in must be the student's own and completed during the current semester. All material that is not the student's (meaning "borrowed" from someone else) must be given proper citation and credit. The failure to give credit for another's work will result in the dishonest and blatant behavior known as "plagiarism" and will be penalized severely. Please be careful to resist any temptation to cheat. One way to remove this temptation is to begin working on projects early. Remember, "whether we eat, drink, or whatever we do (including writing papers) we do it all for the glory of God."

#### **Basic Bibliography**

##### **Old Testament Scripture**

- Bauer, David R. *An Annotated Guide to Biblical Resources for Ministry*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 2003.  
 Brueggemann, Walter. *The Bible Makes Sense*. Revised ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1977, 2001.  
 Dockery, David S. *Christian Scripture: An Evangelical Perspective on Inspiration, Authority, and Interpretation*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1995.  
 Frick, F. *A Journey Through the Hebrew Scriptures*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Belmont, CA: Thomson and Wadsworth, 2003.

##### **Textual/Literary Studies**

- Alter, Robert. *The Art of Biblical Narrative*. Boulder, CO: Basic Books, 1981.  
 Alter, R. and Kermode, F., eds. *The Literary Guide to the Bible*. Cambridge: Belknap-Harvard, 1987.  
 Arnold, Bill and Beyer Bryan. *Readings from the Ancient Near East: Primary Sources for Old Testament Study*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.  
 Gabel, J. and Wheeler, C. *The Bible as Literature: An Introduction*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005.  
 Gibson, J.C.L. *Language and Imagery in the Old Testament*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1998.  
 Kaiser, W. *The Old Testament Documents: Are They Reliable and Relevant?* Illinois: InterVarsity, 2001.  
 Matthews, Victor and Don C. Benjamin. *Old Testament Parallels: Laws and Stories from the Ancient Near East*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. New

York: Paulist, 2006.

### Critical Studies

- Baker, D. and Bill Arnold, eds. *The Face of Old Testament Studies: A Survey of Contemporary Approaches*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999.
- Barton, J. *Reading the Old Testament: Method in Biblical Study*. Revised and enlarged. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1996.
- Brueggemann, Walter. *An Introduction to the Old Testament: The Canon and Christian Imagination*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2003.
- Childs, Brevard S. *Introduction to the Old Testament as Scripture*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1979.
- Collins, John J. *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible with CD-Rom*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2004.
- Gillingham, Susan E. *One Bible, Many Voices: Different Approaches to Biblical Studies*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.
- Gottwald, N. *The Hebrew Bible: A Socio-Literary Introduction*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1985.
- Hayes, John .H. *An Introduction to Old Testament Study*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1979.
- McKenzie, Steven and P. Graham, eds. *The Hebrew Bible Today: An Introduction to Critical Issues*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1998.
- McKenzie, Steven and Stephen R. Haynes, eds. *To Each Its Own Meaning: An Introduction to Biblical Criticisms and Their Application*. Revised and expanded. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1999.
- Rogerson, John, et. al., eds. *Beginning Old Testament Study*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1982.

### Theological Studies

- Achtmeier, P. and Achtemeier, E. *The Old Testament Roots of Our Faith*. Rev. ed. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994.
- Birch, Bruce, et. al. *A Theological Introduction to the Old Testament*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1999.
- Brueggemann, Walter. *Reverberations of Faith: A Theological Handbook of Old Testament Themes*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2002.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Theology of the Old Testament: Testimony, Dispute, Advocacy*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1997.
- Dumbrell, William J. *The Faith of Israel: A Theological Survey of the Old Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.
- House, Paul. *Old Testament Theology*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1998.
- Matthews, Victor. *Old Testament Themes*. St Louis: Chalice Press, 2000.
- Miller, Patrick. *The Religion of Ancient Israel*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 2000.

### Old Testament World and History

- Bright, John. *A History of Israel*. 4th ed. Louisville: Westminster Press, 2000.
- Coogan, M., ed. *The Oxford History of the Biblical World*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998.
- Hayes, John H. and Paul Hooker. *A New Chronology for the Kings of Israel and Judah and Its Implications for Biblical History and Literature*. Atlanta: John Knox, 1988.
- Hoerth, A., et. al., eds. *Peoples of the Old Testament World*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.
- King, Philip and L. Stager. *Life in Biblical Israel*. Library of Ancient Israel. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 2001.
- Matthews, Victor, and Don C. Benjamin. *Social World of Ancient Israel: 1250-587 BCE*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1993.
- Thiele, Edwin R. *The Mysterious Numbers of the Hebrew Kings*. New rev. ed. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1994.

### Exegetical/Hermeneutical Studies

- Corley, Bruce, Steve Lemke and Grant Lovejoy. *Biblical Hermeneutics: A Comprehensive Introduction to Interpreting Scripture*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.: Broadman & Holman, 2002.
- Fee, Gordon. and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth: A Guide to Understanding the Bible*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.
- Gorman, Michael J. *Elements of Biblical Exegesis: A Basic Guide for Students and Ministers*. Revised and expanded edition. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2009.
- Klein, William, Craig Blomberg and Robert Hubbard, Jr. *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*. Dallas: Word, 1993.
- Newsom, C. and Ringe, S., eds. *The Women's Bible Commentary*. Exp. Ed. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1992.
- Stuart, Douglas. *Old Testament Exegesis*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2009.
- Vanhooser, Kevin J. ed. *Dictionary for Theological Interpretation of the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005.

### Archaeology

- Bartlett, John R., ed. *Archaeology and Biblical Interpretation*. London: Routledge, 1997.
- Charlesworth, James H., and Walter P. Weaver, eds. *What Has Archaeology to Do with Faith? Faith and Scholarship Colloquies*. Valley Forge, PA: Trinity Press International, 1992.
- Currid, John D. *Doing Archaeology in the Land of the Bible: A Basic Guide*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999.
- Dever, William G. *What did the Biblical Writers Know and When Did They Know It? What Archaeology Can Tell Us about the Reality of Ancient Israel*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001.
- Finkelstein, I. and N. Silberman. *The Bible Unearthed: Archaeology's New Vision of Ancient Israel and the Origin of Its Sacred Texts*. New York: The Free Press, 2001.

Mazar, Amihai. *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible: 10,000—586 B.C.E.* Anchor Bible Reference Library. Garden City, NY.: Doubleday, 1990.

### **Bible Dictionaries**

Achtemeier, Paul J. ed. *The HarperCollins Bible Dictionary*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1996.

Freedman, David Noel, ed. *The Anchor Bible Dictionary*. 6 vols. New York: Doubleday, 1992.

\_\_\_\_\_, ed. *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.

Sakenfeld, Katharine Doob, ed. *The New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2006-9.

Silva, Moisés, revision ed. *The Zondervan Encyclopedia of the Bible*. 5 vols. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009.

### **Old Testament Commentary Series**

*Anchor Bible*

*Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture*

*Baker Commentary on the Old Testament Wisdom and Psalms*

*Barzos Theological Commentary on the Bible*

*Hermeneia*

*Interpretation*

*The New American Commentary*

*The New Anchor Bible*

*New International Commentary on the Old Testament*

*New International Biblical Commentary*

*The NIV Application Commentary*

*Old Testament Library*

*Smyth & Helwys Bible Commentary*

*Word Biblical Commentary*

### **I. The Former Prophets**

Arnold, Bill T. and H. G. M. Williamson, eds. *Dictionary of the Old Testament Historical Books*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2005

Endres, John C., et al, eds. *Chronicles and Its Synoptic Parallels in Samuel, Kings, and Related Biblical Texts*. Collegeville, Minn.: Liturgical Press, 1998.

Fretheim, Terence E. *Deuteronomistic History*. Interpreting Biblical Texts. Nashville: Abingdon, 1983.

Hamilton, Victor P. *Handbook on the Historical Books*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

Nelson, Richard D. *The Historical Books*. Interpreting Biblical Texts. Nashville: Abingdon, 1998.

### **1 and 2 Samuel**

Brueggemann, Walter. *David's Truth in Israel's Imagination and Memory*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2002.

### **1 and 2 Kings**

Ellul, Jacques. *The Politics of God and the Politics of Man*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1972.

### **II. The Latter Prophets**

Gordon, Robert P., ed. *The Place Is Too Small for Us: The Israelite Prophets in Recent Scholarship*. Winona Lake, Ind.: Eisenbrauns, 1995.

Gowan, Donald E. *Theology of the Prophetic Books: The Death and Resurrection of Israel*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1998.

Koch, Klaus. *The Prophets*. 2 vols. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1982, 1983.

Matthews, Victor H. *Social World of the Hebrew Prophets*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 2001.

\*Petersen, David L. *The Prophetic Literature: An Introduction*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2002.

Wilson, Robert R. *Prophecy and Society in Ancient Israel*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1980.

### **Isaiah**

Hays, John H. *Isaiah, the Eighth Century Prophet: His Times and His Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1987.

### **Jeremiah**

Brueggemann, Walter. *A Commentary on Jeremiah: Exile and Homecoming*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

### **Ezekiel**

Odell, Margaret S., and John T. Strong, eds. *The Book of Ezekiel: Theological and Anthropological Perspectives*. Society of Biblical Literature Symposium Series 9. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2000.

Renz, Thomas. *The Rhetorical Function of the Book of Ezekiel*. Supplements to Vetus Testamentum 76. Leiden: Brill, 1999.



**The Book of the Twelve [Prophets]**

Criegie, Peter C. *Twelve Prophets*. 2 vols. Daily Study Bible. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1984, 1985.  
King, Philip J. *Amos, Hosea, Micah: An Archaeological Commentary*. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1988.

**Hosea**

Brueggemann, Walter. *Tradition for Crisis: A Study in Hosea*. Richmond, Va.: John Knox, 1968.

**Amos**

Hayes, John H. *Amos the Eighth Century Prophet: His Times and His Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1988.

**Obadiah**

Wolff, Hans Walter. *Obadiah and Jonah: A Commentary*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1986.

**Jonah**

Fretheim, Terence E. *The Message of Jonah: A Theological Commentary*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1977.  
Ellul, Jacques. *The Judgment of Jonah*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971.  
Simon, Uriel. *Jonah*. JPS Bible Commentary. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 1999.

**Micah**

Ben Zvi, Ehud. *Micah*. Forms of the Old Testament Literature. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.  
Wolff, Hans Walter. *Micah: A Commentary*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1990.

**Nahum, Habakkuk, and Zephaniah**

Gowan, Donald E. *The Triumph of Faith in Habakkuk*. Atlanta: John Knox, 1976.

**III. The Writings****Psalms**

Brueggemann, Walter. *The Message of the Psalms: A Theological Commentary*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1984.  
Kidner, Derek. *Psalms: An Introduction and Commentary*. 2 vols. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove: IVP, 1975.

**Wisdom Literature**

Brown, William P. *Character in Crisis: A Fresh Approach to the Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.  
Brueggemann, Walter. *In Man We Trust: The Neglected Side of Biblical Faith*. Richmond, Va.: John Knox, 1972.  
Crenshaw, James L. *Old Testament Wisdom: An Introduction*. Rev. ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1998.  
Murphy, Roland E. *The Tree of Life: An Exploration of Biblical Wisdom Literature*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.  
Perdue, Leo G. *Wisdom and Creation: The Theology of the Wisdom Literature*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1994.  
Rad, Gerhard von. *Wisdom in Israel*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1972.

**Job**

Rowley, H. H. *Job*. Rev. ed. New Century Bible Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1980.  
Simundson, Daniel J. *The Message of Job: A Theological Commentary*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1985.

**Proverbs**

Mouser, William E. *Walking in Wisdom: Studying the Proverbs of Solomon*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1983.

**The Megilloth (Five Scrolls)****Ruth**

Campbell, Jr., Edward. *Ruth: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*. The Anchor Bible, vol. 7. New York: Doubleday, 1975.  
Hals, Ronald M. *The Theology of the Book of Ruth*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1966.

**Song of Songs**

Bergant, Dianne. *The Song of Songs*. Berit Olam. Collegeville, Minn.: Liturgical Press, 2001.

**Ecclesiastes**

Whybray, R. N. *Ecclesiastes*. New Century Bible Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989.

**Lamentations**

Renkema, Johan. *Lamentations*. Historical Commentary on the Old Testament. Leuven: Peeters, 1998.

**Esther**

Baldwin, Joyce G. *Esther*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove: IVP, 1984.

Berlin, Adele. *Esther*. JPS Bible Commentary. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 2001.

**1 and 2 Chronicles**

Selman, Martin J. *1 and 2 Chronicles*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove: IVP, 1994.

**Ezra and Nehemiah**

Davis, Gordon F. *Ezra and Nehemiah*. Berit Olam. Collegeville, Minn.: Liturgical Press, 1999.

Kidner, Derek. *Ezra and Nehemiah*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove: IVP, 1979.

**Daniel**

Baldwin, Joyce G. *Daniel*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove: IVP, 1979.