

## Anglican School of Ministry

Course Title: Bible 604 Interpretation, Inspiration, and Theology of the Bible (Bibliology)

### Course Texts:

D.A. Carson. *Exegetical fallacies*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academics, 2006

Robert Alter. *The Art of Biblical Narrative*. Berkeley: Basic Books, 1981

B.B. Warfield. *The Inspiration and Authority of the Bible*: Presbyterian and Reform Publishing, 1970

Gerhard Hasel. *New Testament Theology: Basic Issues in Current Debate*: Eerdmans Publishing, 1982

William Barclay. *Introducing the Bible*: Abington Press, 1997

Robert A. Traina. *Bible Study Methods*: Zondervan, 1980

### Faculty:

Mr. William S. Elkins, Jr. Th.M. Mr. Elkins was in pastoral ministry professionally for 20 years in evangelical churches in Texas and Colorado. He is also licensed as a clinical member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists. Furthermore, he has a diverse career as a business professional in consulting, training, sales and mediation. He is a graduate of the University of Houston, B.A. English literature and Dallas Theological Seminary, Hebrew and Old Testament and Greek and New Testament Studies.

### Course Perspective:

This Course will be taught from an Evangelical Anglican perspective: Among other things, this means a belief that...

- 1) The Scripture are the ultimate rule of faith and life for mankind. They are profitable for everything a person of faith needs: teaching, moral authority spiritual correction, and instruction in a life of righteousness. They are to be recognized as authoritative and understood as they are written for their authorial intent. And are inspired without error in the original documents.
- 2) The three ecumenical creeds: Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian, are accurate summaries of essential Christianity as derived from the Scriptures.
- 3) The Anglican Reformation was a biblical, evangelical attempt at reforming the Catholic Church of England. The godly heritage of this effort resulted in a church which practiced Orthodox Christianity, which is both catholic and evangelical and offers a balance of Word, Sacrament and Spirit.

### Course Purpose:

Bibliology is the subject of this Course. It is broken out into three specifics. One, the authority of the Scriptures. This includes their origin, the formation of the canon, and their authority. Secondly, Hermeneutics. This is the study of interpretation. What are the principles one must hold and tools to be used in coming to interpret and understand the Scriptures accurately? And finally, Biblical Theology. How does one understand the themes of the Scriptures as they are unfolded from the authors' writings themselves?

### Course Goals:

1. The student will wrestle the issues of the Canon, its inspiration; what makes the Bible authoritative; is it without error, etc., along with its textual traditions, and formation.
2. The student will be given principles of interpretation for accurate Biblical understanding: What are the different types of literature in the Bible and how they are to be understood; what are the

principle dynamics that make for accurate Bible understanding, context, history, grammar, language, literary narration; and what are the tools that aid in proper Biblical interpretation, original languages, lexicons, dictionaries, commentaries, etc.

3. The student will be shown how to put all the dynamics together to understand the writings of the various authors to discover their meaning as developed thematically in their writings, i.e. Biblical Theology.

Course Objective: By wrestling with these three different aspects of Biblical Studies, the student should be led into a clearer understanding of the nature of Scripture, as Peter says, "a prophetic word made more sure, to which we do well to pay attention to as a lamp shining in a dark place." II pet 1:18; because, as Paul says, "every Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for doctrine, reproof, and correction in righteousness, that the man of God may be thoroughly furnished for every good work." II Tim. 3: 16&17; and this is aided a great deal by again as Paul says to his young pastor Timothy, "be diligent to present yourself to God as a workman who....accurately handles (or divides) the word of truth. II Tim. 2:15

Course Assessments:

- 1) Read several of these texts and write short essays and/or outlines on the primary problems and issues surrounding these different aspects of Biblical Studies. Pass/Fail
- 2) Demonstrate proficient understanding of these issues through participation in class discussion.
- 3) Compose a research paper on a chosen topic in this field. This paper should be 6-8 pages, with research from 4-6 outside sources, and in the proper format, following either Turabian or MLA format. Grading A-F
- 4) A comprehensive final over all aspects of the Course. Graded
- 5) All assessments are to be mailed to the Network Administrative and Training Support Office.

Course Timetable:

This course is available Summer of 2009. All Course work is to be completed by September 15, 2009.