



WEST COAST BAPTIST COLLEGE

Training Laborers for His Harvest

BI 531 – Gospel of John

Online Syllabus

Course Instructor: Dr. Jim Preston

Disclaimer: Some of the lectures and PowerPoint presentations will make mention of the use of Arthur Pink's Gospel of John. That text is now optional. The official textbook for the class that you will need to purchase is Encountering John by Andreas Kostenberger.

I. Course Description

This is a **graduate level course** on the Gospel of John. It will include both online lectures and an **extensive amount** of independent study and research. While the lecture time is only about nine total hours, the outside classroom work will be much greater than an undergraduate three credit course.

II. Course Goal

The goal is to provide each student with graduate level study skills and a workable understanding of the structure of John's Gospel and to help them to develop from memory the location of all key subjects. The lectures will focus on overview, background, key words, and doctrines, rather than a verse by verse commentary. Independent study is designed to provide an in-depth understanding of the context of the book. Independent study is also designed to aid in the development of personal study and organizational habits that will prepare the student for additional in-depth study of God's Word after graduation.

III. Course requirements

- A. Read the Gospel of John
Sign a completion statement on the first quiz. Read Gospel of John a second time and sign statement on final test.
- B. Read all of *Encountering John* by Andreas Kostenberger including Appendixes and Excursuses. You will be asked if you have read the first eleven chapters and completed associated assignments on the first quiz. You will be asked if you have read all of your assigned reading material and completed associated assignments on the second quiz. You will be asked on final if you have completed all reading and associated assignments. PLEASE NOTE the textbook does not always use the King James Version. Part of your



graduate experience is to learn how to spot changes made in modern version translations and how corrupt translations can influence the writer of a book.

- C. Locate and write a minimum of a one page paper to be turned in with your notebook on at least one place in the textbook where Andreas Kostenberger was influenced by a poor translation. Please explain the error and what the right interpretation or reading should be.
- D. Answer Study Questions at end of each chapter. Type out each question. Place the full answers in a notebook. Some midterm and final test questions may be taken directly from Study Questions.
- E. Write a definition or description for each key word at the end of each chapter. Place in your notebook. Some quiz and final test questions may be taken directly from definitions.
- F. Provide at least one sermon outline or Sunday school lesson from each chapter (place in notebook).
- G. **Supplemental Reading:** *Exposition of Gospel of John* by Arthur Pink, *Exploring John* by John Phillips. You are not required to purchase or read these two books but they are highly recommended especially for pastors and missionaries.
- H. **You will not be able to pass this class without completing all assignments.**

IV. General Expectations.

All material, notes and correspondence shall be typed. This class is designed for you to learn by independent study. You are expected to do quality work at a graduate level.

V. General Information

- A. There will be three quizzes and one final test. Each quiz will cover three lectures. You will take a quiz after the third, sixth and ninth lecture. The final test will cover every lecture. **Your projects will need to be submitted before the final can be taken.**
- B. You should take notes and study carefully the accompanied PowerPoint presentations. Nearly every question will come from the PowerPoint pages. There will be a question on each quiz asked from nearly every page.
- C. The final test will include new questions from the final three lectures as well as questions from the first three quizzes.
- D. Some of the lectures and PowerPoint presentations will make mention of the use of Arthur Pink's *Gospel of John*. That text is now optional. The official textbook for the class that you will need to purchase is *Encountering John* by Andreas Kostenberger.

