

McMaster Divinity College

Preaching Revelation Using Greek

NT 2XR3

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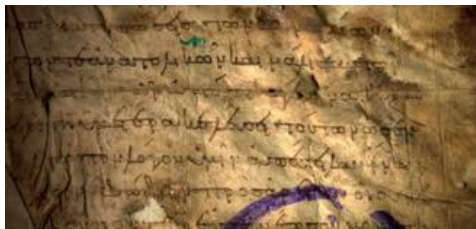
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Winter 2016 (Term 2)

Monday 10:30-12:20

I. Course Description

Revelation is considered to be one of the most difficult and controversial books in the Bible. The sometime bizarre and often repetitive imagery and narrative has generated a wide variety of interpretations of the various characters and events. The interpretations have sometimes had a dramatic impact on the Christian community, though the outcome has not necessarily been godliness. This course particularly focuses on the overall impact and message of Revelation within its socio-historical and apocalyptic context, with responsible and effective contextualization in the 21st century. We will discover a book that leads us into a direct encounter with God and which transforms our lives in the present.



This course is an exegetical and interpretative study designed for preaching Revelation using Greek. It will give you tools for the analysis of the Greek, understanding a passage in context, and following the flow of thought to prepare an exegetical paper that is foundational for a sermon that is based on the text. The course is also particularly interested in skills that teach the application of the text—particularly exciting in Revelation!

II. Course Objectives

Specific Objectives – Through reading, lectures, discussion and assignments the student will:

Knowing:

1. Grasp the message and structure of Revelation as a whole and in terms of its component parts
2. Understand Revelation in its social, historical, literary and religious Jewish Hellenistic context
3. Become familiar with critical views concerning introductory questions (i.e. authorship, date, settings, etc.) and identify the features in the text that illuminate the option.
4. The student will know the characteristic vocabulary of Hebrews, basic Greek grammar that will aid in preaching, exegetical skills for preaching and how to access resources for the use of Greek in ministry.

Doing:

4. Highlight the message and themes, exegete significant passages, and understand the major issues in the text and its interpretive problems
5. The student will develop skills in translating and reading Greek for preaching.
6. The student will apply insights from Greek to exegesis.
7. The student will learn to move from exegesis to the composition of a sermon

Being:

8. Appreciate the distinctive theology and goal(s) of the author
9. Allow the text to motivate, form and transform righteousness, hope and worship

III. Course Requirements

A. Class Participation (10%)

Student participation in a seminar format, interactive lectures and class and group discussions is expected, based on your readings for the week. Following the introduction of the first day, students will come to class prepared to discuss their impressions of

1. The outline of that portion of the Book of Revelation studied for that day
2. Key theological insights
3. Items of particular exegetical interest or controversy
4. Possible applications to contemporary Christian living

B. Reading (10%)

See the Daily Schedule at the end for the precise dates and pages.

1. Students are required to read the portion of Revelation covered in class in Beal. Read the pages for the required reading prior to class on the due dates (see Daily Schedule at the end). Be prepared to interact with the main issues in group discussions.
2. Read Revelation once in the Greek, using helps if necessary.
3. Read assigned reading from *Idioms*.
4. At the end of the term, each student will submit a reading report indicating the percentage of the reading that has been completed.

C. Written Assignments

In order to pass the course, all assignments must be completed

1. 3 Translations (30%, 10% each)

Due Monday, Jan 23, Feb 6, Feb 27

Using translation helps such as Bible Works, interlinears, and commentaries, the student will translate 3 passages from Revelation (12-15 verses each), using the format provided by the instructor. The translation will include useful observations on the meaning of the grammar, and its syntax and structure. Specific instructions for formatting the translation and observations will be supplied by the instructor.

2. Exegetical Paper (25%)

Due midnight Friday Mar 18

The student will write an exegetical paper on one of the translated passages that reflects the traditional evangelical exegetical skills that are used in sermon preparation (Steps to Exegesis), utilizing the insights from translation, due by midnight Dec 12. Instructions for writing an exegetical paper will be supplied by the instructor.

3. Sermon (15%)

Due 10:30 a.m. April 10

Utilize the exegesis of your passage to write a sermon, which also includes contemporary illustrations and applications.

F. Vocabulary Test (10%)

April 3

Based on the more common words in Hebrews and words in Hebrews that occur 50x or more in the NT (based on Sakae Kubo's *Greek-English Lexicon*).

G. Grading Summary

1.	Participation	10%
2.	Reading	10%
3.	Translations	30%
4.	Vocabulary Test	10%
5.	Exegetical paper	25%
6.	Sermon	15%

All assignments must be completed by April 10.

IV. Textbooks and Materials

A. Required Reading

Beale, G. K. *The Book of Revelation*. NIGTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.

Porter, Stanley E. *Idioms of the Greek New Testament*. 2nd ed., with corrections. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1999.

Supplemental

Porter, Stanley E. *Fundamentals of New Testament Greek*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010.

Reddish, Mitchell G., ed. *Apocalyptic Literature: A Reader*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1995.

B. Textbook Purchase

All required textbooks for this class are available from the College's book service, READ On Bookstore, Room 145, McMaster Divinity College. Texts may be purchased on the first day of class. For advance purchase, you may contact READ On Bookstore, 5 International Blvd, Etobicoke, Ontario M9W 6H3 : phone 416.620.2934; fax 416.622.2308; email books@readon.ca. Other book services may also carry the texts.

C. Additional Materials

1. Any handouts for lectures and class discussion will be made available before class online in the course DropBox.
2. Further procedures and guidance for assignments will be given in class and/or online.

V. Classroom Behavior

A. Attendance

1. Attendance in all sessions is expected. Except in extreme circumstances, absence from more than 2 classes will result in grade penalties
2. Students should be on time to class or be prepared to offer an explanation to the professor (preferably in advance).
3. Students are expected to stay for the entire class session, unless arranged in advance.

B. Participation

1. Please respect the opinions of others without disrespect or ridicule, even if you do not agree with them. However, feel free to respond logically and critically in an orderly manner.
2. Students are not expected to be doing work on any other subject except that which is appropriate in the course outline.
3. Students are not to carry on off-topic conversations in class.
4. Students may eat or drink in class if they do not distract others and they clean up.

Students who fail to respect these guidelines will be dismissed from the class with consequences.

C. Late Assignments lose 1% each day for 7 days, and then 4% a day up to 30%. However, the sermons and all assignments must be turned in on April 10 to complete the course.

D. Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence that may take any number of forms, including plagiarism, the submission of work that is not one's own or for which previous credit has been obtained, and/or unauthorized collaboration with other students. Academic dishonesty can result in severe consequences, e.g., failure of the assignment, failure of the course, a notation on one's academic transcript, and/or suspension or expulsion from the College.

Students are responsible for understanding what constitutes academic dishonesty. Please refer to the Divinity College Statement on Academic Honesty ~ www.madciv.ca/regs/honesty.php

D. Gender-Inclusive Language

McMaster Divinity College uses inclusive language for human beings in worship services, student written materials, and all of its publications. In reference to biblical texts, the integrity of the original expressions and the names of God should be respected. The NRSV, TNIV and CEB are examples of the use of inclusive language for human

beings. It is expected that inclusive language will be used in chapel services and all MDC assignments.

E. Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is a violation of the integrity of persons in the form of unsolicited, unwelcome, verbal or physical behavior, which discriminates on the basis of gender about a person's body, attire, gender, marital status or economic status. Among faculty, staff, and students, sexual harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.

Office Hours: TBA and by appointment

**** Disclaimer on Syllabi posted on the web and at the bottom of each syllabus:

NK 2K03 Daily Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Passage</i>	<i>Reading</i> Read Beal on the weekly chapters Reddish optional
January 9	Introduction	
January 16	Rev 1	pp. 41-57 (1 Enoch)
January 23	Rev 2-3	1st translation due
January 30	Rev 4-5	pp. 97-114 (2 Baruch 1-35)
February 6	Rev 6-7	pp. 114-24 (2 Baruch 36-53) pp. 266-68 (5 Ezra) 2nd translation due
February 13	Rev 8-11	pp. 224-40
February 20	NO CLASS READING WEEK	
February 27	Rev 12-13	3rd translation due
March 6	Rev 14-16	pp. 58-79 (4 Ezra 1-7)
March 13	Rev 17-18	
March 20	Rev 19-20	pp. 277-90 (Ascen. of Isaiah) Exegetical Paper due Friday March 24 midnight
March 27	Rev 21-22	pp. 79-96 (4 Ezra 8-14)
April 3		Vocabulary Test
April 10	Sermon Due and "Presented" Reading Reports due	

REVELATION COMMENTARIES

- *Aune, David. *Revelation*, 3 vols. [WBC] Vol. 1--Dallas: Word, 1997. Vols. 2-3CNashville: Nelson, 1998.CDetailed commentary on the Greek text
- *Beale, G. K. *The Book of Revelation*. [NIGTC]. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.
- *Beasley-Murray, George R. *The Book of Revelation*. [NCB] London: Oliphants, 1974.
- Beasley-Murray, George R., Herschel H. Hobbs and Ray F. Robbins. *Revelation: Three Viewpoints*. Nashville: Broadman, 1977.
- Beckwith, I. T. *The Apocalypse of John*. New York: Macmillan, 1922.
- Boring, M. Eugene. *Revelation*. [Int] Louisville: John Knox, 1989.
- *Boxall, Ian. *The Revelation of St. John*. [BNTC] Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2006.
- *Caird, G. B. *A Commentary on the Revelation of St. John the Divine*. [HNTC] New York: Harper & Row, 1966.
- Charles, R. H. *The Revelation of St John*, 2 vols. [ICC] Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1920.
- *Collins, Adela Yarbro. *The Apocalypse*. [NTM] Wilmington: Glazier, 1979.
- Fiorenza, Elizabeth Schüssler. *Invitation to the Book of Revelation*. Garden City: Doubleday, 1981.
- Ford, J. Massyngberde. *Revelation*. [AB] Garden City: Doubleday, 1975.
- Foulkes, Ricardo. *El Apocalypsis de San Juan*. Buenos Aires: Nueva Creación; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989.
- González, Catherine G. and Justo L. González, *Revelation*. [WestBibComp]
- Gregg, Steve. *Revelation: Four Views:A Parallel Commentary*. Nashville: Nelson, 1997.
- Hendriksen, William. *More Than Conquerors*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1944.
- Hughes, Philip E. *The Book of the Revelation*. [PNTC] Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990.
- Johnson, Alan. "Revelation." In *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Ed. Frank E. Gaebelein. Vol. 12. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981. Pp. 399-603.
- *Johnson, Dennis E. *Triumph of the Lamb: A Commentary on Revelation*. Phillipsburg: Presbyterian & Reformed, 2001.
- *Keener, Craig S. *Revelation*. [NIVAC] Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.
- Kistemaker, Simon J. *Revelation*. [NTC] Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.
- *Ladd, George E. *A Commentary on the Revelation of John*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1972.
- Lupieri, Edmondo. *A Commentary on the Apocalypse of St. John*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2006.

- Malina, Bruce J. and J. J. Pilch, *Social-Science Commentary on the Book of Revelation*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2000.
- Metzger, Bruce M. *Breaking the Code: Understanding the Book of Revelation*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1992.
- Michaels, J. Ramsey. *Revelation*. [IVPNTC] Downers Grove: IVP, 1997.
- Morris, Leon. *The Revelation of St. John*. [TNTC] Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, rev. 1987.
- *Mounce, Robert H. *The Book of Revelation*. [NIC] Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, rev. 1998.
- Mounce, Robert H. *What Are We Waiting For?* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992.
- Murphy, Frederick J. *Fallen Is Babylon: The Revelation to John*. [NT in Context].
- *Osborne, Grant R. *Revelation*. [BECNT] Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.
- *Peterson, Eugene H. *Reversed Thunder: The Revelation of John and the Praying Imagination*.
- Quispel, Gilles. *The Secret Book of Revelation*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1979.
- Richard, Pablo. *Apocalypse: A People's Commentary on the Book of Revelation*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1985.
- Roloff, Jürgen. *The Revelation of John: A Continental Commentary*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993.
- *Smalley, Steven S. *The Revelation to John: A Commentary on the Greek Text of the Apocalypse*. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2005.
- Summers, Ray. *Worthy Is the Lamb*. Nashville: Broadman, 1951.
- Sweet, John P. M. *Revelation*. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1979.
- Swete, Henry B. *The Apocalypse of St. John*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1906.
- Talbert, C. H. *The Apocalypse: A Reading of the Revelation of John*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1994.
- Thomas, Robert L. *Revelation*, 2 vols. Chicago: Moody, 1992, 1996.
- Thompson, Leonard L. *Revelation*. [ANTC] Nashville: Abingdon, 1998.
- *Wall, Robert W. *Revelation* [NIBC] Peabody: Hendrickson, 1991.
- Walvoord, John F. *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*. Chicago: Moody, 1966.
- Wilcock, Michael. *I Saw Heaven Opened*. [BST] Downers Grove: IVP, 1975.
- *Witherington, Ben. *Revelation*. [NCBC] Cambridge, UK: Cambridge, 2003.
- *Commentaries placed on reserve in the library