

# New Testament Survey – Online

## Syllabus

Free Methodist Church of North America  
Acts 12:24 Churches  
Online Campus, NY/NJ Metro Ministry Education Center  
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## **Course # Acts12:24 1005**

### **New Testament Survey**

#### **Attribute/s of Outcome Based Ordination this course addresses**

- Exhibit Biblical understanding. They possess holistic biblical knowledge, have a Wesleyan hermeneutic that accepts the authority of Scripture, and demonstrate their ability to root their Wesleyan worldview in the Bible.

#### **Expected Outcomes**

##### ***Cognitive***

1. Be familiar with the major events, themes, and people of the New Testament.
2. Be familiar with the authorship and probable date of each book along with the overall process of forming the New Testament canon.

##### ***Behavioral***

3. Be able to discuss the historical, mundane, philosophical, and religious setting of the New Testament people.
4. Be able to articulate the purpose and message of each book of the New Testament.
5. Be able to explain the significance of the New Testament or any of its parts for a contemporary believer.

## General Description:

Designed to lead you to read the New Testament itself, New Testament Survey provides essential historical and cultural background information and carefully examines the content of each book in the New Testament.

## Course Texts:

Wright, N.T. And Michael Bird. The New Testament in Its World. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019.

## Grading Scale:

90-100 %- A

80-90 % -B

70-80 % - C

70 % and below – F

## Assignments and grading:

1. Do all assigned readings and submit signed acknowledgement – 40%
2. Personal Reflection Assignments – Much of this course will focus on your personal interactions with the assigned readings ideas. You will submit several 1-3 paragraph reflections throughout this course. The purpose of these assignments is to focus you on engaging the readings for your ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – 30%
3. Final Assignment - Prepare a 3-4 page (Times New Roman, 12pt, Double Spaced) reflection paper. Your paper should include reflections on the following: — 20%
  - What has been the most impactful lesson I learned in this course?
  - Why is it important for Christians to study the New Testament?
  - How does a thorough understanding of the New Testament inform our Christian ministries in the 21st Century?
4. Get a notebook or start a file on your computer and create a Biblical Resource Journal or file for each New Testament book. The file or journal should be organized by book. For example, you should have a section on Genesis another on Joshua, etc. Write down any questions or insights you receive as you read each book.

You will email this to me at the end of the course. It will **not** be graded for content, but as a "pass/fail" assignment if completed. All content in the journal will be kept confidential by me as a pastor leading this training course. If you opt for a hand-written journal, you can scan the pages to send me an electronic copy at the end of the course. — 10%

# Assigned Readings before each Class Session:

## 0. Preface

- Read Chapters 1-4 of The New Testament in Its World

## 1. Synoptic Gospels

The Synoptic Gospels consist of the first 3 books of the New Testament (Matthew, Mark, & Luke).

- Read these 3 books in their entirety and record your insights in your journal
- Read chapter 1 of the Course Handbook
- Read chapters 24-26c of The New Testament in Its World

As you read this section, have these questions in mind:

- What do you include in your presentation of the gospel?
- What are you and your church doing to fulfill the great commission from Jesus?
- What, if anything, do you need to begin, change, or stop so that you can better fulfill the great commission?
- What areas do you continue to struggle with? Obedience? Faith? Knowledge of the Bible?
- Why do people need to repent?
- The call to repent comes before the call to believe. Why is that order important?

## 2. John, Acts, & Introduction to Letters

You will read John and Acts for this section.

- Read these 2 books in their entirety and record your insights in your journal.
- Read chapter 3 of the Course Handbook
- Read chapters 26d-29 of The New Testament in Its World

As you read this section, have these questions in mind:

- How is belief in Jesus Christ lived out in a person's life?
- Paul always worked with at least one partner and often with a team. Who are you working with? Who are you training?
- What evidence do you see of the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life and ministry?
- Do you tend to pray more for boldness or for protection when it comes to preaching the Gospel?

## 3. Paul's Letters to Churches

**The letters Paul wrote to churches consist of Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and 1 & 2 Thessalonians.**

- Read these 9 books in their entirety and record your insights in your journal.
- Read chapter 3 of the Course Handbook
- Read chapters 16,17, 21, 22 of The New Testament in Its World

**As you read this section, have these questions in mind:**

- What would be the evidence in someone's life that they were living in total submission to God?
- What would that look like in your community?
- What thought patterns of the people in your community need to be transformed so that people can rightly discern God's will?
- Is there an issue in your church that needs to be addressed?
- What steals your joy? What takes your mind away from Christ?
- When do you struggle with contentment?

#### **4. Paul's Letters to Individuals**

**The personal letters of Paul consist of 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, & Philemon.**

- Read these 4 books in their entirety and record your insights in your journal.
- Read chapter 4 of the Course Handbook
- Read chapters 18-20, 23 of The New Testament in Its World

**As you read this section, have these questions in mind:**

- Do you have a Timothy in your life?
- What do you need to watch out for in your people from your community?
- What does Paul pray for?
- What can you learn from Paul's prayers for others, particularly for those to whom you minister?
- What do you desire for your people?

#### **5. General Epistles & Revelation**

**The General Epistles are the letters not written by Paul. They consist of Hebrews, James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1-3 John & Jude. You will also read Revelation for this section.**

- Read these 9 books in their entirety and record your insights in your journal.
- Read chapter 5 of the Course Handbook
- Read chapters 30-34 of The New Testament in Its World

**As you read this section, have these questions in mind:**

- Are you ready for Jesus' return? Are the people in your church ready?
- Is there anything that hinders you from coming boldly and confidently into his presence?
- What areas of your life still need to come under the control of the Holy Spirit?
- Do all your relationships with your brothers and sisters demonstrate your love for God?
- Is there any prejudice or judgment that might not reflect the love of God, for He loves the entire world?