



## New England Institute of Biblical Studies

Bethlehem Bible Church  
West Boylston, MA  
James White, D.Min., Th.D.  
January-March, 2007

-----  
602-973-4602  
NA27@aomin.org

**Course Description:** Canonicity, inspiration, inerrancy, transmission, and preservation of the Biblical text will be evaluated in this course. The reliability of modern translations as accurate representations of the original manuscripts (along with provocative topics such as the King James Only controversy and gender neutral Bible translations) will be explored.

**Objectives:** This course will seek to provide the diligent student with the foundational concepts and necessary facts upon which to understand, appreciate, and defend the Christian concept of special revelation. Without the Bible and the concept of divine, authoritative revelation, there truly is no Christian faith. And yet it is just this aspect of belief that is under constant and unrelenting attack on a daily basis in Western Culture. The collapse of liberal denominations provides a stark example of what happens when biblical authority is lost.

Students will be exposed to a wide variety of foundational and important information and instruction in the key areas of biblical studies. Given that the instructor is an apologist, the challenges offered by those who oppose the faith will always be at the forefront.

**Evaluation:** As the instructor will be traveling to New England for an intensive weekend of fourteen hours of instruction in March, it is important for the students to attend the original introductory class January 18<sup>th</sup>, complete the pre-class assignments, and be in attendance for the intensive instruction beginning Thursday evening, March 1<sup>st</sup>, extending through Saturday afternoon as follows:

3/1 5:30 to 9:00PM  
3/2 1:00 to 8:00PM  
3/3 8:00 to 2:00PM

Grading will be based upon the following items:

*Book reviews:* Students are to write a 3 page review of each of the two of the required text books. These reviews should include a brief summary and a pro/con section of interaction as well. **These two reviews will be due March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

A combined, also 3 pages, should be written in review of the two video debates to be shown prior to the lecture portion of the class. This review should not only outline the actual debate, but provide main points made in each section, review of how well each debater did in answering the questions asked by their opponent in cross-examination, and the student's over all thoughts and conclusions regarding the debate thesis. **This review will be due March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Reviews should be submitted electronically to the e-mail address included above, or provided in printed form in class. *Please submit these in Word, .pdf, or .rtf format.*

**Final Paper:** Upon completion of the lecture portion of the class the student will be asked to compose, over the course of the next week, an essay, five to eight pages in length, under the title, “The Centrality of Scriptural Authority to Christian Theology and Practice.” The topic is wide enough to allow the student to focus upon key areas of interest, such as inspiration, inerrancy, hermeneutics, canonicity, etc. This essay should be submitted to the e-mail address included above no later than March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007, and will function as the “final examination” for the class, so focused effort should be put into the project.

**Required Texts:** Most of the texts for this class are designed to function as resources for future study.

Geisler, Norman, ed. *Inerrancy*. Grand Rapids, MI: Acadamie Books, 1980.

White, James. *The King James Only Controversy*. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House Publishers, 1995.

\_\_\_\_\_, *Scripture Alone*. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House Publishers, 2004.

**Ancillary Resources:**

Archer, Gleason. *A Survey of Old Testament Introduction*. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1994.

Beckwith, Roger. *The Old Testament Canon of the New Testament Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdman’s, 1985.

Bruce, F.F. *The Canon of Scripture*. Downer’s Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1988.

Geisler, Norman, and Nix, William. *General Introduction to the Bible*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1986.

Thomas, Robert L, and Farnell, F. David. *The Jesus Crisis*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 1998.

Wallace, Daniel, et. al. *Reinventing Jesus*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2006.

Warfield, B.B. *Inspiration and Authority of the Bible*. Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Company, 1948.

**Teaching Assistants:**

Pastor Steve: [tmssteve@bbcchurch.org](mailto:tmssteve@bbcchurch.org)

Richard Barry: [rick.barry@charter.net](mailto:rick.barry@charter.net)