



## The BibleMesh Institute

### GRADUATE SYLLABUS

#### The Biblical Story

(OT & NT Overview Course)

**BIB 501**

*BibleMesh Institute exists to promote elite theological education around the world forming students in the Great Commandment, Great Commission, and Great Tradition.*

- I. **Course Description**—The Biblical Story presents an overview of Scripture’s storyline and main themes from Genesis to Revelation, including a survey of the intertestamental period. This overview includes characters, key events, theological concepts, and background material. A study in biblical theology, this course demonstrates the unity of the Bible’s sixty-six books, countering the notion they are isolated works without an overarching connection. In particular, it explores the manner in which Scripture is centered on Jesus Christ, with the Old Testament anticipating His coming, the Gospels describing His coming, and the remainder of the New Testament exploring the implications of His coming for the Church.

- i. **Note:** For the Pioneers Bible Certificate, the Biblical Story Course is broken down into two courses: Old Testament and New Testament. This syllabus serves as sample.

II. **BibleMesh Institute Core Competencies: This course promotes BMI Core Competencies in the following ways:**

1. **Biblical Understanding and Exposition**—Students study characters, key events, and background material for each section of the Bible. They also survey the overarching narrative that spans Scripture’s sixty-six books.
2. **Theological Aptitude**—Students learn major Christian doctrines, including creation *ex nihilo*, monotheism, the Trinity, the person of Christ, substitutionary atonement, and the second coming of Christ.
3. **Cultural Engagement**—Students gain exposure to various strategies God’s people employed to engage the surrounding culture throughout biblical history, from Noah’s preaching to his wicked neighbors and Moses’ life among the Egyptians to Daniel’s service among the Babylonians and Persians and Paul’s interaction with Roman authorities.
4. **Christian Formation**—Worship and devotional practices of biblical characters provide students with positive and negative examples of spiritual formation.

**III. Student Learning Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will be able to:**

1. Relate the general development of the biblical storyline from creation to the second coming of Christ.
2. Organize various characters, key events, and background information that played integral roles during each era of the Bible's storyline.
3. Analyze the theological emphases highlighted in each of the seven biblical eras defined in the course.
4. Critique the theology and practice of the contemporary Church in light of the theology and practice of God's people in each era of the biblical story.

**IV. Course Media (Videos/Readings) (32 hr., 17 min.)**

1. 438 pages of readings (12 hr., 20 min.)
2. 199 teaching videos (9 hr., 57 min.)
3. Biblical theology book (10 hr.): The proctor will select one additional book on biblical theology for students to read. Potential texts include G. K. Beale, *A New Testament Biblical Theology* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011) and Craig Bartholomew and Michael Goheen, *The Drama of Scripture*, 2nd edition (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2014). Upon completion of the reading, the student will email the proctor a note stating he or she has read the entire book carefully.

**V. Course Requirements (127 hr., 35 min.)**

1. 280 reflection/journaling exercises (23 hr., 20 min.)
2. 7 Cerego study sessions (21 hr.)
3. 36 quizzes (36 hr. study, 3 hr. take; 20% of final grade)
4. Era tests (14 hr. study, 45 min. each to take; 35% of final grade)
5. Final Exam (4 hr. study, 1 hr. to take; 30% of final grade)
6. Paper (20 hr.; 15% of final grade): Pick one article from the course material and expand in into an essay of 2,500-3,000 words explaining the topic in detail and how it relates to the Bible's storyline. The main headings in the article you select should also be the main headings of your paper. The "synopsis" section of your paper should be copied and pasted from the article word-for-word. All subsequent sections of your paper should expand and add detail to what is stated in the article you select from The Biblical Story. The "BibleMesh" section of your paper should explain how your topic relates to the person and work of Christ (e.g., setting the stage for it, foreshadowing it, fulfilling prophecy about it, fulfilling Christ's Great Commission). You must use at least 5-10 academic sources for your paper, including all resources listed in the "For Further Study" section of the article you select. The paper will be submitted to your proctor via email following your completion of all seven eras of The Biblical Story.

**VI. Course Expectations and Grading**

1. Questions about grading, assignments, expectations, etc., should be submitted to the proctor.
2. Plagiarism and Cheating: Cheating or plagiarism of any kind will result in an immediate failing grade on the assignment with no chance for resubmission. The professor may either allow the student to remain in and complete the course or dismiss the student from the course completely. Regardless of the professor's ruling, all cases of cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the Director of BibleMesh Institute, who will consider further disciplinary action. A record of the infraction will be kept in BMI files.
3. Grading Scale

A = 100–95  
B = 94–87  
C = 86–77  
D = 76–70  
F = 69–0

**VII. Policies and Miscellaneous Information**

1. Due Dates: You should work with your proctor in setting goals for self-paced completion of the course. Whatever your chosen pace, your proctor can help you build knowledge with continuity and consistency.
2. Please email the proctor to schedule phone or video conference meetings.
3. This course falls under the policies and procedures of the BibleMesh Institute. For these procedures, see here.

**VIII. Course Outline:** For the course outline, please see the home page of your course.