

1-1-2008

MI 630 730 Biblical Theology of Mission

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Pachuau, Lalsangkima, "MI 630 730 Biblical Theology of Mission" (2008). *Syllabi*. Book 194.
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DRAFT
ASBURY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
WILMORE, KY
SPRING, 2008

MI 630/730 Biblical Theology of Mission

Instructor: Lalsangkima Pachuau
Office: MC310 – Phone: (859) 858 2262
(Office Hours: Tuesdays: 1:30 – 4pm; Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11am or by appointment)
Teaching Intern: Philip Troutman

Description:

A study of principal texts in the Old and New Testaments dealing with mission, evangelism, discipling, and renewal, with attention to relevant scholarly debate regarding their significance. (catalog)

The study of principal texts is done both thematically and textually. Major biblical-theological themes of missiological importance are dealt with using scholarly approaches for their meaning and significance in the understanding and practice of Christian mission.

Objectives:

By the conclusion of the course, candidates are expected to be well-informed on biblical-theological issues surrounding Christian mission, and the meaning and significance of the entire biblical canon for the practice and understanding of Christian mission. They are expected to have learned and understood the various approaches and themes of biblical theology relating to the theory and practice of Christian mission and evangelism, and the main theology of mission of the different families of biblical texts especially the New Testament. They should be able to discern the strength and weakness of a theology of mission based on its biblical underpinnings, and be able to conduct biblically-informed missiological studies and research. To these ends the course

- explores major biblical themes relating to mission
- introduce students to the problems and issues of as well as approaches to investigating the meaning of mission in the Bible
- analyzes the theology of mission of the different families of the books of the Bible.

Texts:

REQUIRED (may be added later)

Bible: NRSV or NIV

Course Packet (collection of articles and chapters from books and journals)

Bosch, David. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*.
Maryknoll (NY): Orbis Books, 1991.

Green, Joel. *Salvation. Understanding Biblical Themes*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2003.

Köstenberger, Andreas J., and Peter T. O'Brien, *Salvation to the Ends of the Earth: A Biblical Theology of Mission*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2001.

Newbigin, Leslie. *The Open Secret: Sketches of a Missionary Theology*. Revised. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TEXT FOR MI 730:

Wright, Christopher. *The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2006.

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED:

Larkin Jr., William J. and Joel F. Williams. *Mission in the New Testament: An Evangelical Approach*. Maryknoll (NY): Orbis Books, 1998.

Legrand, Lucien. *Unity and Plurality: Mission in the Bible*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books.

Okoye, James Chukwuma. *Israel and the Nations: A Mission Theology of the Old Testament*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2006.

Senior, Donald, and Carroll Stuhlmueller. *The Biblical Foundations for Mission*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 1983.

CONTENTS OF THE COURSE PACKET

(Chapters of Books and Articles of journals):

Bosch, David J. "Reflections on Biblical Models of Mission." In *Toward the 21st Century in Christian Mission: Essays in Honor of Gerald H. Anderson*. Eds. James M. Phillips and Robert T. Coote. Pp. 175-192. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1992.

Brueggemann, Walter. "The Bible and Mission: Some Interdisciplinary Implications for Teaching." *Missiology: An International Review* 10 (October 1982): 397-412.

Green, Joel B. "'Proclaiming repentance and forgiveness of sins to all nations': A Biblical Perspective on the Church's Mission." In *The Mission of the Church in Methodist Perspective: The World is my Parish*. Ed. Alan G. Padgett. Pp. 13-43. Lewiston, Queenston, Lampeter: The Edwin Mellen Press, 1992.

John Driver. "The Kingdom of God: Goal of Messianic Mission." In *The Transfiguration of Mission: Biblical, Theological and Historical Foundations*. Ed. Wilbert R. Shenk. Pp. 83-105. Scottdale, PA: Herald Press, 1993.

Köstenberger, Andreas J. "The Place of Mission in New Testament Theology." *Missiology: An International Review* 27 (July 1999): 347-362.

Lucien Legrand. *The Bible on Culture*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2000. Pp. 73-112.

Peace, Richard. *Conversion in the New Testament: Paul and the Twelve*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1999, "Appendix" (pp. 346-353).

Walls, Andrew F. "Converts or Proselytes? The Crisis over Conversion in the Early Church." *International Bulletin of Missionary Research* 28, No. 1 (January, 2004): 2-6.

Requirements:

Class Participation: 10% of the course aggregate.

- Regular attendance of all classes (lecture classes and Group Sessions) and active participation in Group Discussions.
- Reading of all the required texts.
- Readiness to lead each of the small group discussion.

Papers: 60%

- A critical and analytical review of a book, 6 to 7 pages for MI630 and 8 to 9 pages for MI730 candidates, to be selected from the accompanying bibliography, especially those marked with */asterisk, and approved by the instructor. **Due date: March 27, 2008 at 4.00 P.M.** (MI730 candidates will present their review in small group sessions). 20%
- Research Paper of candidate's choice (approximately 15 pages for MI630 and 20 pages for MI730). **Due date: May 1, 2008 at 4.00 P.M.** 40%

Final Exam (details TBA), 30%.

Evaluation:

Grading will be based on the major course components, as follows:

Class participation:	10%
Book review, including oral presentation for MI 730 candidates	20%
Research Paper	40%
Final exam	<u>30%</u>
	100%

Course Grading:

The unit of credit is a semester hour, which is defined as one hour of classroom work per week for one semester, or its equivalent. The 4.00 point system is used to compute grade point standing. The grading system is:

- A 4.00 Exceptional work: surpassing, markedly outstanding achievement of course objectives.
- B 3.00 Good work: strong, significant achievement of course objectives.
- C 2.00 Acceptable work: basic, essential achievement of course objectives.
- D 1.00 Marginal work: inadequate, minimal achievement of course objectives.
- F 0 Unacceptable work: failure to achieve course objectives.

Incomplete Work:

The official end of each term is 4:00 p.m. on the last day of the examination schedule. This hour is the deadline for handing in all course work. Each instructor may set an earlier deadline for submission of any or all course work. The student must petition the faculty person involved and the student's advisor for permission to receive an "I" at the end of the semester.

A grade of "I" denotes that the work of a course has not been completed due to an unavoidable emergency, which does not include delinquency or attending to church work or other employment. If the work of a course is incomplete at the end of a term without an emergency, a letter grade will be given based on the grades of work done, with incomplete work counted as "F."

Incomplete grades shall be removed one calendar month prior to the close of the following semester unless an earlier date is designated by the Office of the Chief Academic Officer on the individual petition. If the work is not completed by the time designated, the "I" shall be changed to an "F" unless a passing grade can be given based on work already completed or unless special permission is granted by the Chief Academic Officer.

Professors are required to give either a grade or an "I," if approved, to each student registered for credit in a course. Students with Incompletes in two or more classes will not be allowed to enroll in a new semester or term without permission from their Dean.

SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1

February 12, 2008 II Cor. 4:1-12.

Introduction to the Course

A historical survey of Bible and Mission

- Protestant Orthodoxy, Hyper-calvinism and the problem of mission in the Bible
- Biblical Studies' emphasis on historical-critical method and the study of mission
- Bible and models of mission in modern missionary movement – Catholics and Protestants

February 14

1. Reading the Bible missiologically: The shift from biblical proof-texting to biblical theology of mission.

2. Approaches: Deductive and Inductive Readings

READING: Bosch, *Transforming*, 274-345 (esp. 284-313, 334-345);
Bosch, "Reflections on Biblical Models of Mission" (Packet)
MI 730 (additional reading): Wright, *The Mission of God*, 20-69.

Week 2

February 19 Exodus 19:1-6; Deut. 7.

Missionary Religion and Bible (Is the Biblical faith missionary?):

Universal Salvation of God and Particularity of faith

Problem of Election (OT) and Particularity of Jesus (NT)

February 21 Isaiah 49:1-6, 56:1-8; 66:18-24.

Old Testament Theology of Mission

Election and Mission: The centripetal mission of OT

READING: Newbigin, 1-18, 66-90.
Bosch, *Transforming*, 15-55.
MI 730 (additional): Wright, *The Mission of God*, 189-264 (esp. 222-264).

Week 3

February 26 John 5: 19-24; Phil. 2:5-11.

Missio Dei and Christian Mission– the Biblical testimony, Theological Implications

February 28

Small Group Session: Themes (1) The problem of "election" and mission

(2) The meaning and implications of *missio Dei*

READING: Bosch, *Transforming*, 368-393.
Newbigin, 19-65.
MI 730 (additional): Wright, *The Mission of God*, 71-104.

Week 4

March 4 Mark 1:15

Kingdom of God and Christian Mission

March 8

Small Group Session: on Kingdom of God; details - TBA

READING: Driver, "The Kingdom of God: Goal of Messianic Mission" (Packet).

Köstenberger, “The Place of mission...,” (packet).
MI 730 (additional): Wright, *The Mission of God*, 105-188 (esp.105-135).

Week 5

March 11 Acts 9 - 10
Conversion and Proselytism

March 13

Small Group Session: on Conversion and Proselytism; details - TBA

READING: Peace, *Conversion*; Walls, “Converts or Proselytes?” (Packet).
Bosch, *Transforming*, 393-420.
MI 730 (additional): Wright, *The Mission of God*, 265-288.

Week 6

March 18 Rom 1:16
Salvation and Christian Mission

March 20

Small Group Session: on Salvation; details - TBA

READING: Green, *Salvation*.
MI 730 (additional): Wright, *The Mission of God*, 289-323.

Week 7

March 25 Acts 15: 1-35.
Gospel and Culture – Biblical Testimony

March 27 **Review Paper Due at 4pm**

Small Group Session: (1) Gospel and Culture in Acts 15 and Paul’s Gal. 1-3; (2)
Incarnation as a model of Indigenization, Inculturation & Contextualization.

READING: Legrand, *The Bible on Culture* (packet).
Bosch, *Transforming*, 420-457.
MI 730 (additional): Wright, *The Mission of God*, 420-453 (esp. 441-453).

Week 8

April 1 & 3 – Spring Reading Week: No Class

Week 9

April 8
Main OT themes and models of Mission

April 10

Small Group Session: on the OT and Mission; details - TBA

READING: Köstenberger and O’Brien, 25-53.
MI 730 (additional): Wright, *The Mission of God*, 324-375.

Week 10

April 15 Romans 15
Paul’s theology of mission

April 17

Small Group Session: on Paul's theology of mission; details - TBA

READING: Bosch, *Transforming*, 123-178.
Köstenberger and O'Brien, 161-202.

Week 11

April 22 Matt. 28: 16-20

Mission in Matthew and Mark

April 24

Small Group Session: on the "commissionings" of the disciples by Jesus; details - TBA

READING: Köstenberger and O'Brien, 73-110.
Bosch, *Transforming*, 56-83.

Week 12

April 29 Luke 24: 44-49; Acts 1:8.

Luke-Acts

May 1 **RESEARCH PAPER DUE AT 4PM**

Small Group Session: on Luke's conception and theology of mission; details - TBA

READING: Köstenberger and O'Brien, 111-160.
Bosch, *Transforming*, 84-122.

Week 13

May 6 John 3: 16-17; 20:21-23.

Johanine theology of mission

May 8

Small Group Session: on John's theology of mission; details - TBA

READING: Köstenberger and O'Brien, 203-226.

May 13

Mission and People of Other Faiths

May 15

The General Epistles and Revelation

READING: Köstenberger and O'Brien, 227-250.
Newbigin, 160-189.

Week 14

May 19 : **Final Exam (details TBA)**

Bibliography: Biblical Theology of Mission

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- Anderson, Gerald H., ed. *The Theology of the Christian Mission*. London: SCM Press; New York, Toronto, London: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1961.
- Anderson, Gerald H., James M. Phillips, and Robert T. Coote, eds. *Mission in the Nineteen 90s*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B Eerdmans, New Haven: OMSC, 1991.
- *Arias, Mortimer, and Alan Johnson. *The Great Commission: Biblical Models for Evangelism*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1992.
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- *Banks, Robert. *God the Worker: Journeys into the Mind, Heart, and Imagination of God*. Claremont, CA: Albatross Books, 1992.
- Banks, Robert. *Paul's Idea of Community: The Early House Churches in their Historical Setting*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1980.
- Banks, Robert. *Reenvisioning Theological Education: Exploring a Missional Alternative to Current Models*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.
- *Bauckham, Richard. *Bible and Mission: Christian Witness in a Postmodern World*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academics and Carlisle, UK: Paternoster, 2003.
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- Beyerhaus, Peter. "World Evangelization and the Kingdom of God," International Congress on World Evangelization, Lausanne, July 16–25, 1974. Reprinted in J. D. Douglas, ed. *Let the Earth Hear His Voice*. Minneapolis: World Wide, 1974. Pp. 283–95.
- Beyerhaus, Peter. *Shaken Foundations: Theological Foundations for Mission*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1972.
- Billington, Anthony, Tony Lane, and Max Turner, eds. *Mission and Meaning: Essays Presented to Peter Cotterell*. Carlisle, UK: Paternoster, 1995. Part I: "Biblical Perspectives."
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- Boberg, SVD, John T. & James Scherer, eds. *Mission in the 70s: What Direction?* Chicago: Chicago Cluster of Theological Schools, 1972.
- **Bosch, David. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*. Maryknoll (NY): Orbis Books, 1991.
- Bosch, David. *Witness to the World: The Christian Mission in Theological Perspective*. Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1980.
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- *Bright, John. *The Kingdom of God: The Biblical Concept and its meaning for the Church*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1953.
- *Bruce, F. F. *Israel and the Nations*. Exeter, UK: Paternoster, 1970.
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- Costas, Orlando E. *The Church and Its Mission: A Shattering Critique from the Third World*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1974.
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- *Dahl, N.A. *Studies in Paul: Theology for the Early Christian Mission*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1977a.
- Dempster, Murray A., Byron D. Klaus, and Douglas Peterson, ed. *Called and Empowered: Global Mission in Pentecostal Perspective*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1991. Section I: "Biblical and Theological Dimensions of Global Mission in the Pentecostal Tradition."
- DeRidder, R. R. *Discipling the Nations*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1975.
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