

Hebrew Exegesis of Job, 9152  
 Instructor: R. V. McCabe, Th.D.  
 Course Outline

Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary  
 Fall Semester  
 2010 (revised)

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

An exegetical analysis of selected portions of the book of Job in its historical and cultural milieu. While examining the introductory issues, the primary objective of this course is to use an exegetical approach to trace the development of the message of Job.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

With this exegetical approach to the book of Job, the student should

1. become acquainted with the key introductory issues in this book;
2. be prepared to read at sight the assigned sections from Job;
3. gain proficiency in translating Hebrew poetic literature;
4. become conversant with some of the exegetical and theological issues in Job;
5. acquire an appreciation for the content in this book;
6. become more precise at identifying grammatical and syntactical forms;
7. become more familiar with the important tools for doing Hebrew exegesis; and
8. gain greater precision in doing independent research.

### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. **Tests:** There will be two exams. The mid-term will cover material in syllabus up through 38:11 and the final exam will cover the remainder of the syllabus. The mid-term will be given on **October 21** and the final exam on **December 16—30% (ThM)/45% (MDiv) of grade.**

Tests must be taken at the time the exam is officially scheduled, unless a student has an excusable absence. If a student has an excusable absence, he must take the exam no later than 4:00 P.M. on the following day, Friday, or whatever day that he returns to seminary. After this 4:00 P.M. deadline on Friday, a late penalty of 5% will be deducted and another 15% for turning it in on Friday, after 4:00 P.M. Then beginning Saturday, after 4:00 P.M., 20% for that day will be penalized. For each day beyond Saturday, he will be penalized 20% for each subsequent day. This penalty will be subtracted from the student's earned grade for the test.

If a student has an inexcusable absence, he will receive a 5% penalty for not having an excusable absence. He must then take the test no later than 4:00 P.M. on the exam's scheduled day to avoid any daily late penalties. If he turns in the exam after 4:00 P.M. on the exam's scheduled day, his daily late penalties begin accruing after 4:00 P.M. of that same day. The penalties breakdown like this: 5% for the first day, 15% for the second, 20% for all subsequent days until Tuesday of the following week at which point after 4:00 PM, the student get 0%. For example, if a student misses a class when a specific test was scheduled without having an excusable absence and if he submits the exam no later than the 4:00 P.M. deadline on the same day as the scheduled exam, he will loose 5% as a penalty for not having a legitimate excuse. However, if this student would turn in the test after 4:00 P.M. on the same day, but no later than 4:00 P.M. on the following day, he will lose 20% from his earned grade. He loses 5% for not having a legitimate excuse and 15% as a second day late penalty for not having turned in the exam by 4:00 P.M. on the next day,

Friday. If the student would turn in the test on Friday after 4 PM, he would lose 40%: 5% for not having a legitimate excuse, 15% for turning the exam in after 4:00 P.M. for Thursday and 20% for turning it in after 4:00 P.M. on Friday.

If a student has an excusable absence, he must take the exam no later than 4:00 P.M. on the day he **returns to seminary**, and not simply this class. After this 4:00 P.M. deadline on the day he returns to seminary, the student will be penalized 20% for that day and each consecutive day thereafter. This penalty will be subtracted from the student's earned grade for the exam.

In addition, tardies are unacceptable when a test has been scheduled. A tardy may result in a 5% or more as penalty for the exam.

2. **Daily quizzes:** Each student will take a daily quiz. For the assigned quiz, each student will give the professor at the beginning of class the translation assignment for that day. The translation will be evaluated for completeness. This translation will comprise 30% of his quiz grade for that day. Based upon the following schedule, each M.Div. and Th.M. student will translate and parse a portion from his assigned material. This will make up 70% of his quiz grade for that day. When the quizzes are completed, the translation will be returned to each student. The same rules about absences and lateness that applied to the test will be followed for making up quizzes. However, there is one exception to my policies about absences and lateness. Each student is given one grace day where he will be permitted to take the quiz one day later with no necessary excuses required and no penalties attached—**20% of grade.**

The following is the schedule for the quizzes:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Complete Translation</b>	<b>Th.M.</b>	<b>M.Div.</b>
Aug 26	Introduction		
Sep 2	1:1–2:13	1:1–2:13	1:1–2:3
Sep 9	3:1–15	3:1–15	3:1–11
Sep 16	3:16–26; 38:1–7	3:16–26; 38:1–7	3:16–26; 38:1–3
Sep 23	38:8–21	38:8–21	38:8–18
Sep 30	38:22–35	38:22–35	38:22–30
Oct 7	38:36–39:12	38:36–39:12	38:36–39:8
Oct 14	<b>Mid-term Exam</b>		
Oct 21	<b>No Class: MACP</b>		
Oct 28	39:13–30	39:13–30	39:13–25
Nov 4	40:1–14	40:1–14	40:1–10

Nov 11	40:15–32	40:15–32	40:15–28
Nov 18	<b>No Class</b>		
Nov 25	<b>Thanksgiving Recess</b>		
Dec 2	41:1–16	41:1–16	41:1–10
Dec 9	41:17–42:6	41:17–42:6	41:17–26
Dec 16	<b>Final Exam</b>		

3. **Critical Book Review:** Each ThM student will write a three to four-page critique that is single-spaced with a one-inch margin on all sides of a page, in a 12-point Times font. The critical book reviews must be written on one of Clines' first two volumes on Job. Book reviews that go beyond the maximum allowed pages will be penalized. The critique is due on **Thursday, November 18**. Since we will not have class on this day, you should place your book review in my seminary mailbox. The same rules about absences and lateness that applied to the test will be followed for the term paper—**15% of grade**.

Here is what the content for each critique should include: (a) explicitly state the **final** thesis for an article or book (in a commentary, the thesis is to write a commentary, but often a message for a book will also be developed); (b) concisely provide the major supporting arguments for the commentary; (c) give a concise biblical evaluation of the commentary, which should include positive and negative features of an author as well as pertinent presuppositions of an author.

4. **Term paper:** Each student will write a five to seven-page, single spaced in a 12-point Times font, term paper on a selected passage, with the bibliography going beyond the pagination requirement. The paper must be in conformity with the “Style Manual for Papers and Theses” (2nd ed., Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary, 2002). This paper is due on **Thursday, December 9**. The same rules about absences and lateness that applied to the test will be followed for the term paper—**25% of grade**.

Each paper must deal with a specific issue using an exegetical procedure on a specific passage. Here are some legitimate passages, or portions thereof.

4:12–21	19:21–27
5:17–27	21:17–21
8:1–7	22:12–20
9:14–24	24:18–25
10:18–22	28:21–28
13:1–12	33:12–22
13:13–17	33:23–30
13:18–28	34:31–37
16:18–22	37:14–24

Example of How the Term Papers Are Graded:

Content and argument	80%
Form & Mechanics	10%
Bibliography	+10%
Overall percentile grade	100%

5. **Reading Assignment:** Each ThM student is to read 600 pages and MDiv student 400 pages from the required and recommended items in the bibliography as well as sources used for term paper and critical book review. Each student who has completed the reading requirements according to the schedule will receive a 98% for this portion of his grade. If the student does not complete the assignment on schedule, he will have 1% subtracted from his 100% for every 25 pages that he is short of the total pages required. The student must turn in his reading report on **Thursday, December 16—5% of grade.**
6. **Translation Notebook:** Each student is required to keep a notebook of his accurate and readable translation for the book of Job. His translation notebook should also contain notes on significant problems and must reflect interaction with the required commentaries along with reference to Glenn and two other exegetical commentaries that provide solutions for the problems. Since there are currently many parsing and grammatical aids available, it is not necessary to provide information about parsing the more difficult forms. This type of notebook can be a valuable aid when one does future work on Job. Each student who has a well-organized notebook will receive a 100% for this portion of his grade. The same rules about absences and lateness that applied to tests will be followed for this assignment. This is due no later than 4:00 PM on **Thursday, December 16—5% of grade.**

**CLASS ABSENCES:**

The policy for absenteeism at Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary is as follows. A student is allowed one week of unexcused absences and three weeks of excused absences. The maximum number of absences is four weeks for a class. Anyone who is absent from class beyond this will receive an “F” for that course, except by vote of the faculty in extenuating circumstances.

When a student has consumed his one week of permissible unexcused absences for a given course, his final grade will be penalized by 1% per hour of class that he has gone beyond this limit and extending until he has missed four full weeks of class. After this, he will receive an “F” for the course.

An excused absence is one where the student’s absence is beyond his control. In order to have his absence excused, the student must submit to the course instructor a written explanation for his absence. Based upon this the instructor will then determine whether or not the absence should be excused.

Three periods of tardiness will be counted as one absence. This means that three tardies count as one unexcused absence. If a student has only two tardies in a two-hour class, he will suffer no penalty. However, three tardies count as one unexcused absence. But again there is no penalty for one unexcused absence in a two-hour class. Ultimately, the student could be tardy five times in a two-hour class before incurring any penalty, which would only come on the

sixth tardy as a result of now having two unexcused absences—the second unexcused absence resulting in a grade reduction.

**TEXTBOOK:**

1. Alden, Robert L. *Job*. The New American Commentary, vol. 11. Edited by E. Ray Clendenen, Kenneth A. Matthews, and David S. Dockery. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1993.
2. Clines, David J. A. *Job 1–20*. Word Biblical Commentary. Edited by David A. Hubbard and Glenn W. Barker. Waco, TX: Word Books, 1989.
3. Clines, David J. A. *Job 21–37*. Word Biblical Commentary. Edited by David A. Hubbard and Glenn W. Barker. Waco, TX: Word Books, 2006.
4. Elliger, K. and W. Rudolph. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelstiftung, 1976.
5. Hartley, John E. *The Book of Job*. The New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Edited by R. K. Harrison. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1988.
6. McCabe, Robert V. “Hebrew Exegesis of Job.” Unpublished syllabus, Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary, 2010.

**GRADING SYSTEM:**

96–100	A	86–87	B-	76–77	D+
94–95	A-	84–85	C+	72–75	D
92–93	B+	80–83	C	70–71	D-
88–91	B	78–79	C-	69 & below	F

