

Content and Method in Biblical Theology:

D.Min. Seminar — Phoenix Seminary

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The seminar is focused on content and methodology in biblical theology. We will focus on exegesis of texts primarily in the Old Testament which *define* the meta-narrative or larger story of Scripture by either *describing major points* in the plot or *discussing the relationship of major points* in the plot line.

Required reading is listed below. In addition, each student must write a brief paper (approximately 5,000 words) that focuses on one of the major covenants in Scripture and evaluates the position proposed by the main text, *Kingdom through Covenant* mainly from primary rather than secondary sources.

Required Reading

Primary Texts

Brittany Kim and Charlie Trimm, *Understanding Old Testament Theology: Mapping the Terrain of Recent Approaches* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2020). Read only Chapters 1, 3, 4, and 5.

Edward W. Klinck III and Darian R. Lockett, *Understanding Biblical Theology: A Comparison of Theory and Practice* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012).

Peter J. Gentry and Stephen J. Wellum, *Kingdom through Covenant: A Biblical-Theological Understanding of the Covenants*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2012.

Secondary Texts

Scripture, Canon, and Interpretation

Roger T. Beckwith, "Formation of the Hebrew Bible," in *Mikra*, ed. M. J. Mulder, pages 39–86.

David Brakke, "A New Fragment of Athanasius's Thirty-Ninth Festal Letter: Heresy, Apocrypha, and the Canon." *Harvard Theological Review* 103 (2010): 47–66.

Stephen G. Dempster, "An 'Extraordinary Fact': Torah and Temple and the Contours of the Hebrew Canon: Parts 1 and 2", *Tyndale Bulletin*, 48: 23–56, 191–218.

E. Earle Ellis, "The Old Testament Canon in the Early Church," in *Mikra*, ed. M. J. Mulder, pages 653–89.

Authorial Intent

G. K. Beale, *We Become What We Worship*, 15–35

E. Earle Ellis, "Biblical Interpretation in the New Testament Church," in *Mikra*, ed. M. J. Mulder, pages 691–724.

Typology

Robert Alter, *The Art of Biblical Narrative*, 55–78

E. Earle Ellis, "Foreword." In *Typos: The Typological Interpretation of the Old Testament in the New*, by Leonhard Goppelt, ix – xx. translated by Donald H. Madvig. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982.

Francis Foulkes, "The Acts of God: A Study of the Basis of Typology in the Old Testament," in *The Right Doctrine from the Wrong Text*, ed. G. K. Beale, pages 342–71.

Melito of Sardis. *On Pascha and Fragments*. Edited by Stuart George Hall. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1979.

Authorial Intent, Typology, Allegory, and Intertextuality/Inner-Biblical Exegesis

Gentry and Wellum, *Kingdom through Covenant*, 81–126.

Russell Meek, "Intertextuality, Inner-Biblical Exegesis, and Inner-Biblical Allusion: The Ethics of a Methodology." *Biblica* 95, no. 2 (2014): 280–91.

Paper

Each student will select one of the major covenants in Scripture and evaluate either the exegesis in KTC or analyse passages that treat the relationship of one or more covenants to each other (approximately 5,000 words).