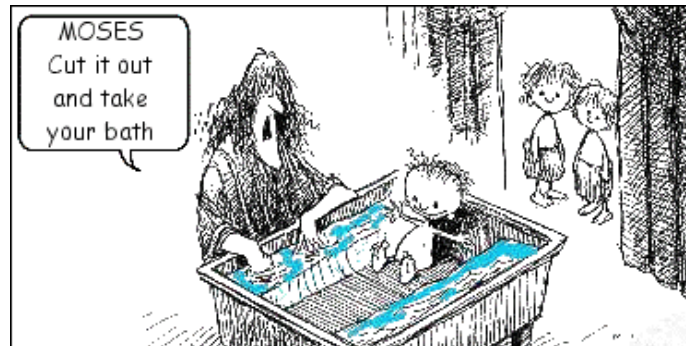


## Introduction to the Old Testament A Survey in Ten Sessions



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### Required Texts:

- (1) Fr. Anthony Ceresko, OSFS. Introduction to the Old Testament: A Liberation Perspective (Second Edition, Orbis Books: New York, 2001).
- (2) The Bible (New American, New Revised Standard Version, New Jerusalem, or New International Versions preferred. NO “King James Versions”, please, nor paraphrases). I recommend the New Revised Standard Version with Apocrypha (Oxford Univ. Press).

*Texts suggested for personal study, but not required:*

- (1) Oxford Bible Atlas (2007)
- (2) The New Jerome Biblical Commentary (1990)
- (3) Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible (2000)

### Assignments:

Beginning in January, 2008, a one-page summary of each session of the course is due at the following month’s session. To be very precise, the first assignment will be due on February 9, 2008, and it will be a summary of the January 12, 2008, session of the course.

A second type of assignment is also required for all who are taking the course for certification: compile a list of “Seven to Ten Points” or “Seven to Ten Issues” that are Biblical/theological issues from the Old Testament that are ESSENTIAL to a full understanding of the Christian Biblical Message. You do have a choice—a minimum of seven points or issues, or a maximum of ten. This larger project is due on November 8, 2008.

## **Schedule of Lecture Topics:**

### **(1) December 15, 2007 – Overview and Introduction to the Course**

Bernardine room (large gathering, no remote sites)

Recommended Reading after Session: Ceresko: 3-28.

In this introductory session, Dr. Felix Just and Dr. Daniel Smith-Christopher will go over some preliminary surveys of the subject ahead, including for Dr. Smith-Christopher, an introduction to the geographical and political context of Biblical History, and an overview of Critical Problems of studying the Bible.

### **(2) January 12, 2008 - Kateri room**

*SUBJECT: Genesis and the Documentary Hypothesis*

Ceresko: Pp. 29-78

Bible: Genesis

### **(3) February 9, 2008 - Kateri room**

*SUBJECT: The Exodus and Biblical Law*

Ceresko: 79-96, Hand-outs

Bible: Exodus 1-23; Deuteronomy 14-31; Leviticus 1-6

### **(4) March 8, 2008 - Kateri room**

*SUBJECT: Early Israel, Judges, and Traditions of “Conquest”*

Ceresko: 97-122

Bible: Joshua and Judges

### **(5) April 12, 2008 – Room TBA**

*SUBJECT: The Monarchy and the Problem of Warfare in Ancient Israel*

Ceresko: 123-180

1 Sam 7-8; *SKIM* 1 Sam 16 – 2 Sam 10; *READ* 2 Sam 11-12; 1 Kings 1-9  
2 Kings 16-25.

### **(6) May 10, 2008 - Bernardine room (large gathering, no remote sites)**

*SUBJECT: Early Prophets*

Ceresko: 181-223

Bible: Amos, Hosea, Micah, *Skim* Isaiah 1-39

**(7) September 13, 2008** - Kateri room

*SUBJECT: The Exile and Exilic Prophets*

Ceresko: 224-270

Bible: Jeremiah 1-29; *Skim Ezekiel*; Isaiah 40-55

**(8) October 11, 2008** - Kateri room

*SUBJECT: The Exile and Persian Period; Psalms; Daniel 1-6; Esther*

Ceresko: 271-303; 331-340

Bible: Daniel 1-6 (and Susanna, Bel, and the Dragon); Esther; Read any 20 Psalms; Ezra-Nehemiah

**(9) November 8, 2008** - Kateri room

*SUBJECT: Apocalyptic, Wisdom, & Deutero-Canonical Books*

Ceresko: 331-340 (review); 316-330; Hand-Out on Hellenistic Period

BIBLE: Daniel 7-12; Proverbs 1-12; Ecclesiastes; 1 Maccabees, Wisdom, Tobit, and Judith.

**(10) December 6, 2008** - (large gathering, no remote sites)

*SUBJECT: On the Problems of Old Testament Theology for Christians, and Other Fun Topics... (like oppression of women, minorities, indigenous peoples, Fundamentalism, and other abuses of the Old Testament...)*

Ceresko: 341-350, Handouts.