

The Roots of Faith—Old Testament

Exploring the Old Testament from Beginning to End

Course fee: \$250, includes instructional materials, lunches, and snacks.

Timeframe: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, consisting of 50 lessons of approximately 40 minutes each (plus, lunch and snack breaks)

I. Instructional Materials

We will use *The Roots of Faith* (TROF) workbook as well as *The Old Testament Story* (TOTS) workbook in this course. The in-class instruction will be based upon TROF workbook, with TOTS workbook used as an integrated resource. Both workbooks will be handed out to you at the beginning of the course.

II. Course Rationale

To be most effective in evangelism and discipleship, believers need to possess a good working knowledge of God’s redemptive plan, as it unfolds chronologically through the Old and New Testaments. They need to be equipped to present the gospel of Jesus Christ with enough Bible content and Biblical context as is necessary for recipients to clearly understand the Bible’s message of redemption, in spite of the worldview noise that may tend to distort the Bible’s message. This course is designed to equip believers to tell God’s story of redemption, as it has been revealed in the Old Testament.

III. Course Units

While there are eleven units in *The Old Testament Story* workbook that undergirds the content for this course, the teaching in-class will be built around the 50 Old Testament lessons in *The Roots of Faith*.

Top Row = Units in The Old Testament Story Workbook											
Creation	Fall	Flood	Babel	Patriarchs	Moses	Joshua	Judges	Monarchy	Division	Exile	Return
OT-01 through OT-05	OT-06 through OT-13	OT-14 and OT-15	OT-16	OT-17 through OT-23	OT-24 through OT-35	OT-36	OT-37 and OT-38	OT-39 through OT-42	OT-43 through OT-45	OT-46 through OT-48	OT-49 through OT-50
Bottom Row = Lessons in The Roots of Faith Workbook											

IV. Course Goal and Objectives

By the end of this course, the student will demonstrate an understanding of God's redemptive plan as it was revealed chronologically through the Old Testament *and* other very pertinent related historical and doctrinal Old Testament content by...

- A. Identifying important people, events, dates, geographic locations, and theological concepts contained in the Old Testament, especially those that are most significantly associated with God's story of redemption.
- B. Arranging these Old Testament events and people in their proper chronological order.
- C. Communicating the core elements of the story of redemption in the proper chronological sequence.
- D. Presenting this story of redemption in a meaningful way to people who have had little or no contact with Biblical Christianity.
- E. Using key theological truths contained in God's story of redemption to confront pagan worldview noise issues, as needed, to help unbelievers truly understand and sincerely embrace the true gospel of Jesus Christ and/or to help believers align their belief systems with the truths of God's Word.

V. Student Learning Activities

All students will...

- A. Participate in Bible study activities throughout the course. The course will be intensely student-involved. Most of the class time will be dedicated to "hands on" Bible study.

ABWE pre-field missionaries (to fulfill their Old Testament course requirement) must...

- B. Read a chronologically arranged edition of the Old Testament in a thoughtful, meaningful manner. ***The Daily Bible: NIV Version, With Devotional Insights to Guide You Through God's Word*** (by F. LaGard Smith and published by Harvest House).

- C. Read *The Old Testament Story* workbook in a thoughtful, meaningful manner.
- D. Take a final exam (offered online) that covers the essential concepts taught in the course. He or she will have two chances to pass this exam.

At the beginning of the course, students will be given guidelines for how to prepare for the exam—the kinds of “need to know” content that they should master throughout the course.

If a student fails the exam twice, another (customized) arrangement will be made for the completion of the Old Testament course requirement.

VI. Academic Credit Option (three credits)

Students taking this course for graduate level will be required to complete some additional requirements:

- A. Four additional exams (in addition to the overall exam taken by others), covering *The Old Testament Story* workbook (with exam preparation guidelines).
- B. Teach at least 10 of *The Roots of Faith* lessons to a person (age 13 or older) who has very little Bible knowledge.

Who to Contact with Your Academic Credit Questions

For questions regarding Baptist Bible Graduate School enrollment and other related academic procedures contact **Howard Hicks** (hhicks@bbc.edu).

For questions regarding Baptist Bible Seminary enrollment and other related academic procedures contact **Paul Golden** (pgolden@bbc.edu).

For questions regarding general ABWE-related academic procedures contact the CEIM Director for Academic Studies, **John Morgan** (JMorgan@abwe.org).

For questions related to course assignments, etc. for this course, contact **Wayne Haston** (wayne@abwe.org or 717-909-2397).