

Abstract

B 1529

Advanced Biblical Study: The Sermon on the Mount

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The study of the Bible is a consequential, life encompassing matter. Once a student has mastered the forms and functions of biblical Greek, this subject introduces the student to the possibilities for interpretation yielded from an analysis done from the biblical languages. Students without Greek will be accepted by the professor on an individual basis.

This course makes a review and exposition of the text, but is not limited to it. The course further explores avenues of interpretation open to any serious biblical student. A more ambitious objective is to foster in the student the ability to comprehend and exegete other passages of the Gospels and the NT by applying the same hermeneutical principles as will be expanded in class.

Students will read the text either in Greek or in five different English translations. They will read three commentaries (Betz, Talbert, and a third one according to their own election), write two exegetical sermons (around 1800 to 2000 words) on selected passages of the Sermon, and four Word-Studies. Two discussions of particular passages will be presented by the students in class, and evaluated by the whole class.

Required Reading

Betz, Hans Dieter. *The Sermon on the Mount*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1995.
ISBN 0-8006-6031-5.

Talbert, Charles H. *Reading the Sermon on the Mount: Character Formation and Decision Making in Matthew 5-7*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2004. ISBN 978-8010-3163-2.